



MARCH 2025 EDITION 3

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS NEWS

Ignite, Innovate & Include in the Spirit of Mercy



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MARCO IANNI PRINCIPAL

Community connections are now up and running for 2025 with our Grade Parent nominations almost complete (we just need one last grade parent for 2B) and an amazing group of volunteers forming our Events Committee 2025. I thank all those that have stepped up to volunteer this year in a variety of capacities. While most roles have now been filled we would welcome any other members of the community that would like to be involved to join us, please email the school office with your interest.

It was wonderful welcoming new families into the school last week for our annual Open Day, we have now begun processing enrolments with interviews for enrolling in 2026 to begin in the coming weeks. If you have a sibling at home who will be ready for school in 2026 please contact the school office to access your application for enrolment.

The next few weeks will be very busy with many celebrations and events on within the school. We look forward to welcoming our families to join us as we celebrate St Patrick's Day, Harmony Day, Ride to School Day, hold our 1st Parent Education Session for 2025 and our Parent Welcome Function we hope you can join us for one or all of these events.

## Upcoming Events

Monday 17 March  
St Patrick's Day

Friday 21 March  
Harmony Day  
Liturgy and celebration

Friday 21 March  
Ride to School Day

Wednesday 26 March  
Parent Education Session #1  
Literacy focus  
6pm in the Library

Friday 28 March  
Parent Welcome Function  
7pm

Enrolling now for 2026





# Open Day 2025

Thank you to all the members of our local community that attended our recent open day. It was wonderful welcoming you into our school to show you all we have to offer.

We now look forward to commencing our interviews for our 2026 prospective students.

If you have a child at home ready for school in 2026 but missed open day please contact the school office for information on enrolling or click on the below link to access and application form:-

[Enrolment application OLD](#)



# ASH WEDNESDAY AND PROJECT COMPASSION



Last Wednesday we celebrated Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Our Year 5 and Year 6 Students went to Mass where Father Hien talked about ways to participate in Lent and by using the word JOY acronym (Jesus, Others, Yourself). Reflect and pray to Jesus, help others and be kind to yourself.

Lent is a time of preparation before Easter to pray, reflect and give penance. It's a time to help others and make good choices.

During Lent we will proudly participate in Caritas Australia's Project Compassion and fundraise to support people facing poverty.

Project Compassion collection boxes were given out to the students. Please Unite with us and help with donations in your own family and community and bring the boxes back to school by the end of term.

## INTRODUCING FATHER HIEN

'Hello! My name is Father Hien Vu, the seventh of eight children in my family in Vietnam. I enjoy sports—especially soccer, ping-pong, tennis, and running—as well as playing the guitar, a bit of the organ, and singing/chanting.

With a degree in Business Administration, I worked as an accountant for a pharmacy firm before discerning God's call to the priesthood, drawn by questions about life's ultimate purpose and His plan for me.

I arrived in Australia in 2016 to study for the Diocese of Broken Bay and spent seven years in formation at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd in Homebush. I was ordained a Deacon in November 2023, serving at Hornsby Cathedral Parish, and later completed my Sacred Theology studies at the Catholic Institute of Sydney and Notre Dame University. In August 2024, I was ordained a priest, and in 2025, Bishop Anthony appointed me as an Assistant Priest here in Chatswood.

At Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood, I serve as school chaplain and connect with the parish youth. I pray that we grow in holiness together, learning to grow, love, and serve God and others in our unique vocations—whether as children, parents, teachers, or members of our faith community—united in one faith, one Lord, one Baptism.

I look forward to journeying with you all in this Jubilee Year 2025 and beyond! God bless you! Father Hien'





# Sport News - from Mr C.



## Broken Bay Football (Soccer) Trial

Two of our Year 6 students Tatsumi and Maxwell were given the opportunity to represent our school at the Broken Bay Football (Soccer) Trial, which was held at Lionel Watts Playing Fields, Frenchs Forest on the 4th March.

On behalf of myself and the school community, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Tatsumi and Maxwell on their amazing efforts on the day and from the report back from the staff trialling the students, how extremely well they played and the good sportsmanship they displayed.

I would like to congratulate Maxwell who made it into the Broken Bay Boys Football (Soccer) team as a Midfielder/Defender. The next trial is on Friday 2nd May at Bathurst. All the best to Maxwell. I am sure you will put your amazing soccer skills on display and wish you the best of luck at the next trial. GOOOOOO Maxwell!!

