



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday September 17th, 2020

No. 26 - 2020

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Families

We have come to the end of another school term, with the school term holidays beginning on Monday 21st September. What a term it has been, indeed what a year we have had! How surreal is it to know that there is only one term left of the school year? A year like no other year and hopefully one never to be repeated.

It is fitting at this stage to thank and acknowledge all that has been achieved during this second period of remote learning. Staff have been amazed at how well many of the students have adapted to this new mode of learning. Most especially how well the students have progressed in their learning despite the challenges they have faced. Well done and thank you to all our wonderful teachers, leaders and support staff. You have shown how hard working and committed you are to the students' learning, as well as to their wellbeing. A huge congratulations to our wonderful students – what amazing young people you are to have kept on going through all this adversity. Finally, a very, very big and heartfelt thank you to all the families for working in partnership with us to support the children. You have worked alongside your children to ensure that they did not miss any learning opportunities and also supported them in many ways to help them overcome the many hurdles and challenges. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE!

I trust that during this holiday period, you will all take the time to rest and re-energise and most importantly to just be with each other.

Term 4

As you are all aware, Stage 4 restrictions are in place until the 28th of September, which in effect takes us to almost the end of the holidays. Term 4 begins on Monday 4th October, however remote learning will continue for the first week of the term for all students. The following week we are very excited to welcome back to school all our Prep – Year 2 students from Monday 12th October. Unfortunately, the Year 3-6 students will continue with remote learning until further notice. Hopefully not too long. We are keeping fingers crossed that all students will be back onsite by the beginning of November. This of course will be dependent on the Government and the Chief Health Officer's recommendations, and also how well the COVID cases trend down in the preceding four week period. At this stage we are not sure what to expect, but I remain optimistic that we will have all our students back onsite to at least finish off the year together as a school community. Let us hope that everyone in the wider community behaves respectfully and responsibly so that we do not face any more severe lockdowns in the future.

Remote Learning Surveys

We have been given an opportunity by Catholic Education Melbourne to complete surveys to gain some feedback on this second period of remote learning. The last surveys completed in the previous remote learning period helped shape the way the second round of remote learning was delivered. We are very keen to hear your feedback with regard to how the students and families and teachers managed the remote learning. Please be on the lookout for your survey to be sent to your email address. It only takes about 10 minutes to complete and we would really appreciate your time and input, so we kindly ask that you please fill in the questionnaire and then resubmit it. All the surveys are anonymous and confidential. Thank you in anticipation.

Are you leaving?

To assist us with planning for next year, could any family leaving St Damian's at the end of the year, please advise us as soon as possible. Thank you to those families who have already informed us of their intended move. We certainly appreciate the notice as this will help us to plan our class structures for 2021.

Education Board

The members of the Education Board met via Zoom on Tuesday evening. Please find attached the Principal's report tabled at the meeting for you to peruse.

School Photos

The school photos have been booked for **Monday November 9th**. Hopefully we will be successful this time.

Gospel Reflection– 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 20 September 2020 - Mt 20:1-6

Dear Friends,

This time of the year is supposed to be a good time to enjoy such as School Holidays, Royal Melbourne Show, Spring Festivals, Footy Grand Final and St Damian's Feast Day Celebration. Unfortunately, all disappear because of the pandemic lockdown. It has been a difficult time as we try to follow the restriction rules set by the authorities for the safety of all and to maintain the joy of living. We all have to work hard to take care of ourselves and our loved ones, our daily needs, our physical, spiritual, emotional and mental health.

The Gospel of this Sunday is a story of the workers who were hired at different times but paid equally at the end of the day. It tells us the generosity of God and the value of hard work of those involved. We can imagine the anger and envy of those who worked hard all day long but received the same pay as those who worked for only one hour. 'It's not fair, they don't deserve it'. We can sense the good fortune of those who were employed at the last hour of the day. The emerging point for reflection is that the quality, not quantity really counts.

At St Damian's on this Sunday we celebrate our Parish Feast Day. We thank God for our Parish and pray for unity and peace under the protection and guidance of our patron saint. We follow the example of St Damian in making good effort to care for one another, to make contribution to the good of all with gifts and talents God has given us. St Damian and St Cosmas, his twin brother were both medical doctors. Their love of God and love of people made them open their hearts to the poor and the sick, caring for them without counting cost. Because of their Christian faith and their work of charity they were persecuted by their pagan king.

