



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday June 18th, 2020

No. 16 - 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Families

Learning Conversations

Next Wednesday is a school closure day, students are not required at school. This is to allow the Learning Conversations to take place as they will begin at 8.30am. We are aware that some families may not wish to take up this opportunity, however we are mandated to offer it to our community. We believe that it is an opportunity to chat about the successes and challenges of the remote learning period and also to look forward as we continue with our onsite learning. It is a great opportunity to share and discuss the student's learning as equals and to plan together how we support them in the second half of the year. All Learning Conversations will be done online using Google hangout and the students' logins. Classroom teachers will send an invite to families once a learning conversation time has been booked.

Reports

The reports for Semester One have now been completed. These reports are only a snapshot of Term One and Term Two, which was mostly around the remote/online learning. The reports will be **emailed** to all families on Monday 22nd June. We are not providing hard copies this semester, so we encourage families to download them and print a copy for your own records.

Surveys

This year CEM will not be supplying the usual surveys to schools, however there is an opportunity for us to capture some important information regarding Remote Learning. CEM together with Simon Breakspeare, a leading educationalist, have developed surveys for parents, students and teachers to understand better some of the successes and challenges of this time. We would love to hear everyone's voice in this space. Early next week parents will be asked to complete a survey which will give our school real feedback on what happened during this remote learning period to help us better understand your perspective. This feedback will assist us as a school to make changes where needed to better cater to your children's learning needs. I ask that ALL families please take a few minutes to complete the surveys for our school. We would really appreciate knowing your feedback and point of view.

Joseph Street Pick up Points

Parents using this pick up point at the end of the day are reminded that parking is only available on one side of the street. There are no parking signs erected on the other side which means that fines can and will be issued to offending drivers. We suggest that parents do not park along Joseph Street as at times cars are turning while children are walking along. This is very dangerous. If a child is hit it would be devastating for everyone and carried on your conscience forever.

Year 7 Applications 2022

Just a reminder that all applications for Secondary Schools close on the 21st August 2020. Please ensure that you have sent your form to be received by the school(s) of your choice by this date.

Staff News

Mrs Connie Payne, one of our valued members of the Learning Support Team, will be leaving our school at the end of this term. Mrs Payne has accepted a position at St Paul's in Doreen and will commence her appointment in Term 3. We are very sad to lose Mrs Payne, but understand that after 7 years, it is time to venture out and experience new workplaces. We wish Mrs Payne every success at her new school and thank her most sincerely for all she has contributed to our school during her time here.

Term 2 Finishes

The last day of term two is Friday 26th June. The students will finish at 3.15pm as normal. Term 3 will begin on Monday 13th July at 8.30am.

Gospel Reflection - 12th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 21st June 2020 (Jer 20:10-13; Rm 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33)

Dear Friends,

Fear is what we all experience in life. We fear of sickness, accident, violence, old age and death. That's why personal safety is our most important concern and good health our top priority day in day out. We are deeply conscious of our safety and our health against the hidden danger of the Covid-19 Outbreak. We all fear of getting infected by this deadly virus. The media gives us the news update every day to inform us the spread of this pandemic, the effort of stopping the infection, and the advice of those in authority to remind us of taking necessary measures to stay safe and healthy.

The Mass Readings for this Sunday call us to trust in God and to live without fear. In the first reading Jeremiah experiences the dangers he faces for his ministry as a prophet. Nevertheless, he trusts in God and is confident that God would not let his enemies overcome him. In the second reading, Paul assures the Christians in Rome that they need not be afraid of opposition because they share in the death and Resurrection of Jesus and because they are united with Christ. The Gospel passage is Jesus' instruction to his disciples as he sends them out to carry on his mission of preaching and healing. He asks them to live simply and to stand firm in the face of opposition and rejection. Three times he tells them, "Do not fear!" and "Do not be afraid!". To reinforce their trust and hope in God Jesus tells them that even the cheapest life in the market 'two sparrows for a penny', is surely in the watchful care of their heavenly Father.

Every fear we have is grounded in the knowledge that we have something or someone to lose. I can lose my job, family, house, money, health and even life itself. Loss is the basis of all our fear. We can't deny fear because it is real but we should not be controlled by fear. Fear makes us suffer. We strongly believe that whatever trouble or crisis affects us, God understands it better than we ourselves. The history has proved that those who believe in God and follow Jesus continually experience opposition and persecution, danger and even loss but they remain strong in faith and live life to the full. Mark Twain, a great thinker of the 19th Century said, 'Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear, not absence of fear'. Whatever trouble or crisis affects us we firmly believe that God knows exactly what is happening. God gives us wisdom of how to protect ourselves and our loved ones so we should continually enjoy our life. When we feel lonely and abandoned, when it seems that our prayers are unanswered, we are confident that God loves and cares for us. Protection we must take but fear we should not. **Fr Vincent Le PP**

Keep safe and have a good week everyone.