## North Shore Swimming Zone Carnival

Congratulations to all the students that represented Our Lady of Dolours, Chatswood at the North Shore Zone Swimming Carnival on Thursday 27th February at Hornsby Aquatic Centre. It was lovely to see all students doing their best and supporting and cheering on each other. Well done to the students in the team coming 8th overall in school points from 15 schools.

Our 2025 OLD Swimming Squad was represented by: Maria, Joshua, Elisabeth, Julian, Hannah, Sara, Mirin, Annabelle and Olivia.

**Congratulations** to Hannah in Year 4 and Julian in Year 5 who went on to compete at the Broken Bay Swimming Trial on Tuesday 11th March - these students will participated in the following events and their placing in the zone carnival:

*Julian:* 2nd overall in Boys 10yo 50m Freestyle

*Julian placed equal 6th overall for the Age Division for 8-10 Boys.*

*Hannah:* 1st overall in Girls 10yo 50m Freestyle

1st overall in Girls 8-10yo 50m Butterfly

1st overall in Girls 8-10yo 50m Breaststroke

2nd overall in Girls 8-10yo 50m Backstroke

On behalf of the OLD community, we would all like to say a huge congratulations to Hannah who placed 1st overall for the Age Division for 8-10yo Girls. What an amazing achievement.

An extended thank you must go to our wonderful parents/carers who supported our students on the day. Well done 2025 Swimming Squad! The entire community is very proud of your performance and results.



## Broken Bay Swimming Championships

On Tuesday 11th March, Hannah and Julian competed in the Broken Bay Swimming Championships at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre.

I would like to congratulate both Hannah and Julian on their achievements so far in swimming. They have made me and the school very proud of them both.

Julian placed 2nd overall for the 10yo 50m Freestyle event and will proudly represent our school at the Polding Swimming Championships in April at Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre. The OLD Chatswood community wish Julian all the best in his race in the next stage of the trials. Goodluck!!





# CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Mrs Lauren Watts and her husband Dan who have welcomed their twins into the world. Georgia Eloise (2.9kg) and Ryan James (2.4kg) were born on 10 March at 3.00pm and 3.02pm. Lauren and the twins are all doing well. We wish their family every happiness as they enjoy this wonderful time together as a family



## Parent Education Session #1 - Literacy

Wednesday 26 March 6pm

[Register Here](#)

Parent Education Session #1 -  
Literacy



Join us for an evening of information on Literacy for the Primary School Student. Learn about how your child/ren learn literacy in the classroom and the ways in which you can assist them with their learning in partnership with our teachers. This evening will have a particular focus on the early years (K-2) but all parents and carers are warmly welcome to attend. Please note this is a parent only event







# LIBRARY

## Book Club

Issue 2 of Scholastic Book Club has now been handed out to families. Many thanks to all the families (there were so many of you!) who purchased books from Issue 1. All purchases also contribute to our School Rewards Dollars. This fund has assisted us to buy new resources for the Library and for teachers to use for the new English Curriculum. Where possible it is also used to purchase student book requests. This ensures our Library is also filled with books chosen by our very own students! Last year our Rewards Dollars and our Book Week Book Fair helped us to buy Decodable Reader Sets for our Infants classes.

To ensure Issue 2 Book Club purchases arrive before the end of term, the due date for all orders will be FRIDAY MARCH 21st.

A reminder of how to purchase books:

- 1.Scholastic Book Club Catalogue (magazine) is brought home.
- 2.Buying is completely optional and can be a one-off purchase.
- 3.Order books ONLINE using the Scholastic Australia LOOP website or app. LOOP orders are electronically linked to our school in a secure online process. NO CASH PAYMENTS at school – all orders are to be completed by a parent or adult at home.
- 4.Books will be delivered directly to school at the close of the Book Club Period. Normally this is a few weeks to allow for browsing and selection.

Delivery time can extend this period by a few days.