The [Social Services Sunday](#) is also celebrated in our Melbourne Archdiocese at this time. We give thanks and pray for all who stand with and provide support to the poor, the marginalised and the vulnerable in our society. The Catholic Social Services Victoria, with 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers in 45 [member organisations](#), serve more than 200,000 people each year. We acknowledge their wonderful work being carried out in many ways. Especially we give thanks for those in our parishes, who quietly and generously give great support and care to those in need in our local communities.

Fr Vincent Le PP

Have a good holiday everyone and keep safe and well

Rosanna.



St Damian's Catholic Primary School Education Board September 15, 2020

Principal's Report

Surveys

Every year schools are required to complete surveys which give data to support the school improvement plan. This year, due to COVID, these surveys have been suspended. At the end of the previous remote learning period we sent out surveys to gauge how we did as a school in managing the remote learning. The results indicated that for those who responded, in the main were happy with how the school managed. Given that we have entered a second phase of remote learning, there is an opportunity to complete these surveys again.

Remote Learning

Currently, Melbourne is in Stage 4 restrictions until 28 September. The Premier's roadmap towards COVID Normal means that remote learning will continue for all students for the first week of Term 4. On October 12th, students from Prep – Year 2 will resume onsite learning with the Year 3 -6's continuing remote learning. We are required to continue our COVID Safe Plan and keep staffing to a minimum during this period.

Premier's Timeline

[First Step](#) 11:59pm 13 September) - Expanded social interaction.

[Second Step](#) 28 September subject to trigger points and public health advice—social bubbles, phased return of some workforces and staggered starts in education.

[Third Step](#) 26 October subject to trigger points and public health advice) - major industries return, increased reopening for education, sport, recreation, ceremonies and special occasions.

[Last Step](#) 23 November subject to trigger points and public health advice—increased numbers for gatherings and hospitality

[COVID Normal](#) Subject to trigger points and public health advice. No restrictions for gatherings, visitors, hospitality or sport.

Aiming for a 'normal' Christmas

Staffing 2021

It is likely that we will have 17 classes in 2021 increasing 1 class from this year. We are maintaining 3 Foundation Classes (Prep) in 2021, with an enrolment of 73 Preps. This results in a slight increase in overall numbers as there are 52 exiting Year 6 at the end of the year. We are now looking at class structures for 2021 and of course taking into account specialist programs as well. Obviously, the Consultative process for next year has only just begun and the final decisions will be based on our total enrolment numbers. We are still waiting to hear from families intending to move on from St Damian at the end of the year.

FAITH NEWS

Season of Creation – The Earth Community Prayer

God our Father, you created the world and sent your own Son to live among us, made of the same substance, breathing the same air, marvelling at sunrise and sunset just as we do.

Help us to participate in the life around and within us as your life, as you living in us and we living in you and in each other. God of love and life, restore us to your peace, renew us through your power and teach us to love all that you have created and to care for the earth as your gift and our home.

Amen.

I wish everyone a restful and peaceful break and look forward to seeing you next term. Please stay safe.

Mary-Ann Wright.
Religious Education Leader.



September		
17th	Alyssa	5S
	Samuel	4WT
	Charbel	1/2B
19th	Caleb	5L
	Chloe	PT
21st	Mia	1/2J
	Ivan	5S
	Olivia	1/2B
22nd	James	1/2B
23rd	Viaan	PT
25th	Sabine	6G
	Janet	4WT
	Ryan	4WT
	Thomas	4M
27th	Chloe	PM
	Samuel	4M
	Serena	PT
28th	Kristina	PA
29th	Ryan	3BM
October		
3rd	Justin	1/2S
4th	James	4WT
6th	Isabella	3T

St Damian's Adventures Around Australia

Total Kilometres travelled this week: 1817 kilometres!

Day One:

Today we left Cairns and travelled to a very small town called Mount Surprise!

There are only 306 people that live at Mount Surprise!



Day Two:

We continued our journey another 22km West today. We are now in a small town called Georgetown!

Georgetown is known as one of the best places in Queensland to mine gemstones!



Day Three:

Today our adventures reached the town of Croydon.

Not the Croydon in Melbourne either, another Croydon – in remote Queensland! Croydon is known to have some very large termite mounds!



