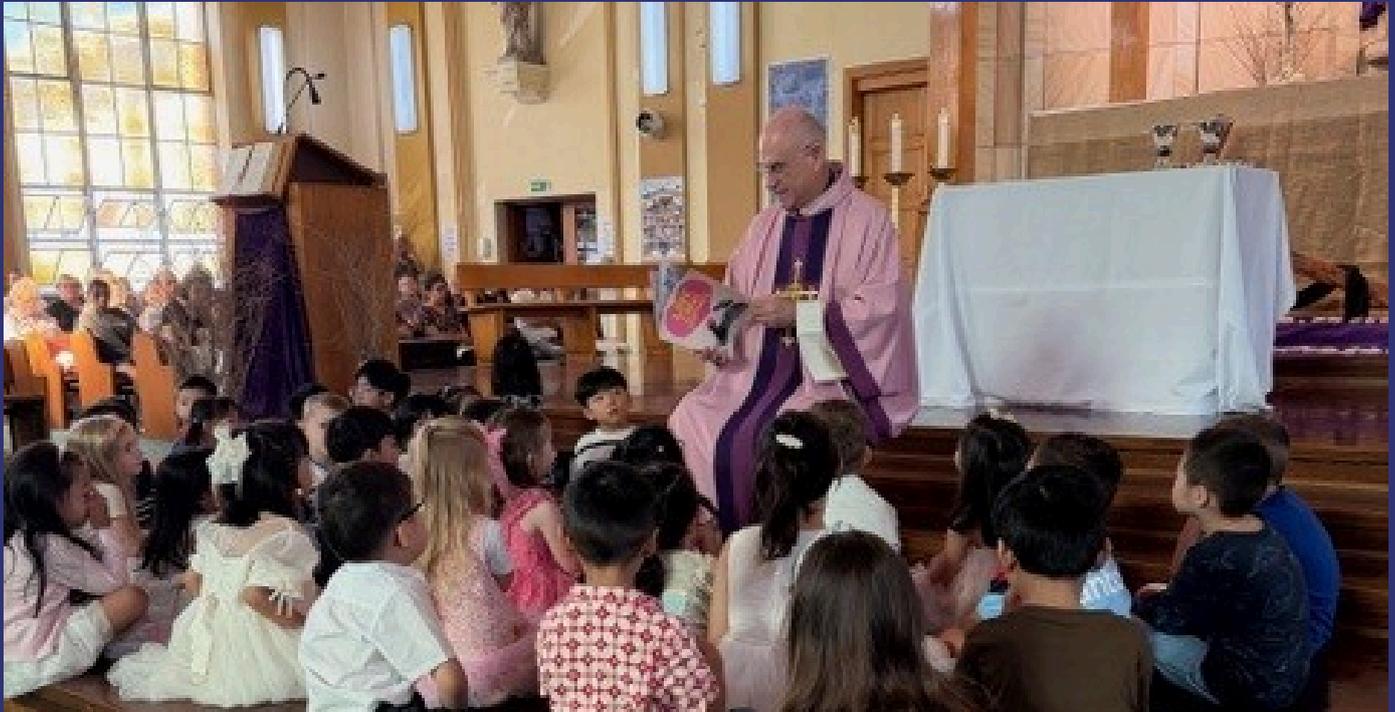




OUR LADY OF DOLOURS NEWS

Ignite, Innovate & Include in the Spirit of Mercy



“Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ within me.”

From the St Patrick's Breastplate prayer.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MARCO IANNI PRINCIPAL

Well done to our Year 3 and Year 5 students on completing their recent NAPLAN assessments. We are extremely proud of our students hard work and dedication to their learning. NAPLAN is one form of assessment that we use to monitor student's, growth and achievement. Our teachers also have a deep knowledge of where each student is at through their day to day assessments and observations in class. Thank you to Mrs Kelly Clouston and Miss Ashleigh Ferrero as NAPLAN Co-ordinators, the Grade 3 and 5 teachers and Support Staff involved.

We are looking forward to a busy final few weeks to finish our term with our Parents Welcome night, Holy Week celebrations and Easter raffle.