Rosanna

FAITH NEWS

Online Mass

Each weekend, Father Vincent is celebrating Mass online. Weekly Mass can be accessed via the St Damian's Catholic Parish Bundoora website, Live Streaming link at <https://stdamiansbundoora.cam.org.au/index.php/live-streaming>. Mass can also be accessed directly via the St Damian's Parish Bundoora YouTube page or via the St Damian's Parish Bundoora Facebook page. All are welcome to join in the celebration.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

As you are aware, the scheduled Sacrament of Reconciliation Ceremony for 2020 was postponed due to COVID-19 lockdown restrictions. We now congratulate our 3MB Students who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation today. We also extend our congratulations to those students who received a Special Blessing. Thank you to Father Vincent for leading us in our celebration. Thank you also to our families who prepared with their children, and to our Year Three Teachers, Mrs Carmen Bruce, Mrs Holly Denholm, Miss Laura Maguire and Miss Martina Tran who worked with the students throughout the year.

Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus – 19th June

In 1899, Pope Leo XIII consecrated the whole world to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The meaning of this devotion is clearly expressed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 478: *The Sacred Heart of Jesus is quite rightly considered the chief sign and symbol of that love with which the divine Redeemer continually loves the eternal Father and all human beings without exception.*

The heart of Jesus was pierced for our sake. He willingly went to the cross and laid down His life as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. If we want to understand the depth and breadth of God's love for each of us, then we can look upon the heart that was pierced for us all. Jesus went to the cross to redeem us from sin and death.

May we be grateful that God is revealed to us through boundless mercy and infinite love. As we commemorate the Sacred Heart of Jesus, may we renew our love for Jesus, our Lord and God. In turn, may our devotion prompt us to show love and mercy to all others.

Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist – 24th June

Saint John was a model of selflessness and humility as he pointed away from himself to Jesus who was greater: *Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet* (Acts 13:25). Saint John was the forerunner for Christ and he paved the way for His coming. He suffered imprisonment and hardship as a witness to Christ and gave his life for Him. His persecutors did not demand that Saint John deny Christ. Rather, they wanted him to keep silent about the Truth. Ultimately, John died for Christ and thus, died for the Truth.

Just as Saint John spoke with strength and conviction, God calls us to reach out to others, empowered and committed. We are discouraged from discriminating against those we feel may not be worthy of our time and efforts. We, like Saint John, are called to embrace all of God's people with courage and passion. We are called to always speak the Truth, not remain silent, even amidst persecution and adversity.

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader

WELLBEING



Parent's Domain My Wonderfully Me - Group Program

A wonderful group program for children aged 8-12 years of age. Through positive psychology practices and mindfulness My Wonderfully Me helps children to foster healthy relationships, build confidence and a positive sense of self.

Children will learn about:

- * emotions and emotional regulation strategies
- * strategies to tackle self doubt
- * friendships
- * communication skills

My Wonderfully Me will run over 6 one hour sessions on a fortnightly basis.

Commencing Monday 3rd August 2020.

Venue: Macorna Community Centre
68 Macorna Street Watsonia North 3087

Time: 4pm - 5pm

Cost: \$120

Facilitator: Annette D'Amore
Child and Family Therapist BA(psych) GD(coun) PACFA



[Further Information and Registration](#)

Contact Annette D'Amore
0421 725 568

info@parentsdomain.com.au
www.parentsdomain.com.au

ISOLATION CELEBRATION

Next Thursday 25th June the whole school is going to celebrate all that Term 2 has been. It has certainly been an extraordinary journey and one worth celebrating!

Throughout the day, students and teachers will take the time to focus on SEL (Social and Emotional Learning) activities.

The specialists have also treated us to special activities through their Google Classroom stream that classes will view throughout the day.

On this day, students and staff are asked to wear clothes that they would have worn at home during Remote Learning.

For some of us, this was business up top, party at the bottom. Some ideas for students: pyjama bottoms, tracksuit pants, jumpers, loungewear and slippers (as long as they are closed).

A big highlight of the day will be a Scavenger Hunt and a whole school video viewing (including popcorn) of Our St. Damian's Remote Learning Story which we will be sharing with the whole school community next week.

