St Kevin’s Catholic School, Dee Why

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS
2016
GENERAL INFORMATION

School Address: 57 – 59 Oaks Avenue, Dee Why, 2099

School Phone No: (02) 9971 1644
School Fax No: (02) 9971 5594
Web Address: www.skdydbb.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mrs Lorraine Vincent

E-mail: skdy@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Assistant Principal: Mrs Gill Austin

Religious Education Coordinator: Mr Adrian Pulley

Administrative Officer: Mrs Anne Moriarty

Parish Priest: Fr Lauro Rufo cs

Presbytery Phone: (02) 9982 6536

School Hours: 8:55 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.
Morning 8.55am – 11.00am
Recess 11.00am – 11.20am
Mid-Morning 11.20am – 12.50pm
Lunch 12.50pm – 1:50pm
Afternoon 1:50pm – 3.15pm
Who are we?
St Kevin’s is a Catholic primary school. We have served families in the Dee Why area since 1962. We cater for girls and boys aged from 5 -12. We are part of a system of Catholic schools in the Diocese of Broken Bay and a member school of the Peninsula Learning Community of Catholic Schools. We strive to provide an excellent Catholic education within a challenging and stimulating environment, which supports parents in their task as the primary educators of their child.

Where are we?
We are located at 57-59 Oaks Avenue, Dee Why. The school is centrally located in the heart of Dee Why, close to a major transport artery, Pittwater Road. The suburb is ten minutes from Manly Beach and fifteen minutes from Chatswood.

What do we offer?
- Highly qualified teaching staff dedicated to teaching and learning.
- A consistent approach to teaching and learning.
- Preference of consideration when enrolling your child into a Catholic high school in Year Seven.
- A contemporary, Diocesan based Religious Education curriculum.
- A Board of Studies accredited curriculum, subject to rigorous accountability procedures.
- Access to information technology for each child.
- Our children sit for National Testing in Years 3 and 5 in Writing, Spelling, Literacy and Numeracy and participate in University Testing Competitions
- Gifted and Talented programs, learning support programs
- On site before and after school care.
- A supportive and active parent community.
- Extra curricula activities – Chess, Choir, Debating, Public Speaking
- A strong relationship with our Parish community.
- Inclusive reporting processes on pupil progress.
How is St Kevin’s different to a State Government School?
Religious Education is taught two and a half hours per week in each class. Our Catholic traditions, rituals and Catholic values are embedded into our daily school life. We espouse a particular view of the world and life – Jesus Christ as God, creator and guide; Sacraments as a means of growing closer in our relationship with Jesus; a belief that we are part of a larger family (Church) to which each of us is called to contribute; recognition in the sacredness of each person and the importance of dignity; gathering regularly to celebrate our faith together; a belief that none of us is perfect but that we are in relationship with a loving God who forgives us and challenges to be the best we can; value for our Catholic traditions and culture. Support, care and positive relationships are at the heart of our school.

Our school motto is “United in Love”

What is the Peninsula Community of Catholic Schools?
The Peninsula Learning Community of Catholic Schools (PLCCS) forms part of a unique and innovative education system within the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay.

The PLCCS offer a range of educational, pastoral and co-curricular initiatives which link our students in a meaningful and dynamic partnership with other students in the Peninsula.

What is the Enrolment Process?
Complete an ‘Application for Enrolment Form’. Contact our school secretary on (02) 9971 1644 or (02) 9971 8806 to receive a form.

Enrolment forms, along with all required original documentation and a $66 enrolment fee per family, must be presented to the school by the end of May, 2015 for enrolment in 2016.

Once applications are processed, parents new to the school will be invited to the school to discuss their application. The Enrolment Committee makes offers for placement by the end of July. An explanation of enrolment criteria is presented in your application package.

A school visit will be organised in August for the children accepting an offer of enrolment. This orientation visit will allow the teacher’s time to observe your child performing a number of simple assessment tasks. In November, two transition mornings will be offered for the full class group. These mornings provide opportunities for the children to experience the school environment and allow us to see the children within their class group. Further school information will be provided to parents at this time.
Student Management Policy
At St Kevin’s Catholic School, we believe that each of us must respect the dignity, rights and fundamental freedom of individual students, which is in accordance with the Diocesan Schools Board Policy on the Pastoral Care of Students. We have developed a Student Management Policy which is part of a consistent and positive approach to student management. It is based on Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL).

