



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday October 28th 2021

No. 29 - 2021

The St Damian's School Community acknowledges that we come together on the ancestral lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS IS BETWEEN 8.30am TO 3.30pm ON SCHOOL DAYS.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Families

This coming Monday is the Feast of All Saints. All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1. The day is dedicated to saints recognized by the Catholic Church. This feast day precedes All Souls' Day which is observed on November 2, and is dedicated to all who have died. We pray for all deceased members of our families and the St Damian community. *'May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

Next Tuesday is the Melbourne Cup and marks the half-way point of the term. The exciting news is that on **Wednesday 3rd November**, the day after the Cup **ALL students will return to school**. This is a little earlier than had been planned but we welcomed the Premier's announcement last Sunday. After November 1st we will also enjoy a few more freedoms, including having more people in our homes and being able to attend various events as long as we have received two doses of the vaccine.

This also means that after November 1st, families may once again enter the school, however you will need to **enter via the office and use the QR Code and show your double vaxxed status**. Unfortunately we are not able to allow entry unless these conditions are met. I am sure you understand that I must adhere to and comply with regulations as well as follow the School's Operational Guide. After November 1st, masks will only need to be worn indoors, there is no longer the requirement to wear them when outside. Thankfully, it seems that we are slowly returning to some form of normality at last.

Carpark

Unfortunately, our building works have not yet finished, therefore parking at the front of the school is reserved for staff only. Parents, please park at the shopping centre across the road or alternatively please use the Kiss and Drop, entry is at the end of Joseph Street.

Supervision of Students

Parents please remember that supervision of students does not begin until 8.30am when teachers come on yard. No child should be left at school before this time. Children should be supervised by an adult until the teachers begin their duty in the morning. It is unsafe to leave children unattended and assume that there is someone at school to look after them. Teachers begin their work day at 8.30am not before this time.

World Teacher's Day

This year World Teacher's Day was on the 5th of October. This day is marked across the world as an acknowledgment of the commitment of teachers and the difference they make to their students. As many of you would agree, teaching is not just a job, but is a vocation. Teachers play a very important role in the lives of young people and help to shape young minds by providing opportunities for their students to grow and learn. We thank our wonderful P&A team who, on behalf of the school community, have organized a beautiful morning tea for our staff tomorrow. Their kindness and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated by all the staff. The morning tea is a lovely gesture to thank the teachers for their hard work and commitment to the children, most especially throughout the remote learning periods. Thank you everyone, we will thoroughly enjoy our special morning tea.

Report Writing Day

As a school we traditionally use the Monday preceding the Melbourne Cup as a Report Writing Day therefore the school will be closed on **Monday, November 1st and Tuesday, November 2nd**. **Also, please note that due to the short week there will not be a newsletter next week.**

Re-enrolment Fee

We have introduced a re-enrolment fee for all families to secure your place for 2022. This fee is charged per child and is non refundable, however, it will be deducted from the school fees and will appear on your 2022 fee statements. This will help us firm numbers for next year. We will assume that if the fee is not paid, that your children are not returning to St Damian's in 2022.

Prep 2022 Orientations

Given the relaxation of some restrictions we are hoping that we will be able to welcome our new Preps into the school and provide them with a real school experience. We will inform families of the dates and times once we know for certain that this can go ahead. Again, only families who are vaccinated will be able to enter the school building. Students are not required to be vaccinated at this stage.

2021 School Fees

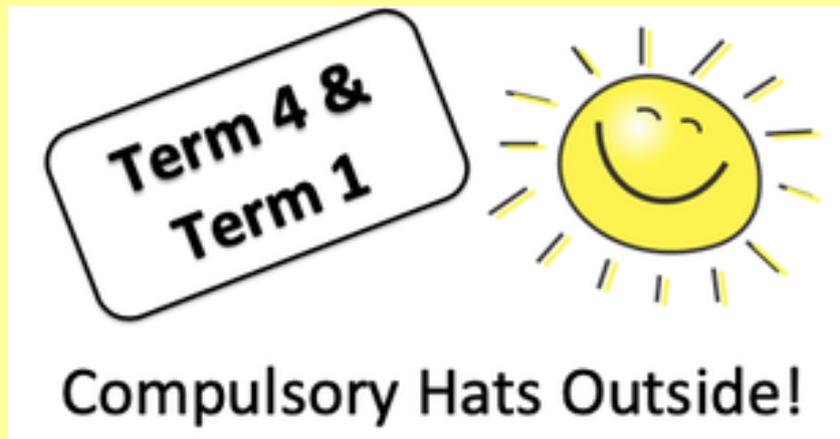
All fees for 2021 are now due and must be paid by 15th November unless a payment plan is in place.

Prayer

We pray for all those dear to us who have gone to their eternal life. In Your loving mercy, Father, be pleased to receive them in Your heavenly company. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. Amen

Good luck and happy punting on Tuesday and always remember to keep safe and well.

Rosanna



FAITH NEWS

Sacrament of Eucharist 2021 Masses

Fortunately, First Eucharist Masses for this year are now rescheduled. We thank Father Dong for allowing us to hold these Masses separate to the Parish Masses. Our First Communicants will celebrate the Sacrament of Eucharist at the following Masses:

5B – Saturday 20th November at 2:00pm;

Year 4 Students – Saturday 27th November at 2:00pm; and

5M – Saturday 4th December at 2:00pm.