Upcoming Events

Monday 23 March
Student Retreat

Monday 23 March
2pm Parent Faith Circle

Wednesday 25 March
9am Stage 3 attending Parish Mass

Friday 27 March
Parent Welcome Function 7pm

Monday 30 March
Holy Week Liturgy
8.45am Parent Connect Corner
9.30am Liturgy OLD Parish Church

Thursday 2 April
Last Day for Term 1



Palm Sunday



Maundy Thursday



Good Friday



Easter Sunday

In week 10, OLD will begin to commemorate the significant events of Holy Week. Holy Week is the week between Palm Sunday and Easter. It is a special time devoted to the Passion of Jesus. Holy Week leads up to the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday (celebrated during our school holidays). The Resurrection reminds us of God's unconditional love and gives us a great source of hope for our future with God!

Enrolling now for 2027



Project Compassion

UNITE AGAINST POVERTY THIS LENT

This Lent, you'll
change the lives of
people like Sisilia



This Lent, we are proud to support Caritas Australia's Project Compassion and to stand in solidarity with school communities across the world who have their education disrupted by the daily struggle for clean, safe water. This week, we're introduced to Sisilia, a 13-year-old girl from Tanzania. Sisilia supported her mother by walking long distances three times a day to fetch water. The water was unsafe, causing frequent illness, and the long walks left Sisilia exhausted and struggling to focus on her studies.

Thanks to Project Compassion and the support of schools like ours, Sisilia's school and village now have safe clean water taps. This means it takes Sisilia just two minutes to collect water, giving her more time to learn so she can fulfil her dreams of one day becoming a pilot.

"I'd like to fly to different countries and pass through the sky." – said Sisilia. "Also, I want to help my family live a better life. If I can study without spending so much time fetching water, I know I can achieve my dream."

Watch Sisilia's story [HERE](#) to learn more about how our school's support of Project Compassion helps to create ripples of change that are felt by our fellow students, teachers and parents across the world.

Will you stand with students like Sisilia this Lent?

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes or by scanning the QR code to donate online.

You can also donate:

Online at: projectcompassion.org.au

By phone at: 1800 024 413



KINDY Blessing Mass

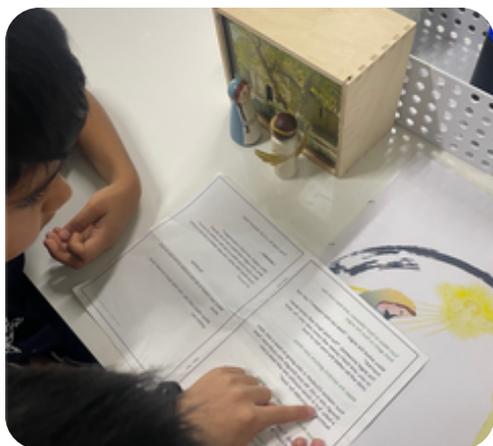


Last Sunday was very special for our Kindergarten students as they came together in celebration at their Kindy Blessing Mass. A wonderful time for families in our community to come together.



FROM THE CLASS ROOM - YEAR 2

During Religious education lessons, Year 2 have been revisiting the 12 foundational works. The Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) Religious Education curriculum is grounded in these Twelve Foundational works - Twelve presentations using concrete materials indicating the most essential learnings. These presentations introduce students to key moments of the Liturgy and reveal their roots in Scripture. During this weeks activity, students, in groups of 2 or 3, were able to explore a foundational story of their choice. Year 2 interacted respectfully and thoughtfully with the concrete materials.



SPORTS NEWS

Basketball Polding Trials

In February, two of our talented basketball students from OLD, competed in Tamworth at the Polding Girls Basketball Trials. Sisters, Annabelle (yr 6) and Isabelle (yr 5), successfully made the Broken Bay Basketball team and were competing for selection for the Polding Team. The team played against teams from the Bathurst, Armidale, Newcastle and Lismore region. The girls played to the best of their ability on the day and should be very proud of making it this far in the basketball trials.

