



MARCH 2025 EDITION 4

# OUR LADY OF DOLOURS NEWS

Ignite, Innovate & Include in the Spirit of Mercy



## Upcoming Events

Monday 31 March  
Parent Connect Corner

Monday 31 March  
Holy Week Liturgy  
9.30 am in OLD Parish

Friday 4 April  
Cross Country &  
Walk Along

Monday 7 April  
Student Retreat

Friday 11 April  
Last day for term 1

## 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 patterns, 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.

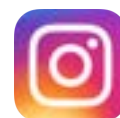
We are looking forward to a busy final few weeks to finish our term with our Cross Country/Walk Along, Parents Welcome night, Holy Week celebrations and Easter raffle for Caritas.

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!

### HOLY WEEK



Enrolling now for 2026



# Harmony Day

Thank you to Mrs Clouston, Miss Brown and Mrs Croall for organising our Harmony day celebration and Liturgy. It was wonderful to see so many of our students come in traditional dress and for them to share insights into their culture and heritage. The diversity at OLD is one of the many things that make our school so special. Thank you also to **Year 6** for leading our Harmony Day Liturgy and Year 4 for our wonderful foyer display. thank you Mrs Molinaro for bringing our parent community together with our wonderful multicultural morning tea.



## A Prayer for Living in Harmony and In Peace

**Good and gracious God,  
who loves and delights in all people,  
we stand before you,  
knowing that the light of life within each  
person is the light of your divine life.  
Differences among cultures and races lead  
us to your light.  
May our hearts and minds be open to  
celebrate our similarities and differences  
with others.  
Please send your healing and reconciling  
Spirit in order to bind the wounds created  
by racism, and to promote understanding,  
justice, and love.  
We place our hopes for racial harmony in  
our committed action and in your living  
presence in our neighbourhood.  
May all peoples live in peace and  
**HARMONY!**  
Amen.**



# St Patrick's Day



Dia Duit!!! St Patricks day is an amazing day where everyone can wear any type of green and they can go around the city dancing and singing in a parade. St Patrick is a Sheppard who brought Christianity to Ireland when he spread the word of the Lord Jesus! At OLD, when we will celebrate the wonderful St Patrick's day, our creative shamrocks will be hung beautifully in the foyer, and we will also see Ms Gallagher, Ms Gallagher and Ms Bolger (the Irish teachers at OLD) perform and we will be doing an ART COMPETITION!!! We will also be listening to wonderful Irish music for the day. Our shamrocks are Green, orange and white! Irelands represented colours! It will be an amazing, fun blast at OLD's St Patricks Day!!! (Katie)

This year on St Patricks Day, OLD celebrated the tradition from Ireland of Irish culture. We celebrate St Patrick and what he did. St Patricks the patron of Ireland cause he brought Christianity there. It is a day when everyone will be wearing the colour green on this day and gets a day off in Ireland. There will be Irish music, dancing and craft. Anamika



Saint Patricks day is an important day to our school as we have 3 Irish teachers. On Saint Patrick's Day we will all wear green in many colours and shades and celebrate the fun tradition of Irish culture bringing in a gold coin for our very own project compassion. On Saint Patrick's Day we will all get to experience the fun art and singing with our three Irish teachers performing to the school. There is many fun activities and lots of fun and bright music.

Mirin



# LENT AND PROJECT COMPASSION



## Thank you

To our students and community for their generosity so far, thank you, for raising much needed funds for Caritas Australia through project Compassion.

Your support and involvement in our recent St Patrick's day events saw \$319.00 raised which will be added to our overall total in the coming weeks.

Please remember to bring your project compassion boxes in before Wednesday 9 April and to purchase your Easter raffle tickets to continue to support this worthy cause.

## PRAYER for LENT

We pray for greater respect for the environment. May we care deeply for Earth, the place that God has entrusted to our care. May we celebrate the Year of Jubilee year as pilgrims of hope, ready to find the direction towards peace and justice that God wants for us. May we Unite Against Poverty as we grow in respect for all life.

Amen



# Ride to School Day

Thank you to all our students and families who supported Ride to School Day. It was great to see so many students walking and riding bikes, scooters and skateboards! Thank you also to Willoughby Council for supporting OLD.