Children are expected to respect the feelings, property and rights of others. We want them to learn that Christ is within each of us. This idea calls us to respect and care for each other. We aim to assist children to grow in responsibility for their own actions and to be able to accept the consequences when their behaviour is contrary to the expectations of the school. Our school rules state that we are safe, responsible, respectful and proud learners.

THE CURRICULUM
There are seven Key Learning Areas –

1. Religious Education
2. English
3. Mathematics
4. Science and Technology
5. Human Society and Its Environment
6. Creative and Practical Arts (includes, Music, Dance, Drama and Visual Arts).
7. Personal Development, Health & Physical Education

Religious Education
Religious Education is taught daily in each class. We want our children to enter into a loving relationship with Jesus. They learn that Jesus knows them, loves them and is always with them as a loving, forgiving person. The syllabus does emphasise Catholic doctrine. The school uses Diocesan modules of study, which have been prepared by teachers and religious education experts in our Diocese and approved by the Bishop.

It is important to realise that Religious Education is for life. We look to give expression to our faith within our daily lives. A Religious Dimension is identified for each Key Learning Area.
English
English consists of three major areas – Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening. This Key Learning Area involves learning to read widely with understanding and enjoyment. It seeks to teach children to spell accurately and write paying attention to grammatical conventions. It assists children to learn listening and communicating skills and apply them in realistic situations. The children learn to critically assess a variety of texts and aspects of the media.

The school emphasises the development of strong literacy skills in each stage of schooling and it is a major focus in the early years. The progress of each child is carefully monitored and strategies employed to provide intervention when needed.

Mathematics
This involves learning skills for life through the areas of Number, Space and Geometry, Patterns and Algebra, Data, Measurement and Working Mathematically. Children learn to think mathematically. They learn and are explicitly taught skills in Number Facts, Computation, Problem Solving and Reasoning. Each teacher uses open-ended challenges and a variety of concrete materials, calculators and computers to assist each child to learn.

Science
This area provides children with opportunities to develop skills and attitudes that will help them to adjust to our rapidly changing society. The emphasis in Science today is on investigating, designing, making and evaluating. Children are encouraged to work with a number of different materials and tools in a variety of problem-solving situations. They learn about natural and man-made environments and use these as a context for study.

Human Society and Its Environment
This area is concerned with the study of people, their history, their varying cultures and environments. Particular attention is focused on our own country with its multicultural society. Teachers use an inquiry approach and look to integrate ideas and develop skills for life.

Creative Arts
This area includes Music, Visual Arts, Drama and Dance. Lessons provide opportunities for creative expression and experimentation with a variety of media and material integrated across the curriculum. The Music program is taught by a specialist teacher and includes singing, percussion, movement and music appreciation.
**Personal Development, Health and Physical Education**
This Key Learning Area involves learning to develop an active, healthy lifestyle, developing skills in inter-personal relationships, positive values, attitudes and beliefs and participating in regular physical activity.

Our Sport program includes Fundamental Skills Kindergarten to Year 2, Netball, Soccer, Eagle Tag and other options are also available. A specialist PE teacher is employed by the school.

**Technology**
Computers are available in each classroom. The school is networked and the children are permitted supervised access to the Internet. The teachers are well aware of the importance of developing skills, which allow each child to effectively use a computer for a variety of applications. The computers are seen as a tool for learning to be used across the curriculum. Each child has access to a class web page. These resources are accessed with a username and password and can be seen using an Internet connected computer from home. Each classroom has an interactive whiteboard which assist children with their learning. IPads are also used to support learning and teaching.

In addition to this, our library also has a computer network, which allows the children supervised access to library resources, the Internet and basic applications. The school hosts an informative website which can be accessed at the following address:

**Learning Support**
Children with specific learning needs are well catered for at St Kevin’s with specialised programs provided for children experiencing learning difficulties and children in need of enrichment or extension. We aim to provide **appropriate** education for all children. The school has a special needs teacher.