Below is a recount from Annabelle on their experience:

My name is Annabelle and my sister is Isabelle. In February, we travelled to Tamworth to trial for Polding Basketball Team. It was a very hot day, 37 degrees Celsius! But the heat did not affect us! We've experienced worse and we came prepared.

We were part of the Broken Bay Team and we were both competing for the same position, a point guard, which made it even more exciting. I was very excited, but Isabelle was a little nervous. She is the youngest and the smallest in the team, and she had to compete against me for the point guard position. We had to compete in five back-to-back games. I was selected to play in two additional games, but sadly, Isabelle was not. At the end of the seventh game, my name was called first to be part of the Polding Basketball Team.

It was such a hot and exhausting day, but we were so proud to have made it this far! Isabelle celebrated with me, which meant so much. This is the only year we get to be teammates and rivals at the same time. I will now be competing in the NSW PSSA in May in Port Macquarie!! Isabelle will continue honing her skills and getting stronger for her next opportunity.

What an achievement for Annabelle. She did make it last year but hopefully can go one better this year and make it into the NSW Team. We wish Annabelle all the best and cannot wait to hear all about her experience after her trial.



North Shore Zone Swimming Trial

Well done to all the students who represented OLD at the North Shore Zone Swimming Trial on Tuesday 3rd March at Hornsby Aquatic Centre. It was lovely to see all students doing their best and supporting each other.

Our 2026 OLD Swimming Squad was represented by: Aleena, Logan, Joshua, Georgia, Jimmy, Julian, Ciara, Anna, Sara, Kento, Yuto, Olivia and Candice.

Congratulations to Logan, Joshua, Julian, Ciara, Anna, Sara, Yuto and Candice who made it to the next stage of the Zone Swimming Trials. These Students competed at the Broken Bay Swimming Trial on Tuesday 10th March at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre.



An extended thank you must go to our wonderful parents who supported our students on the day. Well done 2026 Swimming Squad! The entire community is very proud of your performance and results.

SPORTS NEWS

North Shore Zone Swimming Trial

Well done to Logan, Joshua, Julian, Ciara, Anna, Sara, Yuto and Candice who competed at the Broken Bay Swimming Trial on Tuesday 10th March at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre.

These students should be congratulated on their achievements in the following events at the carnival:

Logan: 3rd in Boys 11yo 50m Butterfly

Julian: 3rd in Boys 11yo 50m Freestyle

3rd in Boys all age 100m Freestyle

3rd in Boys 11yo 50m Breaststroke

Yuto: 3rd in Boys 12-13yo 50m Butterfly

Joshua: 2nd in Boys 10yo 50m Freestyle

3rd in Boys Junior 50m Butterfly

3rd in Boys Junior 50m Breaststroke

1st in Boys Junior 50m Backstroke

- Joshua placed equal 2nd overall for the Age Division for 8-10yo Boys.
- Joshua also set a zone record in the Boys Junior 50m Backstroke which stood since 2022. Fantastic effort Joshua!

Ciara: 2nd in Girls 8yo 50m Freestyle

Anna: 3rd in Girls 11yo 50m Butterfly

Sara: 2nd in Girls Senior 200m Individual Medley

2nd in Girls Senior 50m Breaststroke

Candice: 1st in Girls 10yo 50m Freestyle

1st in Girls Junior 50m Butterfly

1st in Girls Junior 50m Breaststroke

1st in Girls Junior 50m Backstroke

1st in Girls Junior 200m Individual Medley

2nd in Girls all age 100m Freestyle

- Candice placed 1st overall for the Age Division for 8-10yo Girls.
- Candice also broke 5 zone records in the Girls Junior 200m Individual Medley, Girls 10yo 50m Freestyle, Girls Junior 50m Backstroke, Girls Junior 50m Breaststroke and Girls Junior 50m Butterfly. This is an amazing achievement for Candice. Impressively Candice beat her Individual Medley record by 15 seconds. What a superstar swimmer in the making!



Mr. Caltabiano and the Chatswood community would like to congratulate all the students who went to swimming championships and represented our school with passion and pride. We as a school community are all immensely proud of you all.