Here's what Railey, Chris and Isaac from Year 3 had to say: -  
"I think riding to school is better because riding to school causes no pollution.

I think riding to school is better because you get exercise.  
I think riding to school is tremendously better because if you take a bike you can see and enjoy nature, you can socialise by saying 'hi' to others walking or riding."



# 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. The next year group mass celebration will be for Year 1 on Sunday 18 May.



# OLD TV

I recently took part in creating our first episode of OLD TV, and it was so fun as we put on headphones so we can only hear the presenters. There are three cameras. Camera 3 has a view of one presenter, camera 2 has a view of the other presenter and camera 1 has an angle of both presenters. When they are talking you must be dead quiet. Our group worked on the episode for 2 weeks and it turned out great and we all had an amazing time experiencing the first ever OLDTV episode 1, behind the scenes.

Liam B



Recently in OLD TV I got filmed by Mr Ianni for our first ever episode. I was the first presenter with Lylah. I had a mic attached to my collar and I had said my lines out loud I was really stunned that I was in OLD TV filming! Like can you believe it was my first ever filming in OLD. I would love to go again one more time! ~I also had to say an Irish word 'Lá Fhéile Pádraig!'

Lucía



When we got to help in the TV Studio, we got to use the cameras. We could move them around to the right angle and position them. I also got to put on headphones and listen to what it sounded like with the microphones. The TV Studio is fun to help in and is very cool to be inside. It feels like a real recording studio with cords, cameras and microphones all around the room. Doing it was a cool experience.

Madeleine



# Parent Education Session - Literacy

Thank you Mrs Clouston, Mrs Femia, Ms Montgomery and Mrs Jongejan for running our first Parent Education Session for 2025. This first session had a Literacy focus and was well attended by many of our parent community. Keep an eye out for our next Parent Education Session which will be held in Term 2. We will be hosting an evening with Principals from Mercy Catholic College, St Leos' and St Paul's on the transitioning to high school and the benefits on completing your primary journey at a specialised K-6 primary school, an evening with our OLD teachers focusing on maths and a preparation for school evening for our families with children that will be commencing school in 2026. If you have an area of particular interest that you would like more information on please let the school office know.



## *Sacrament of Reconciliation*

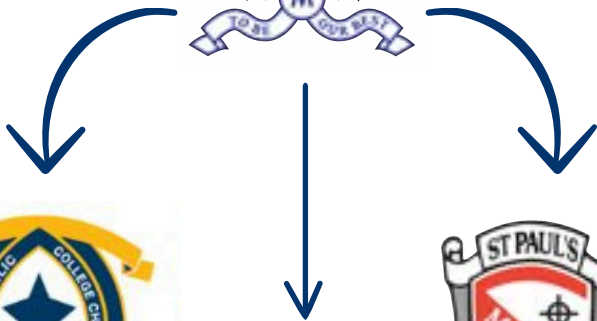
On Tuesday 1st April and Thursday 3rd April afternoon our OLD students celebrated the Sacrament of their First Reconciliation at the Church. We would like to congratulate them and please keep them in your prayers as they experience another step in building their faith and relationship with God.

Jessica B	Rhianne M	Olivia N	Tegan V
Logan C	Lucas M	Alexis O	Tristan W
Caitlin C	Lyanna M	Daniel P	Johnathan Y
Christopher C	Mary-Jane M	Sebastian R	
Lucas J	Jaxson M	Eva S	
Chloe K	Francesca M	Isabelle S	
Caezley L	Seraphina M	Ana S	
Hannah L	Hannah N	Kathleen S	



# High School Options and Applications

## The K - 12 Journey



Did you know Our Lady of Dolours is a priority feeder school for:

Mercy Catholic College, Chatswood,  
St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga and  
St Paul's Catholic College, Manly.

OLD is a priority feeder school for Mercy College, St Leo's and St Paul's but it is important that families wishing to enrol their child for Year 7 do so within the enrolment periods.

Applications for Year 7 2027 will close on 1st May 2025. I would also strongly encourage families seeking to secure a place for 2028 to put their applications in as soon as possible.