Day Four:

Today we reached the destination of Burketown!

Burketown has a wonderful Indigenous owned tourism business called 'Yagurli tours.' A big attraction is their fishing charters. So today, our dad's enjoyed a fishing trip!



Wow! Well done St Damian's community, we have experienced some incredible adventures over these past few weeks!

We started in Melbourne, and in just 3 weeks we have seen 3 states! (Victoria, NSW and Queensland as well as the ACT!) And now, we are only 4 hours from the Northern Territory border.

That is absolutely amazing! We have journeyed so far, together!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 'Adventures around Australia' for Term 3.

I wonder where our adventures will take us next term?

Perhaps soon we will really be able to visit these amazing Australian locations!



This week's family that collected the most kilometres was... The **APICELLA FAMILY!** Together as a family, the Apicella's collected 195km altogether! Wow! Well done Apicella Family 😊

This week's teacher that collected the most kilometres was... **Miss Lidia!** Wow! Two weeks in a row! Miss Lidia and her family collected 184km altogether. Well done! 😊

**LOYOLA
COLLEGE**

Celebrating 40 Years of Ignatian Education

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Loyola College - Year 7, 2022 Enrolment Applications

A friendly reminder that enrolment applications for current Grade 5 students wishing to enrol at Loyola College for Year 7, 2022 are due on Friday, 09 October, 2020. To obtain an Enrolment Application, please visit our website or email our Community Liaison Officer, Dianna Alonso – alonsod@loyola.vic.edu.au

For any queries, please call Registrar, Anita Plant on 9433 0203

To book and view our Virtual tour – Meet the Principal, please visit website – www.loyola.vic.edu.au/bookatour

WELL BEING



ADVENTURES AROUND AUSTRALIA

It has been so exciting to see many members of the school community continue this challenge and provide us with such positive feedback. We hope that for those who have participated, that it is has enhanced your wellbeing.

This marks the end of our Term 3 Travel to Australia school community wellbeing initiative. Well done to the following families who added kilometres to our journey:

ADAMS, APICELLA, BOSSINI, CARAPELLOTTI, CAUSOVSKI, CHEN, CONSTANTINO, DAVIDE, GANNON, GONZALES, GREY, GUSATTO, HARPER, LICCIARDO, LIM, LIU, MAROGE, MICOMONACO, MOUDGIL, PANTELIDIS, PECACOVSKI, SALVO, STINGAS, TARANTELLI, TRIKILIS, VASS, WHITE, ZHANG, ANSWERTH, BEEBY, CANNATELLI, CARUANA, COCCHIARA, CIURLEO, COCCHIARA, DE FRANCESCO, DRAGONETTI, MAGUIRE, SOBEY, STARR, TANSKI and WALSH.

Wishing you all a well deserved rest and congratulations to students and parents for working so hard during Remote Learning.

Take time to rest and recover and remember there are some simple things you can do as a family to continue to boost wellbeing.

- Practise Gratitude
- Be Kind
- Get Active
- Eat healthy foods
- Laugh
- Listen to music and get your groove on!!

Stay Well and Stay Safe. **Tania Micomonaco.—Student Wellbeing Leader.**

A Huge Congratulations to our **Super Star Writers of the Week**

Kaini Liu from 1/2MZ for a detailed and descriptive story with excellent use of taking marks called "The House of Horrors".

Emma Williams from 1/2MZ for following the writing process so well. Great planning, writing and revising of your story, "The Day I Bumped into the Missing Dinosaur."

James Pantelidis from 1/2 MZ for a detailed and descriptive scary story called, "The Scary Roblox Monster!"

Aiden Jose and **Rishab Mirpuri** from 1/2B for their outstanding procedure writing. Recipes for apple turnovers and vegetable bread pizza. I'm sure Mr Bossini would love a lesson!

Spencer McDonnell from Prep T for his interesting and well written reports on animals. Well done from Miss Traficante.

And a Huge Congratulations to our **Super Star Readers of the Week**

Lincoln Patterson from 1/2MZ for working hard and not missing a day of Reading Recovery. You have made wonderful progress and we are all proud of you.

Sera Marchionda from 1/2B for trying hard to complete Reading Recovery resulting in an all round improvement in Literacy, a difficult achievement online. Thanks to her parents also.

From Mrs Cockayne.