A highlight of the trials was Joshua who placed 3rd overall in the Age Division for 8-10yo Boys and Candice who placed 1st overall in the Age Division for 8-10yo Girls.

Joshua and Candice will proudly represent OLD at the Polding Swimming Championships on Wednesday 1st April.

Joshua for the Boys Junior 50m Butterfly placing 1st in the event.

Candice placing 1st in the following numerous events: Girls 10yo 50m Freestyle, Girls Junior 50m Butterfly, Girls Junior 50m Breaststroke, Girls Junior 50m Backstroke and Girls Junior 200m Individual Medley. What an achievement!!!

The OLD Chatswood community wish both Joshua and Candice all the best in their races in the next stage of the trials. Goodluck!!

CROSS COUNTRY WRAP UP



Congratulations to all students on their participation in recent Cross Country carnival.

Well done to Nazareth for taking out the Spirit Cup and a big congratulations to Cana for being our overall Champions.



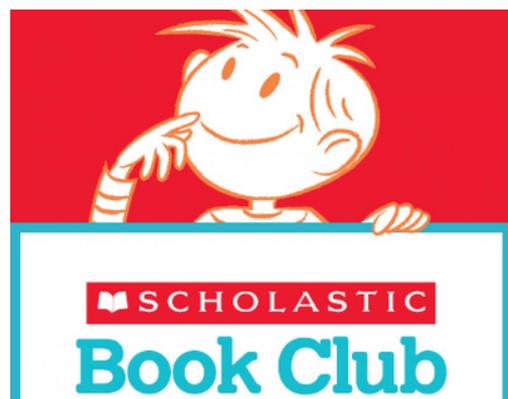


By now all students in K-6 should have received information about how to access the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge. Hard copy notes were sent home several weeks ago with student logins and passwords. As always there can be a few student login issues and these have been addressed so far. Please email me via the office if families have any access issues.

A reminder that the PRC launch site is online.education.nsw.gov.au/prc/home.html and students will need their unique logins and passwords. Students have until September to complete the challenge. Grades K-2 need to read 30 books and Grades 3-6 must read 20 books in order to be successful. Books should be PRC List books but students are also able to add their own personal choice titles.

Scholastic Book Club

Issue 2 of Scholastic Book Club was sent home recently. To ensure that books arrive at school before the end of the term, orders will close on **Friday March 20th at 5pm**. Please have all purchases completed by this time. Book Club orders can be made through the [LOOP BookClubs](#) app. Thank you to all our families who support our school and reading through Book Club!



Holiday Borrowing

During Week 10's lessons, all students will be invited to borrow additional books for holiday reading. It is completely optional for students to take up this offer and will depend on whether students have returned all their previous books. A reminder that we request that all OLD Library books stay in Sydney and do not venture on any domestic or international trips! Thank you for your cooperation.



On Monday 23rd March and Tuesday 24th March our OLD students will celebrate their First Reconciliation at the Church. We would like to congratulate them and please keep them in your prayers as they experience this sacrament. This is another step in building their faith and relationship with God.

Year 3

Sienna A

Year 4

Abigail G
Annabelle W
Aveline A
Casey S
Christian S
Dominic L
Giacomo S
Ilaria N
Isabella K
Railey S
Joshua C
Joy K

Keira N
Leon K
Lindsay A
Louis B
Neil S
Nicolo M
Petar Z
Samaria K
Samuel B
Samuel S

Year 5

Neil P

Year 6

Imogen M



HOLY WEEK



Holy Week Liturgy

Please join us as we come together to celebrate Holy week. Students will be leading our Holy week liturgy on Monday March 30 at 9.30am in the Parish Church.

We look forward to our community coming together at this special time.