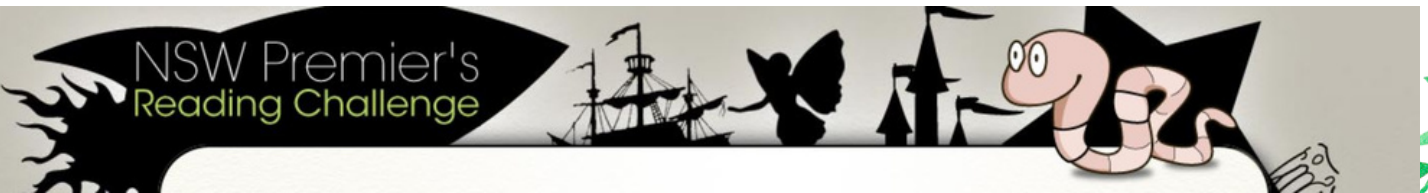
- 5.Books are handed out at school for students to take home.

If you are new to Book Club you will need to follow the steps at the LOOP site ([scholastic.com.au/loop](http://scholastic.com.au/loop)) to register an account and set up a new profile – this includes:

- Clicking the ORDER tab and selecting your child's class / class teacher
- Adding your child's name
- Entering the product item number (from the catalogue)
- Making a payment via credit card



## NSW Premier's Reading Challenge



The Premier's Reading Challenge has begun! All students are invited to participate. Some students have already started to enter their Reading Log online. The school has been warned by the PRC facilitators that the website has experienced heavy traffic since the challenge has begun and some difficulties may be had in this early stage. A hard copy of a Reading Log will be made available to students should they wish to record their books on paper first, to then add online at a later stage. These will be offered to students in their next Library lesson.





**21 March 2025**

***Celebrate Australia's cultural diversity***



**Please join us as we celebrate  
Harmony Day 2025 and the  
wonderful cultural diversity  
amongst our community at OLD.**

***When:* Friday 21 March 9am -**

**Liturgy in the HALL**

**followed by Morning Tea please  
bring a plate from your country to  
share**

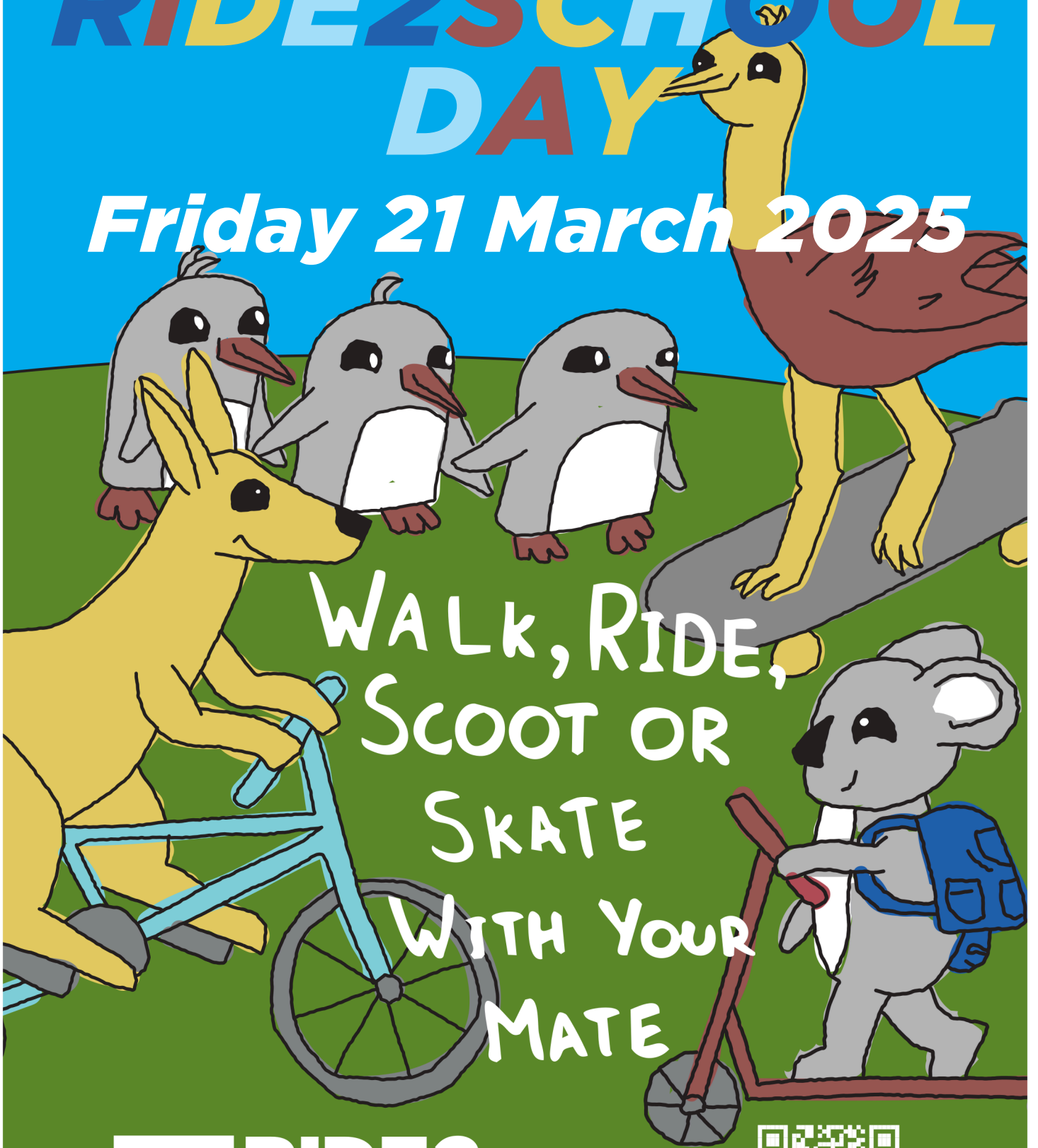
***Students are encouraged to come to school in  
traditional dress or wearing a touch of orange***





# NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY

*Friday 21 March 2025*



WALK, RIDE,  
SCOOT OR  
SKATE  
WITH YOUR  
MATE



**RIDE2  
SCHOOL**





**Our Lady**  
OF DOLOURS

# KINDY

## *Blessing Mass*

**9am**

**16**

**MARCH**

**Our Lady of Dolours  
Church**

**94 Archer St Chatswood**

Please bring a plate of food to share  
and join us after Mass in the school playground  
for morning tea.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

For any queries contact: Angela at  
[angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au)





# PARISH-IN-COUNCIL VI

## Reimagining our church building

Our church is now over 100 years old. It is as significant as it is splendid, being one of the most prominent churches in the entire North Shore. It continues to grow as a sacred place to which many people from all over come for worship and prayer, not least assisted by our new chapel for Eucharistic Adoration.



This Year of Jubilee, for which our church is a designated place of pilgrimage, is an excellent opportunity for us to consider further how we can enhance our church to be all that it can be for its second century.

And so, on **Saturday 5 April**, we will come together at Parish-in-Council VI to encounter one another, listen to each other and begin to discern how we might refresh our church building in the best possible way.

As we think through so many practical opportunities, it will be important for us first to consider how we think of our beautiful church building, its importance in our life of faith and discipleship, and to discern some key principles from which the decisions for our church's refurbishment and enhancement might be made.



**Date:** Saturday 5 April from 12 pm to 5 pm (with catered lunch & afternoon tea)

**Location:** Harrington Hall

**Register:** visit <https://parish-in-council-vi.rsvpify.com> scan the QR code, or speak with our parish office. Registering is essential so that we can plan tables and catering.



# KIDS-IN-COUNCIL VI

We want our Parish-in-Council to be accessible for all families with children of any age.

That's why we created **Kids-in-Council**, for toddlers through to teens, running in parallel to Parish-in-Council, with catered lunch and snacks, tailored fun activities through the afternoon and projects linked to the main topic of Parish-in-Council.

**We would love your children to participate in our upcoming Kids-in-Council VI on Saturday 5 April from 11.45 am to 5 pm!**

