



OUR LADY OF MERCY COLLEGE PARRAMATTA

MEDIA RELEASE

March 2018

OLMC Parramatta celebrates dawn of new era at Open Day

On Sunday March 11, 2018, visitors will have the chance to step through the gates of one of the oldest girls' schools in Western Sydney at the **Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta Open Day**.

Throughout its long history, OLMC Parramatta has been a leading independent school, educating girls in the rich Mercy Tradition for almost 130 years. In 2018, the College made the historic move to the Vertical Pastoral Care System and introduced four new Houses.

Principal Stephen Walsh says this is truly an historic moment for OLMC: "It is the first time in 25 years that a new House has been introduced. It's very exciting to be creating the four new Houses of Callaghan, Callan, Doyle and Kavanagh in the lead up to our 130 year anniversary in 2019."

Open Day is a chance to hear from Mercy Girls, staff, parents and ex-students about how a 21st century Mercy Education continues the tradition of excellence established well over a century ago. Visitors will have the opportunity to join student led buildings tours, see subject displays and student work showcases, visit key learning facilities and hear the stories behind the buildings and the inspirational Parramatta Sisters of Mercy after which they are named.

Discover the array of opportunities available to students, both inside and outside the classroom, from the range of subject offerings and scholarships for academic and music excellence to the many co-curricular activities available. Be entertained by musicians and performers and whet your appetite with Mercy hospitality with barista-made coffee on offer as well as a host of other food and beverage options from the P&F BBQ and the OLMC Cafe.

Over 20 ex-students will be on hand as Alumnae Ambassadors, ready to share their stories of a Mercy Education at OLMC. Christine Robertson, President of the Alumnae Association says it's wonderful that so many alumnae volunteer to share their insights: "OLMC has a strong alumnae tradition which dates all the way back to 1922. Alumnae members enjoy attending the annual Open Day to share their experiences of the rich educational journey that is on offer to young women enrolled at OLMC Parramatta."

As part of a newly established tradition, each year the College chooses to focus on one of its eight key Mercy Values and in 2018, that value is *Hospitality*. Principal Stephen Walsh says Open Day in the *Year of Hospitality* takes on an extra special meaning: "In many ways, Hospitality is about welcoming all people, engaging meaningfully and sharing. This is one of our College values because we believe it was core to the ministries of both Jesus Christ and the founder of the Sisters of Mercy, Catherine McAuley.

Established in 1889, OLMC Parramatta is a leading independent Catholic girls' school which provides contemporary and innovative learning excellence in the rich Mercy tradition. Our heritage inspires our young Mercy women to expand beyond what they know they can be, to lead with courage and act justly to make a difference in an ever-changing world.

The OLMC Parramatta Open Day is on Sunday March 11, 2018 from 10am – 2pm

See olmc.nsw.edu.au to register.

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