Irene Chen—PA	For trying extra hard to do her best. Well done for listening and following instructions! Brava!
Kristian Kalakias—PA	For doing his best in Maths and using the most efficient way of counting on by starting from the highest number. Bravo!
Charlie Zhong —PA	For doing his best and using teacher feedback to improve his writing! Bravo!
Jenny George—PM	For her positive attitude and happy smile towards all learning tasks
Vincent Wilam—PM	For always giving his very best effort and for taking pride in the presentation of his work
Nicholas Karnezis—PT	For challenging himself with his reading. Well done on reading over 30 books this week! You are a superstar reader Nicholas!
Christopher Sorbello —PT	For making great progress in your reading and writing. Well done on trying hard to become an independent learner. Great work Christopher!
Yiota Evangelakos —PT	For trying her best with her writing. Well done on sounding out words independently and for always using neat handwriting. Keep up the great work Yiota!
Leonard Beresford-Long—1/2B	For always doing his very best and independently uploading his own work.
Isaac Lai —1/2B	For completing all home learning activities with enthusiasm and a willingness to give things a go.
Oskar Lai —1/2B	For working extremely hard to improve his reading skills by engaging in reading sessions and consistently reading at home.
Sera Marchionda —1/2B	For working hard to complete the Reading Recovery program and making huge improvements in reading.
Adriana Mennillo —1/2B	For always producing her very best effort in all home learning activities and displaying her artistic skills to decorate her work.
George Tohme—1/2C	For his enthusiastic and positive approach to Remote Learning this term. George is always on time to Google Meets, shares his ideas with the class and gives all tasks a go! Well done George and keep up the great work.
Caleb Cutajar —1/2C	For having his learning materials ready for learning on our morning Google Meet and in his small groups. Well done Caleb!
Alexandra Hall-Towers —1/2C	For her attendance on Google Meets throughout this term. Alex always logs in on time and is ready for her learning day! Thank you for your positive approach to Remote learning. Keep up the great work and well done Alex!
Nathan Feng —1/2C	For always sharing his ideas and thoughts with the class in his small groups and giving questions a try even if he is unsure. Keep up the great work and well done Nathan!
Daniel Wang —1/2C	For being a positive and happy 1/2C class member. Daniel listens to his peers and shares his own stories and thoughts with the class. Well done Daniel!
Anthony Venditti—1/2J	Congratulations Anthony on always remembering your manners during our Google Meets. It has been a pleasure to watch your confidence grow throughout Remote Learning. Thank you for sharing all your wonderful thoughts and ideas with the class and always showing respect towards others when they are speaking. Keep up the wonderful effort!

Rill Wang —1/2J	Congratulations Rill for making a huge effort to attend our Google Meets and for doing so independently. You have made a significant improvement in the presentation of your work and it is always a pleasure to see the work you upload onto Seesaw each day. Well Done
Henry Huang —1/2J	Congratulations Henry on a successful term of Remote Learning. You have worked so hard throughout your time at home and it is wonderful to see that you have developed a positive mindset. Thank you for sharing your ideas with the class during our small and whole class meets and for being respectful at all times. Keep up the fabulous work.
Kaini Liu—1/2MZ	For being a keen contributor to online class meets and small focus groups. For having an inquiring mind and for asking excellent questions to clarify her thinking and understanding. Well done Kaini!
Sierra Tarantelli —1/2MZ	For being such an enthusiastic and positive learner and for doing her best with all Reading and Writing tasks. We are super impressed with your work Sierra!
Benjamin King —1/2MZ	For his attendance on Google Meets throughout the term and for completing all tasks consistently and to the best of his ability. Well done Ben!
Jacob Causovski —1/2MZ	For taking on and completing all online learning tasks with positivity and to the best of his ability. Well done for being such a positive member of our online classroom Jacob. Good work!!
Emma Williams —1/2MZ	For always trying her best during online meets and in small focus groups. For consistently applying herself to all tasks in all curriculum areas.
Gabrielle McCrae —1/2MZ	For showing resilience and perseverance with the challenges of Remote Learning and for trying her best to complete set tasks. Good job Gabby!
Sean Du—1/2S	For showing enthusiasm and creating an engaging family Maths interview. Well Done!
Olivia —1/2S	For always being an engaged learner and sharing her ideas and thoughts during teacher groups. Keep up the great work!
Chloe Liang —1/2S	For achieving great success in reading by reading with excellent expression and fluency. You always show a positive attitude to your learning. Well done Chloe!
Nikhil Edward —1/2S	For always showing a positive attitude to your learning. You willingly share your ideas and do your best to improve in all areas. Well done Nikhil!
Jade Peterson —1/2S	For always working so hard to improve your reading. You actively participate in whole class discussions and enthusiastically share your ideas. Keep up the great work Jade!
Vy-An Nguyen—3BM	For your efforts in writing your wonderfully descriptive narrative. You have thought of lots of ways to engage the reader. Superstar!
Alexia Garavelos —3BM	For continuing to build your independence during online learning and for always asking questions when you are unsure of something. Well done!
Dinara Dissanayake —3BM	For being so enthusiastic in online meets and always encouraging her peers. Amazing effort!
Sarah Bijoy—3T	For always reaching high and pushing yourself when completing tasks. You have shown a great amount of growth during remote learning, well done!
Elena Shen —3T	For having a growth mindset and being aware of where you need improvements. I like your honesty with yourself and trying your best to slow down and read the instructions.
Eddyson Huang —3T	For always sharing the vast amount of knowledge you have. You are always keen to share all the facts that you know with your peers
Sam Simpson—4M	For having a positive attitude towards remote learning. Well done on a great term's work.