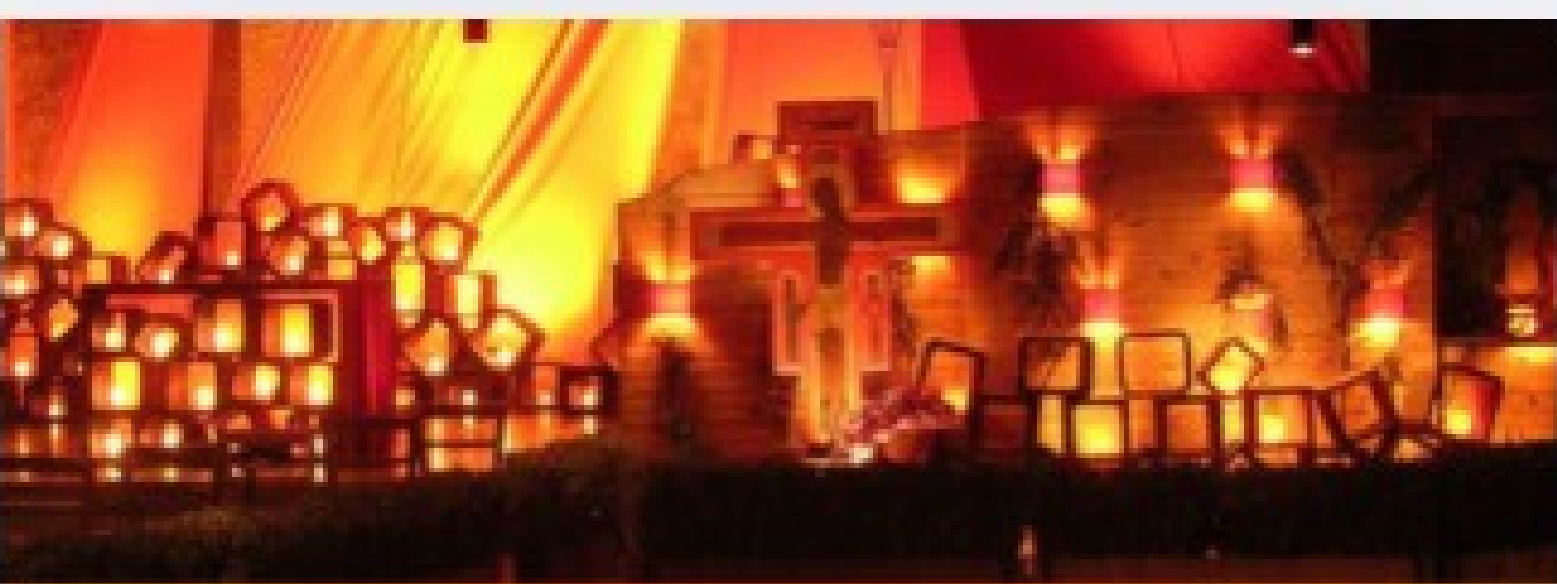
To register your child(ren), simply...

Visit <https://parish-in-council-vi.rsvpify.com>  
or Scan the QR code  
or Speak with our parish office



Registering is essential so that we can plan catering.

On Saturday 5 April, you can drop your children in the Magnificat Room (Parish Meeting Rooms on Kirk Street) between 11.15 am and 11.45 am.



Join us for a very special evening  
at Mercy College for

# Taize Prayer

Friday 28 March 6pm-6.45pm

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY, PARISHIONERS  
AND FRIENDS IN A SERVICE OF SONG, SILENCE AND CONTEMPLATION.  
EVERYBODY IS WELCOME TO THIS SERVICE.

In the Mercy Chapel

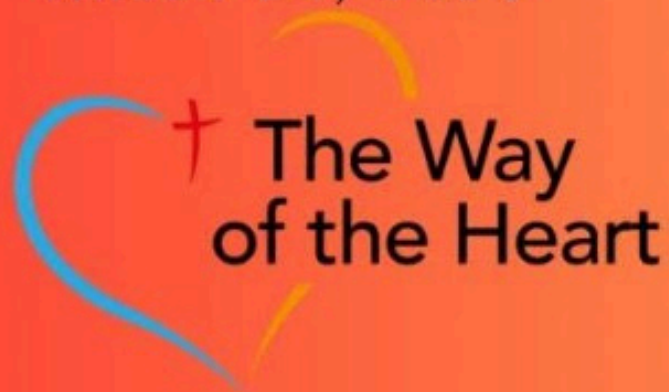
Followed by light refreshments





# A LENTEN PILGRIMAGE PRAYING WITH ART

MARCH 20, 2025



**Where ? We begin at St Mary's Cathedral at 10.30 am**  
(at statue of Mary Mackillop) and walk to the Art Gallery of NSW

**Cost? \$10 per person**  
(max 12 per group)

Register via **email to Anne Gray,**  
**Coordinator of the Pope's Prayer Network in Australia**  
on [info@pwpnaustralia.org.au](mailto:info@pwpnaustralia.org.au)