Solemnity of All Saints – 1st November

The Catholic Church established feast days in order to celebrate our oneness in faith. On All Saints' Day, we celebrate every martyr and holy person recognised by the Church and sanctified by Christ. Importantly, we have all been sanctified by Christ. According to Jesus in His Sermon on the Mount, our sainthood begins when we give our total trust in God; when we strive to be meek and humble; when we hunger for righteousness; when we are merciful to others; when our hearts are pure and holy; when we seek peace and harmony; and when we accept persecution for not only righteousness sake but for Christ's sake. In this way, we allow God to transform us and lead us toward sainthood. Through our words and deeds, may we be counted among the saints. The evangelist Matthew reminds us to "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven" (Matthew 5:12).

Mary-Ann Wright

Religious Education Leader

Returning Devices Borrowed From School

As we return to school next week, we will require that all devices be returned. Prior to this can you please ensure the following:

1. That your child has signed out of all Applications (such as Google Classroom and Seesaw)
2. Please wipe all surfaces of the devices so that they are clean (use a disinfectant wipe or similar)
3. Return all items including any chargers or bags in the condition in which you borrowed them.

Timeline

Thursday 28th October - all year 1, 2, 5 & 6 devices

Wednesday 3rd October - all prep, year 3 & 4 devices

Rachael Lorkin
IT Administration



Congratulations

St Damian's is proud to announce that three of our former students have been elected to and accepted key leadership positions at Parade College – Ethan Kalesaran (Arts and Culture Committee), Jackson Pratt (Preston Committee), Jaden Menezes (Sustainability Committee).

St Damian's is also proud to announce that former student Alysha Prisc has been appointed as the 2022 School Captain at Loyola College.

It is wonderful to see how well our former students are doing at Secondary School and we wish them all the very best in the future.

JOIN US FOR MASS

We look forward to having you returning to Mass at St Damian's Parish.

You don't need to book to attend Mass but we ask that you please come with your Proof of Vaccination on your Phone or with a printout of your Covid Certificate. Please also bring a Mask as this will need to be worn while in the Church.

If you need assistance with obtaining the Covid App or a print out of the Certificate please phone: 1800 675 398 or visit coronavirus.vic.gov.au.

Weekday Mass Times

Monday 1st November All Saints Day. Mass at 9.15 am (For Fully Vaccinated)

Tuesday – Friday 9.15 am Mass (For Fully Vaccinated)

Friday Evening 6.15pm for (Un Vaccinated) 30 people (Government Limit)

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Evening: 5.30 pm (Fully Vaccinated)

Sunday : 8.00am & 10.00 am (Fully Vaccinated)

If you require any further assistance please contact the Parish Office: 9467 2797.

Happy Birthday to the following students who will celebrate their birthday



October		
29th	Eddyson	3/4M
	Neo	5M
30th	Anay	PG
31st	Antoni	PC
	Katie	PG
November		
1st	Kyra	PC
2nd	Emily	3/4T
	Sareah	1S
3rd	Sebastian	6C
	Caleb	2S
	Jack	2C
	Sebastian	3/4T
4th	Giselle	2S



Term 4	
November	
Monday 1st	Student Free Day
Tuesday 2nd	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Saturday 20th	Sacrament of Eucharist—5B 2pm
Saturday 27th	Sacrament of Eucharist—Year 4's 2pm
December	
Saturday 4th	Sacrament of Eucharist—5M 2pm
Wednesday 1st	St Damian's Carols Evening—7pm
Friday 10th	Year 6 Big Day Out
Tuesday 14th	Last Day Term 4



St Damian's Reading Challenge

The reading challenge is being extended until all students return to school on a full time basis. All reading challenge forms and sponsorship money is to be returned to school by 5/11/21. A reminder that all students who participate in the reading challenge will enter their year level raffle for a \$30 bookshop voucher



Newsletter, Term 4- week 4 - October 2021

It has been great to see our children returning to before and after school care. Our numbers remain low with the staggered return to school for all primary school children. We are working hard to keep children safe, engaged in various activities and providing them with nutritious snacks.

This term, we have impleted different themes including 'Expectations and About Me', 'Little Scientist' and 'Giant games'. The children have enjoyed most of the activities. Some of the stand out activities have been the giant connect four, making banana bread and the science experiment 'exploding bag'. The children have also given us some suggestions on similar activities for the future.

We would like to welcome Linaya from Prep who is currently attending after school care. We are looking forward to welcoming back all the children when schools return back to normal.

Please note that our next Pupil free day 1st of November 2021

It will be a halloween party with dressups, Halloween treats and spookey activities...

Our 'No hat, no play' policy is now in effect, and children will be required to wear a hat and sunscreen to play outdoors. Please consider bringing a spare hat for your child/ren from home for us to keep on hand at the service.

Also please notice that children from grade 3 to 6 now need to wear a mask when indoors. Thank you. :)

TheirCare team at St Damains PS.



Please feel free to contact us with any queries you may have. You can call during service hours, alternatively leave a text message or an email and we will reply as soon as possible.

Service phone no: 0477 731 175 Email: stdminasbundoora@theircare.com.au

TheirCare support is also available during office hours if required on 1300 072 410. For more details or bookings or please visit TheirCare website: www.theircare.com.au

Newsletter, Term 4- week 4 - October 2021



Halloween party on 29th October and our Pupil free day 1st of November 2021