PLEASE INFORM YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER IF YOUR CHILD IS UNABLE TO EAT POPCORN

St Damian's ISOLATION CELEBRATION!

To celebrate your hard work and resilience
during remote learning

Thursday the 25th of June...

Wear your best isolation outfit!



treats



games

scavenger hunt



and...



A special video viewing



June	
20th	Adan—1/2B
	George— 1/2C
21st	Ava—4WT
23rd	Robbie—4WT
	Djaru—PA
24th	Stephanie—6G
	Isabella—5S

St. Damian's Parents Association

UPDATE ON HOT CROSS BUN FUNDRAISER

As we are all aware, the hot cross bun morning tea was sadly cancelled as a result of Covid-19. We hoped that we could reschedule an event for when school resumed, however, due to current restrictions this is not possible.

For those families who would like a refund, please email stdpfcommittee@gmail.com with the following details:

The full name & classroom of each child who ordered

Each year, St. Damian's holds a winter appeal for St. Vinnies. Due to Covid-19, we are unable to run this appeal. If families are able, we are inviting them to donate the hot cross bun money to the St. Vinnies winter appeal. Any money not requested to be returned to families, will be donated to St. Vinnies.

If you wish to receive a refund, please send these details in an email to the above address **no later than 5 pm Monday 22/6/20**. This will provide the Parent's association time to reimburse families before the end of the term. If we do not receive an email from you **by 5pm on 22/6/20**, we will assume that you do not want a refund and wish to donate these funds to St. Vinnies.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

Due to Covid Restrictions, Second Hand Uniform shop has been closed. We will be available for the school community by "appointment only" on Thursday mornings between 9am and 10am until restrictions ease.

Please email stdpfcommittee@gmail.com for price list, your order request or appointment.
Thank you.



TheirCare will be operating as per normal on the upcoming student free day - Wednesday 24th June.

Care will be available all day from 7.00am to 6.30pm

For all enquiries please call 0477 731 175 or visit www.theircare.com.au



Term 2 Newsletter, 17th June 2020

Service Coordinator: Niwi

Team: Jaqueline, Mikaela, Krizel and Joanne

A few words from the TheirCare Team

Hello everyone,

The St Damian's PS TheirCare team wishes to warmly welcome all year levels back to the service and hope everyone has remained healthy and safe during this COVID – 19 virus pandemic.

Please remember to continue follow the rules we have put in place to ensure health and safety for all in our community.

Over the last few weeks, the children have been having fun with the following weekly themes – Space display, Ocean week, Lego Masters, yoga, lots of art and craft, outdoor play and Reconciliation week.



REMINDERS TO FAMILIES

- Please remember to cancel bookings should you no longer require to use the service using your booking portal or by text messaging on 0477 731 175

- Please pack your drink bottles!

As we are not using shared water facilities due to COVID-19 virus, please ensure each child brings their own drink bottles to use.



What are we doing to prevent the transmission of Coronavirus?



Regular handwashing

At least every 30 minutes and before & after eating using soap and running water and drying using paper towel or hand dryers.



Social Distancing

Ensuring there is space in between children throughout the day, including using all indoor and outdoor spaces to reduce group sizes.



Regular Cleaning and Sanitising

Including all high traffic areas such as door handles, benches, tables, sign in tablet and equipment.



Promoting Good Hygiene

Facilitating discussions around good hygiene measures such as limited contact, not touching the face, sneezing into tissues / bent elbows and the importance of hand washing.



Staying at Home if Unwell

Any staff member, child or family member who is unwell or have been directed to self-isolate will not be permitted to enter the service.



Staff Training

All TheirCare staff are completing additional training around infection prevention & control processes.



Working with Regulatory Authorities

TheirCare is in regular contact with different regulatory authorities including the Department of Education and experts to implement any recommended control measures such as limiting visitors to the service.

HOLIDAY BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

We are now taking bookings for our Space Explorer themed Holiday Program which is for the first time we have our own Holiday Program!!

Please book your children in now, we have lots of fun in-house incursions - Bubble Balls battles, Star Projectors, build a Mechanical hand, Space Virtual Reality, Tie Die, Costumes, Buzz wire construction and mini beasts. Book now, for these and more fun activities.

Due to the COVID -19 there will be no excursions.

Please see www.theircare.com.au for more information



Super Excursion  Excursion  Incursion / Special Activity  In House Fun 



Free Falling - Monday 29 June

Today we will be designing our own model of our solar system which you can hang in your room. The fun then continues with crayon resistant space art.