**Lunch is an optional extra afterwards at 12.45 pm**  
**either bought or brought.**





# CODING FOR KIDS

Term 1, 2025

Y2 - Y6 Students



## Our Lady of Dolours

In-person coding classes

**New students welcome**

**Every Thursday**

13 Feb - 10 Apr | 9 weeks

7:45 - 8:45 am

**GAME DEVELOPMENT**

Y2 - Y4 students

**INTRO TO PYTHON**

Y5 - Y6 students

**Laptops are provided**

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\$252 per student per term

**Learn to code and build your own online projects with CODE4FUN**

Year 2 to Year 6 students are welcome to join. STEM focused programs - students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills by learning to code.



**SAVE \$50 ON YOUR CHILD'S ENROLMENT**

**ENROL NOW AT**  
[code4fun.com.au/old](http://code4fun.com.au/old)

If you have any questions email us at [info@code4fun.com.au](mailto:info@code4fun.com.au)

or call 0452 525 453

Learn more about CODE4FUN:  
[www.code4fun.com.au](http://www.code4fun.com.au)



# VACATION CARE APRIL 2025

## Our Lady Of Dolours Catholic School OSHC

7.30am – 6.00pm  
 P: 0421 869 943 | E: oshc.chatswood@catholicaredbb.org.au

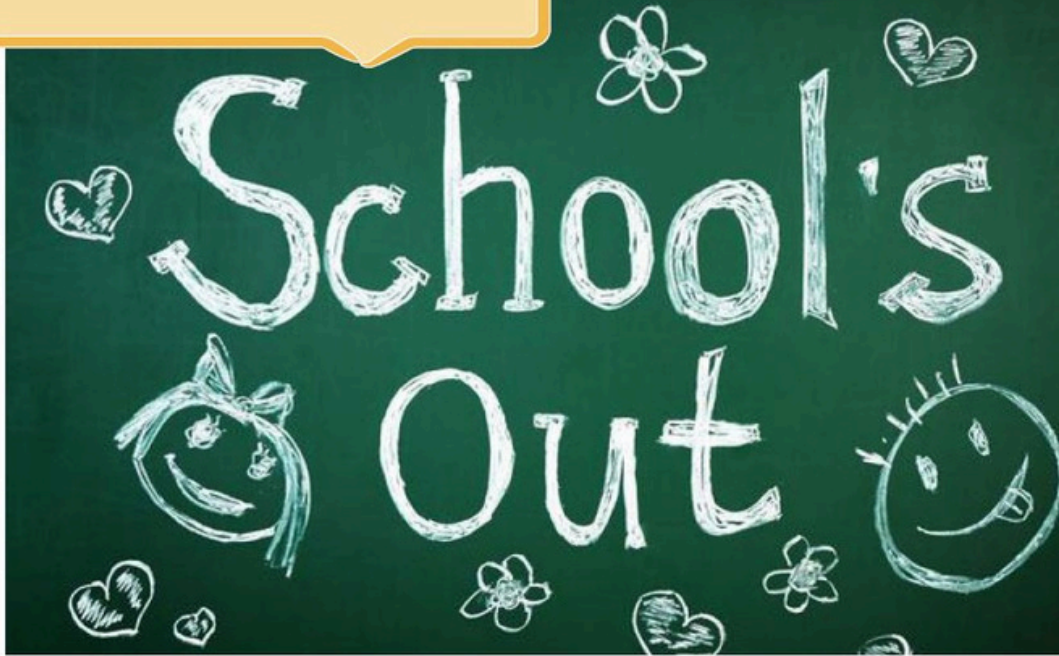


CatholicCare

PROGRAMS HERE

**APRIL VACATION CARE**  
 ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN  
 www.catholicaredbb.org.au/vacation-care

**WELCOME TO THE HOLIDAYS!**



**FRIDAY**  
**11 APRIL**

### SLIME WORKSHOP

We know how much everyone loves slime! Join us for a day of creativity and fun to celebrate the start of the holidays by learning to make your very own slime to take home!