Our Lady OF DOLOURS	Holy Week 2026
29 MAR 	Palm Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturday Vigil 5:30pm Sunday Mass 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 5:30pm
01 APR 	Wednesday of Holy Week <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parish Stations of the Cross 7pm
02 APR 	Holy Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm <p>Only Mass celebrated this day.</p>
03 APR 	Good Friday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stations of the Cross at Chatswood Concourse 10am Passion of the Lord 3pm
04 APR 	Easter Saturday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vigil Mass 7pm
05 APR 	Easter Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday Mass at 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am <p>No evening Mass.</p>



Our Lady of Dolours School Retreat Day

Monday 23rd March 2026

Purpose

To nurture the spiritual faith formation and sacramental journey of our students and to build stronger connections with the parish.

Theme

St Francis of Assisi Jubilee Year

Dress Code

Students are to wear School Uniform.

Workshops

The students throughout the day will be learning about St Francis of Assisi with their teachers and assisted by parish members.

Children's Mass

Students will be attending a special children's mass after lunch, led by Father David. The mass will feature simplified language, interactive elements and educational explanations to help students appreciate the beauty of the celebration.





Our Lady of Dolours Parent Faith Circle

**Monday 23rd March 2026
(Student Retreat Day)
2pm @ the school library**

*Parents are warmly welcomed to join Rebecca
our Parents Engagement Co Ordinator
in the library for a Lent Reflection.*

*We will use the Diocese of Broken Bay's resource
Walking in the Wilderness: A Lenten Pilgrimage Towards Easter
to pray, read the Gospel, reflect and have a gentle conversation.*

*Please RSVP to rebecca.molinaro@dbb.catholic.edu.au
if you would like to attend.*

*Parent Connect
Corner*

*Monday 30th March
8.45am
Meet at the Growers Corner
for a cup of tea and a chat with
Rebecca, our Parent Engagement
Co-ordinator*



OPEN DAY SAT 28 MAR 10-1PM TUE 25 AUG 9-11AM

Discover a Catholic education for girls in Years 7-12

- RANKED 6TH IN NSW** | Top Performing Affordable Schools* by The Daily Telegraph, Year 7 fees starting from just \$8,080**
- QUALITY EDUCATION** | Established for more than 135 years, we set the standard for quality education with outstanding academic results - **Ranked 101 in SMH HSC Ranking 2025**
- OVERALL WELLBEING** | Safe, supportive environment with structured Pastoral Care and Wellbeing programs
- SUBJECT CHOICE** | A broad selection of electives from Year 7 through to HSC supported by a dynamic, responsive, and diverse approach to learning
- CO-CURRICULAR** | Over 30 programs, including Creative Arts, Debating & Public Speaking, special interest clubs, Sport programs extended to weekend sport with specialised coaches and academies
- TRANSPORT** | Centrally located in Chatswood, minutes from Chatswood Interchange (Bus, Train & Metro)
- CATHOLIC COMMUNITY** | As part of Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) families benefit from sibling discounts

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101ST IN NSW, HSC 2025

Discover how Mercy Catholic College could shape your daughter's future

- 10TH** 10TH IN STATE INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY MULTIMEDIA
- 13TH** 13TH IN STATE ENGLISH STANDARD
- 98.7** HIGHEST ATAR
- 1** 22 FIRST PLACES WITHIN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS BROKEN BAY DIOCESE
- 80%** EARLY ENTRY INTO UNIVERSITY
- 87%** RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE BAND 5 OR 6 IN A SUBJECT
- 1** ALL ROUNDER
- 2** TOP ACHIEVERS
- 56** DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVERS
- 126** DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVERS LIST MENTIONS (BAND 6 IN SUBJECT/S)
- 1** SELECTED FROM 2 NOMINATED FOR ARTEXPRESS
- NOMINATED FOR ONSTAGE**
- NOMINATED FOR SHAPE**

DISCOVER EXCELLENCE



SIENA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

OPEN DAYS

Senior Campus Pymble

WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH
• 4:00PM-7:00PM

TUESDAY 24 MARCH
• 9:00AM-10:30AM

ENROLLING FOR Year 7 2027 & Year 7 2028

CSBB primary school students benefit from a direct pathway and priority enrolment into Year 7 at Siena College.

REGISTER TODAY TO ATTEND

NorthShoreOpenDays.com.au

Discover Siena

A new Kindergarten to Year 12 co-educational, multi-campus Catholic college in Sydney.