**Gifted and Talented Education**
All children are involved in enquiry learning which is contextualized in a series of integrated units for children K – 6. Within classrooms teachers provide programs which allow children to be extended within their units of study and through the teaching and learning processes used. St Kevin’s is a member of the Peninsula Learning Community of Catholic Schools which provide opportunities for children in Years 5 and 6 who demonstrate competence in the area of Mathematics. These children are invited to work with children of similar ability from other schools and with local Catholic high schools. Children involved in the program complete extension work which is marked and reported on as part of their learning program.
Before and After School Care
St Kevin’s Kids Club was established on the school site in 2008. The centre is open from 7am – 8.25 each day and 3:30-6:00 p.m. each evening. Registrations and bookings can be made by contacting Chris Hegarty on 9984 8089.

Colour House Teams
There are four Houses:
Green (Mercy), Blue (Samaritan), Gold (MacKillop) and Red (Scalabrini). Children from each family remain in the same House from Kindergarten onwards.

Parent and Friends Association
The Association helps the school achieve its annual goals and is vital in building strong community support for the school amongst parents. General meetings of the association are held each term. P & F letters are sent to parents at regular intervals. Dates for meetings are included in the weekly newsletter.

Parents are requested to participate in committee activities by the P&F or the school. These may be for special projects or for ongoing programs. Information about this type of involvement can be found in the school newsletter. Parents can also volunteer to assist at the school in many ways. Class Parent Helpers volunteer each year to support the teachers in each class and to assist in creating supportive relationships amongst the parents within each class.
IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE THESE FEES ARE FOR 2015

SCHOOL FEES – 2015

Following is an explanation of fees for 2015. School fee accounts have three components.

1. **Tuition Fee:**
   Tuition Fees for 2015 are:
   - 1st Child $1462.50 per year
   - 2nd Child $1170.00 per year
   - 3rd Child $731.25 per year

   Tuition Fees do not apply for 4th and subsequent children.

2. **Diocesan School Building Levy:**
   This fee is charged to families with a child or children attending Catholic Systemic Schools. The fee is to be paid at the school of the eldest child. For 2014 the fee is $880.00 per family.

3. **School Education Fee:**
   This fee assists in covering costs associated with the delivery of the school curriculum. For 2014 the fee will be $702.00 per child. This cost includes the following:
   - Excursions and incursions
   - Sport levies and general sport expenses
   - Curriculum resources
   - Cleaning of the school and associated grounds maintenance
   - Security

   Additional accounts go home for the Year 6 Leadership camp and Year 6 polo shirts.

   **Fees may be paid in full or by instalment but should be paid by the due date.**
Relationships with High Schools
St Kevin’s is an enthusiastic member of the Catholic Community of Schools. The following schools are supportive of receiving enrolment applications from St Kevin’s students for high school:

Mater Maria Catholic College Warriewood
St Paul’s Catholic College, Manly
Marist College North Sydney
Brigidine College, St Ives
Mercy College, Chatswood
Stella Maris College, Manly
St Augustines College Brookvale

Enrolment at Monte S’ant Angelo, Loretto Kirribili, St Aloysius and Riverview College needs to be applied for in accordance with the policies of the schools.

We look forward to you being involved in our school.
ST KEVIN’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL – SCHOOL SONG: UNITED IN LOVE
Kevin Bates sm and the children of St Kevin’s, Dee Why

The ocean’s mighty power,
The wind’s refreshing song,
The earth that holds us safe,
The school where we belong.
One with all nature’s friends,
One heart and mind have grown,
One family from many lands,
One God whose love we own.

REFRAIN:
United in love
A promise we share
United in love is our Dreaming.
As Jesus still lives
His Spirit we breathe
Here at St Kevin’s School.

A gentle family,
A welcome and a smile,
A word of deep respect,
The time to share awhile.
To listen and to learn,
To walk with open eyes,
To learn that love has brought us here,
To let new life arise.

REFRAIN

From all around the world
Our families have come.
The memories we bring,
One story now become.
With Jesus we all pray,
That all our friends be one,
We celebrate and live his dream,
In peace new hope’s begun.

REFRAIN