**\$ INCENTRE**  
**\$85.50**

# VACATION CARE APRIL 2025

## Our Lady Of Dolours Catholic School OSHC

7.30am – 6.00pm  
 P: 0421 869 943 | E: oshc.chatswood@catholicaredbb.org.au



**CatholicCare**  
 Diocese of Broken Bay



**MONDAY**  
**14 APRIL**

### RALLY DAY

Rev up your engines and let's hit the road! Bring your bikes and scooters on this action-packed day of zooming around our tracks and showing off your cool moves! Remember your helmet for a wheely awesome time!

**\$ INCENTRE**  
**\$80.00**



**TUESDAY**  
**15 APRIL**

### DUMPLING WORKSHOP

Join us for a hands-on activity where you will learn new culinary skills! Follow the recipe to make two different types of dumplings: meat and vegetarian. While steaming your dumplings, you'll learn how to make a refreshing lychee mojito mocktail.

**\$ INCENTRE**  
**\$85.50**



**WEDNESDAY**  
**16 APRIL**

### BUBBLE SOCCER

It's time to bring the fun and excitement of soccer to a whole new level where you'll bounce, roll and dodge your way to victory! With everyone inside giant inflatable bubbles, it's guaranteed to be a day full of laughter, epic moments and non-stop fun! There are limited spots for this wild and wobbly game!

**\$ INCURSION**  
**\$90.00**



**THURSDAY**  
**17 APRIL**

### EGG-CELLENT EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA

Get ready for a hoppy day of egg-stra fun for our Easter extravaganza! From thrilling scavenger hunts to crafting our own bunny ears, it's a day packed with laughter, games and sweet treats! Hop on over and join the fun – the Easter adventure is one you don't want to miss!

**\$ INCENTRE**  
**\$85.50**



**FRIDAY**  
**18 APRIL**

### PUBLIC HOLIDAY

It's Good Friday. We are closed today, but look forward to seeing you next week.



# VACATION CARE APRIL 2025

## Our Lady Of Dolours Catholic School OSHC

7.30am – 6.00pm  
P: 0421 869 943 | E: oshc.chatswood@catholiccaredbb.org.au






 <b>MONDAY</b> 21 APRIL	 <b>TUESDAY</b> 22 APRIL	 <b>WEDNESDAY</b> 23 APRIL	 <b>THURSDAY</b> 24 APRIL	 <b>FRIDAY</b> 25 APRIL
<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b> It's Easter Monday. We hope you have a lovely Easter, and look forward to seeing you tomorrow.	<b>FIRST AID FOR KIDS</b> Join the Cool Kids Team for a fun, Interactive and Informative Incursion.  You will learn how to make emergency calls, learn basic safety awareness and how to look out for dangers in your environment, how to deal with stings and bites and cool skills like bandaging, CPR and what to do if there is an unconscious person.	<b>MINUTE TO WIN IT</b> Today we will be testing our skills and reflexes as we participate in some classic minute to win it games. We hope you all have your competitive hats on as we race to complete our tasks against our competition in under a minute each. Who will win?	<b>MOVIE DAY</b> Ready for a blockbusting adventure? Grab your pickaxe as we head to the movies to watch Minecraft: The Movie! Watch your favourite pixelated game come to life on the big screen!	<b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b> We are closed for ANZAC Day. See you next week.
	<b>\$ INCURSION</b> \$101.50	<b>\$ INCENTRE</b> \$85.50	<b>\$ EXCURSION</b> \$101.50	

# VACATION CARE APRIL 2025

## Our Lady Of Dolours Catholic School OSHC

7.30am – 6.00pm  
P: 0421 869 943 | E: oshc.chatswood@catholiccaredbb.org.au



 <b>MONDAY</b> 28 APRIL	 <b>TUESDAY</b> 29 APRIL	 <b>SEE YOU NEXT HOLIDAYS!</b>
<b>CANDLE MAKING WORKSHOP</b> Get ready for a fun-filled, scent-sational day of creativity! Make your own colourful candles and soaps, choose amazing fragrances, and craft something special to take home. Don't miss this hands-on experience!	<b>DAY IN THE PARK</b> Join us as we walk down to the local park and enjoy a day in the sun with ball games, giant arcade games and much more!  We'll enjoy a picnic in nature with music! Be sure to book in quickly and bring along your comfiest sport shoes!	
<b>\$ INCENTRE</b> \$90.00	<b>\$ INCENTRE</b> \$85.50	