DON'T MISS OUT - REGISTER TODAY TO JOIN OUR MARCH OPEN DAYS

St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga

Open Evening & Expo

Wednesday, 25 March, 3.30-7pm

Register Now!

What's on:

- Guided tours of our extensive campus & facilities
- Hear from the Principal - hourly addresses (4, 5 & 6pm)
- Speak with our staff & students
- 20+ Information stands, displays & demonstrations
- Performances, activities & the Leo's Stamp Safari
- Gain a real feel for our community by seeing us in action

Find out for yourself everything St Leo's has to offer!

Our innovative co-ed learning environment, strong academic results, focus on student wellbeing, caring community & personalised approach make St Leo's an exceptional place to learn - that's in high demand!

Scan to register or find out more:

See full event details incl. map, schedule & parking information on our website

Did you know...

Priority Feeder School

As a CSBB Priority Feeder School, OLOD students receive priority entry to St Leo's.*

*Some conditions apply.

stlens.nsw.edu.au



Vacation Care NOW AVAILABLE

ALL KIDS WELCOME



**ENROLMENTS ARE NOW OPEN FOR CATHOLICCARE'S APRIL 2026
VACATION CARE PROGRAM**

WWW.CATHOLICCAREDBB.ORG.AU/VACATION-CARE

OUR VACATION CARE PROGRAMS OFFER A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES TAILORED TO CHILDREN OF DIFFERENT AGES, INTERESTS, AND ABILITIES. WE ALSO ORGANISE LOCAL EXCURSIONS TO FURTHER ENRICH THE EXPERIENCE.

WE PROVIDE A STIMULATING AND ENJOYABLE ENVIRONMENT, WITH ACTIVITIES DESIGNED TO ENGAGE THE CHILDREN'S STRENGTHS AND INTERESTS, WHILE ALSO OFFERING TIME FOR REST AND LEISURE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO REACH OUT VIA EMAIL OR CONTACT THE OSHC COORDINATOR AT YOUR SCHOOL.

Dr Seuss'
The Lorax
MOVIE



Sunday 3 May 10am–12 noon

Special community screening



HOYTS Chatswood Westfield

TICKETS: \$5 per person + booking fee

BOOK NOW: willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Lorax

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North Sydney Boys High School

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9AM - 3PM

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Per day

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10%
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- ✓ Small Class Sizes
- ✓ Multi Child Discounts
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- ✓ Affordable Lessons
- ✓ Multi Lesson Discounts
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Bambini Childcare Open Day

Sunday 29th March | 10am – 1pm

67 Broughton Road, Artarmon

The only dedicated baby & toddler care in the lower North Shore (0-3 years)

What to Expect on the Day

-  **Tour our space**
Freshly renovated and calming interiors
-  **Learn about our philosophy**
Developed over 25 years of early childhood education
-  **Priority waitlist placement**
For families attending open day
-  **Meet our experienced team**
25+ years of early childhood education
-  **Explore our playground**
Nature-based play for little explorers
-  **Ask us anything!**
No pressure, just honest conversation



Face
Painting



Animal
Farm



Choosing care for your little one is one of the biggest decisions you'll make. We understand — because we're parents too. Come see why families trust us with their most precious treasures.

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limited spaces available for 2026!

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From the family behind Shadforth Cottage, Mosman - est. 1999



Register
Now!

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New South Wales

FESTIVAL OF DEMOCRACY

FREE Friday 17 APR
9.30am-3pm

Free activities for children up to 12 years at the Parliament of NSW

Visit Australia's oldest Parliament, learn about democracy in NSW, step inside history with guided tours and get creative in workshops and role plays.

- Join in the fun reenactment of King John signing the Magna Carta
- Visit our heritage rooms
- Vote with the NSW Electoral Commission
- Participate in a committee role play
- Enjoy live music and more...



FREE ENTRY
Activities 9.30am to 3pm

LOCATION
Parliament of New South Wales,
6 Macquarie Street
Opposite Martin Place

Enquiries P: (02) 9230 2047 or
E: dps.education@parliament.nsw.gov.au

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