Grace O'Connor—4M	For sharing entertaining stories during our meets and asking to clarify questions. Well done
Amelia Ravalli —4M	For working consistently during remote learning and engaging in group tasks.
Aston Santosa —4M	For his insightful explanations when solving mathematical problems. Well done.
Billy Butterfield—4WT	For engaging in mathematical group discussions. Well done on being able to explain your answers to your peers. Keep up the great work.
Franny Lin—4WT	For providing positive feedback to your peers during writing lessons. Great work, Franny.
Erik Lai —4WT	For being on time for meets and submitting your work on time. Well done, Erik.
Samuel Ribera —4WT	For contributing to mathematical discussions and being able to provide multiple strategies to different equations. Well done Samuel.
Isabella Lembriadis—5L	For displaying a positive attitude towards all areas of her learning. She always produces work that is of a high standard. Well done, Isabella!
Aljur Miras —5L	For displaying a positive attitude towards all areas of his learning. Well done, Aljur!
Alana Raffo —5L	For being an enthusiastic learner in all areas of the curriculum and always striving to do her best. Great work, Alana!
Asher Fuga —5L	For displaying a positive attitude towards all areas of her learning. Well done, Asher!
Imogen Collaga—5S	For striving to do her best in all areas of the curriculum. Imogen is punctual when attending Google Meet's and she is always eager to complete her tasks. Well done Imogen! :)
Giacomo Aiello—6C	For consistently working through the demands of online learning and sharing his thoughts and ideas. Keep at it!
Peter Garavelos —6C	For persisting and completing tasks and adding impressive detail to recent work - Keep it up!
Jessica Knell —6C	For always completing set tasks with care and detail and for presenting confidently as one of the Wellbeing leaders in the Virtual assembly.
Liliana Lo Piccolo —6C	For keeping at it and demonstrating improvement in her writing and for presenting confidently as one of the Wellbeing leaders in the Virtual assembly.

heidelberg
olmc



Upcoming Virtual Tours

- Monday 12 Oct 9.00am
- Wednesday 11 Nov 4.30pm

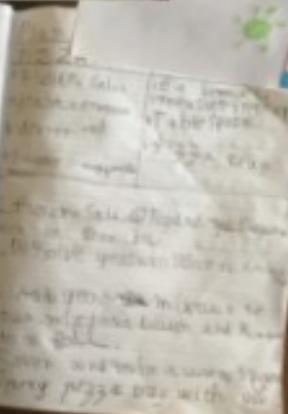
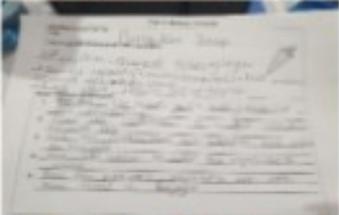
Book a place online
<http://www.olmcheidelberg.catholic.edu.au/enrolments/college-tours>

Enquiries:

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Great Work From 1/2B



Student Learning and Activities