Feature Activity: Solar System Model

Additional Activities: Skipping, galaxy cookies, snakes & ladders plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$10.24 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$68.25. Suburb Avg \$67.68.



Cosmic Creations - Tuesday 30 June

Today we will be inspired by the cosmos to create out of this world crafts using our imagination. Design a 3D picture of the galaxy using DIY puffy paints, create your own scratch art and take part in our Frisbee golf competition.

Feature Activity: DIY Puffy Paint

Additional Activities: Glow in the dark slime, scratch art, Frisbee golf, building blocks plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$9.00 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$60.00. Suburb Avg \$59.50.



Out of this World! - Wednesday 1 July

Are you ready for some bouncing fun? Today we will be joined by the team at Fit Kids Australia as they bring their bubble balls battles with them. Jump inside your own inflatable bubble as we take part in some fun activities which will see you bouncing off each other.

Feature Activity: Bubble Balls Battles

Additional Activities: Bubble ball battles, soccer, origami, space murals plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$11.74 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$78.25. Suburb Avg \$77.60.



Stargazing - Thursday 2 July

Build your own star projector which will light up your room at night. What you draw is up to you whether it be an unexplored planet, a map of the cosmos or even cool new aliens.

Feature Activity: Star Projectors

Additional Activities: Limbo, paper plate flying saucers, connect four plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$10.24 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$68.25. Suburb Avg \$67.68.



It's in our DNA - Friday 3 July

Today we will be looking inside our body to explore the wonder of human body. You can look forward to building a mechanical hand, a DNA model using kitchen items and prepare rice paper rolls for a healthy lunch treat.

Feature Activity: Mechanical Hand

Additional Activities: Rice paper rolls, handprint art, dress up challenges, flip books plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$9.00 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$60.00. Suburb Avg \$59.50.

Super Excursion



Excursion



Incursion / Special Activity



In House Fun



Wild Encounters - Monday 6 July



Today we will be joined by the team from Animals of Oz who will be bringing along some creepy & crawly animals which look like they could be from another planet. Discover where they live, what they eat, how they can change, how they protect themselves and how we can protect them.

Feature Activity: Animals Incursion

Additional Activities: Phases of the moon craft, dancing, cup animals plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$11.74 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$78.25. Suburb Avg \$77.60.



It's Elemental - Tuesday 7 July



Today you uncover the mystery of who entered the science lab using your spy resources. Decode a secret message by making a decoder and write new ones in invisible ink, then create a iSpy bottle and take part in some forensic science experiments.

Feature Activity: iSpy Bottles

Additional Activities: Invisible ink messages, decoders, forensic science experiments, poison ball plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$9.00 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$60.00. Suburb Avg \$59.50.



See the Stars - Wednesday 8 July

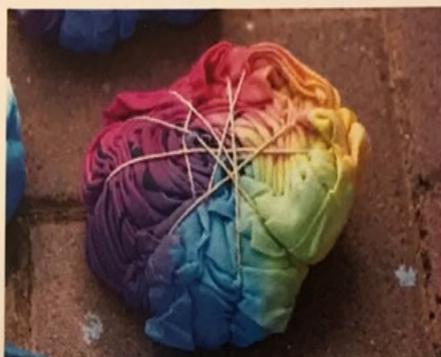


Today we will be joined by special guests who will take us on a trip of galactic proportions as you discover Virtual Reality (VR) worlds without needing to leave the school. Then create cute bubble print aliens and join in a game of football.

Feature Activity: Space VR Incursion

Additional Activities: Bubble print aliens, football, zip zop zap game plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$11.74 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$78.25. Suburb Avg \$77.60.



Over the Moon - Thursday 9 July



Get creative and make a one of a kind tie-dye tea towel which you can use in your kitchen at home. During the day we will be cooking some yummy treats including a vegetable risotto for lunch and chocolate moon balls.

Feature Activity: Make your own Tie Dye Tea Towel

Additional Activities: Chocolate ball moons, risotto, bingo, reg light green light game plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$10.24 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$68.25. Suburb Avg \$67.68.



Solution Squad - Friday 10 July



It's time to assemble the Solution Squad as we solve some of the universe's puzzling questions. The squad will look at surface tension in the galaxy swirls experiment as well as lava lamps, mind bending optical illusions, tongue twisters and chemical reactions using items from around the kitchen.

Feature Activity: Milk Galaxy Swirls

Additional Activities: Lava lamps, optical illusions, sun catchers, genius hour, number hockey plus time to choose your own adventure.

As low as \$9.00 with the Child Care Subsidy. Full Fee \$60.00. Suburb Avg \$59.50.