To learn more about the priority feeder school program you are invited to join us for a parent information evening about the K-12 school journey and transition to high school. Learn about the benefits of a co-ed environment for K-6 in a specialised primary school, how our priority feeder school program works, and hear from our current high school Principals.

Wednesday 14 May 6-7pm

[Register here - The K - 12 Journey](#)

## Advisory Council

At our first ever School Advisory Council Meeting for the year 2025, we warmly welcomed new members to the council and reviewed the terms of reference.

Important updates on the school's annual plan outlining the key focus on 'Empower every student' through collaborative coaching, promoting quality teaching and learning were discussed.

Strong and positive outcomes for the enrolments of years 2025 and 2026, creative and impactful promotional strategies and the school's finances were reviewed and discussed.

The successful roll out of the new school uniforms, by overcoming some initial difficulties was touched upon and necessary communication to support families through this transition was shared.

New tech (laptops to replace chrome books), reading and well-being resources are being procured by the school.

Essential transformation works carried out across the school last year and the ongoing works this year were touched upon.

Finally exciting news about our schools' very own OLD Studio and OLD TV 2025 was shared, along with the upcoming events and session including plans for the Term 3 Musical were outlined and discussed. - Tina

Joining the school advisory council has given me a great insight into the day to day running of our school as well as it's long-term vision and goals.

Some of the key areas covered were vision for learning, budget, new uniform transition, fundraising, school facility upgrades and maintenance.

Parent engagement with the school means we are stronger together.

Our school has a clear direction and under the leadership of the principal Marco Ianni, I'm grateful to have this opportunity to provide feedback and support to our school. - Tanya





## School Cross Country Reminder

Just a reminder that the 2-6 School Cross Country and the K-1 School Cross Country events are on next Friday 4th April 2025 (Week 9).

2-6 School Cross Country event is on from 9:30am-12:00pm and K-1 School Cross Country event is from 12:30pm-2:00pm.

Both events are on Compass for you to fill in the permission for your child/ren.

**Please make sure you complete this by next Wednesday 2nd April.** We don't want your child to miss out.

If you would like to help, there is a question whilst filling out the form for the Cross Country. Please make sure you have done your [Parent Volunteer Declaration](#), and had your ID checked with the office staff.

Look forward to a fun day!!



## DYMOCKS BEYOND WORDS WRITING COMPETITION

Do you love writing and telling a story? Then the Dymocks Beyond Words writing competition could be for you. The competition is free to enter and open to all Primary school students.

More information can be found here - [Dymocks Beyond Words Writing Competition](#)



# 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.

# Children's Baptism

**For children from 6 to 12 years of age**

Twice a year, we run a preparation program for children between the ages of 6 and 12 who would like to be baptised.

This program includes the parents and child attending preparation sessions together in a small group with other children and families.

Our next Kids' Baptism Program will begin on  
**Sunday 30 March 2025**

To find out more or to enrol use the QR Code to access the parish website page or email Angela at:  
[angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:angela.hague@bbcatholic.org.au)



# 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



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**

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**CatholicCare**  
 Diocese of Broken Bay

<p><b>MONDAY 14 APRIL</b></p>	<p><b>TUESDAY 15 APRIL</b></p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY 16 APRIL</b></p>	<p><b>THURSDAY 17 APRIL</b></p>	<p><b>FRIDAY 18 APRIL</b></p>
<p><b>RALLY DAY</b></p> <p>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 wholly awesome time!</p> <p><b>\$ INCENTRE \$80.00</b></p>	<p><b>DUMPLING WORKSHOP</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p><b>\$ INCENTRE \$85.50</b></p>	<p><b>BUBBLE SOCCER</b></p> <p>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!</p> <p><b>\$ INCURSION \$90.00</b></p>	<p><b>EGG-CELLENT EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA</b></p> <p>Get ready for a hoppy day of egg-s-tra 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!</p> <p><b>\$ INCENTRE \$85.50</b></p>	<p><b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY</b></p> <p>It's Good Friday. We are closed today, but look forward to seeing you next week!</p>

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 <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 blockbuster 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	

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## 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	