



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday March 17th, 2022

No. 7 - 2022

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.

Faith News

Lent

Lent is a time of reflection and renewal. It is a time for Christians to consider how they live the Word of God and to renew this living. The Lenten practices of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving help us, as Christians, to embody the values of justice, compassion and generosity.

Inspiration from Pope Francis

To those who 'wish to see Jesus,' to those who are searching for the face of God, we can offer three things: The Gospel, the Crucifix and the witness of our faith, poor but sincere. The Gospel: there we can encounter Jesus, listen to Him, know Him. The Crucifix: the sign of the love of Jesus who gave Himself for us. And then a faith that is expressed in simple gestures of fraternal charity.

Angelus Address, 22nd March 2015

Lenten Reflection

We all know times when it seems that darkness has swallowed us up, when we feel weighed down by sorrow and despair. The notion of "hope", seems hollow and a long way off. **How then, do we step into the Light? Can we even see that Light exists somewhere, anywhere?** The darkness is a reflection of our attempts at self-sufficiency, and our lack of trust in the mystery of God, always present and always bringing life out of darkness. Perhaps the first stage of stepping into the Light, is simply to accept the darkness, and to allow God to transform us into Light.

Solemnity of Saint Patrick (c. 415 – c. 493) – 17th March

Saint Patrick's humility and courage guided his life and he became instrumental in winning most of Ireland for Christ. Prior to the fifth century, Ireland's background was predominantly pagan. After being consecrated as a bishop at the age of forty-three, Saint Patrick continued in his lifelong desire to proclaim the Good News. He ordained many priests, divided Ireland into dioceses, held Church councils, founded several monasteries and continually urged his people to greater holiness in Christ.

What distinguishes Saint Patrick is the durability of his efforts. When we consider the state of Ireland when he began his mission work, the vast extent of his labours (most of Ireland) and how the seeds he planted continued to grow and flourish, we can only admire the kind of man Saint Patrick must have been. The holiness of a person is known only by the fruits of his or her work. May we, too, be called into action and commit ourselves to building a fair and just society. May we lead our lives unselfishly and proclaim the Gospel by example.

Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary – 19th March

Saint Joseph lived a life of choosing to trust in a God who understood everything perfectly, especially when nothing made sense. For example, when Mary told him that she was pregnant, the only sensible conclusion that he understood was that the father was another man. However, Saint Joseph's trust in God overrode his sensibilities. He was open to be corrected when his assumptions were wrong.

Saint Joseph lived a practical faith, continually seeking God's will, choosing to follow his guidance even when it didn't make logical sense. It carried him through the difficult journey to Bethlehem and the search for a room when Mary went into labour. It saved the family when Herod sent soldiers to kill the baby. It kept them safe in Egypt until the time was right to return home. It helped him and his wife cope with losing their twelve-year-old in the crowded city of Jerusalem.

May we follow Saint Joseph's example and remember that we can trust God in everything. Even the most confusing, or the most worrisome, or the most catastrophic events are not fearsome when we realise that God is trustworthy.

Social Justice - Project Compassion

Throughout the Lenten Season, our School Community is reminded to pay attention to the care of others. We are invited to support a Caritas initiative, Project Compassion, to help others and ensure that we consider their wellbeing. Catholic Social Teaching directs our attention to the most vulnerable members of our society. Christ's presence in today's world is made known when we reach out in love to those in need.

Each class has a Project Compassion collection box and we are encouraging students to make donations, no matter how small, throughout Lent. A donation box is also located at the Main Office. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and Project Compassion will issue you with a receipt on completion of a donation form. Donation forms are available on each Project Compassion Box, many of which are located near the Office. Thank you for your ongoing support of this worthy cause. Please remember to return all Project Compassion collection box donations to the school by **Friday 1st April**.

Lenten Prayer

May the Spirit lead us to renew our lives and our relationships as we reflect on our own human frailty as Jesus aspired to do. Through Prayer and Fasting, may we too gain strength of Spirit and love to empower us to change our hearts and to overcome our own imperfections and broken relationships. Let us constantly pray the Our Father and may we become instruments filled with God's Spirit of Peace (John 14:25) and forgiveness so that what Jesus taught will become a lived reality of spiritual renewal for our whole world. May God's will be done "on earth as it is in heaven". Amen.

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader

St Damian's Parents and Friends

Hot Cross Bun Fundraiser

The Parent Association is inviting all St Damian's community members to participate in our annual Baker's Delight Hot Cross Bun fundraiser on Friday 1st of April.

Additional Order forms available at the office

This year we are seeking helpers on the 1st April to divide and deliver the buns to all the classrooms. Not only does this benefit our students, it will give you the chance to meet other parents within our school community.

Please use this link <https://signup.com/go/bKZHAQx> to register your availability.

The St. Damian's Parent Association Easter Raffle .

Each classroom will be allocated an Easter prize to raffle. We are asking for donations of Easter eggs and/or Easter items (such as Easter colouring books & arts and crafts) for the prizes.

Each student that donates towards the prize will receive 1 complimentary ticket into the Easter Raffle.

Please clearly print your child's name and class on the donation bag to receive the complimentary Raffle ticket.

Easter Raffle donations are due no later than **1 APRIL**.

Raffle tickets cost \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. Raffle tickets will be sent home with students.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

The Second Hand Uniform Shop will be open this Friday morning

9am - 10am

Located in the School Hall- behind stage

Cash Only /Masks Required

Yellow and Red Polos at \$5 - Winter Jumpers \$10

Free Icy poles from us

To celebrate Sports day on Monday 28th March the Parents Association will be giving each student a free icy pole.

Volunteers needed. Email 2022sdpa@gmail.com

Parent Association Meeting

Tuesday 22nd of March at 730pm at the School Hall

Everyone welcome.

We ♥ Maths

Counting Large Quantities. Have you ever sat with your child and counted a large group of items such as lego pieces, buttons, lollies for a party? It's a great way to observe how your child counts. Do they simply touch each item randomly and count, do they move each piece as they count, do they organise their items in groups of 2, 5 or 10 for easy counting if they lose their place? This week, why don't you try it at home. Get a large group of items and ask your child to count it while you sit back and observe. Ask them to predict how many are there before counting, and at the end of the count if there were more or less than they estimated. If they count by touching or moving into a big pile, ask them if there might be an easier way to count them and prompt them to make a structure like groups of 5 so they can count them quickly.

It is important for children to learn to organise large quantities. This provides a useful context for exploring structures such as arrays, square numbers and triangular numbers. It also underpins the basis for multiplication and division. (Gervasoni 2015)

Here is a first and second attempt by Nicholas in 2S at counting money from his money box. I asked Nicholas to describe counting both piles of money... "When the coins were altogether it made it hard for me to count. When I put them in order it was easier".



Junior and Senior Challenge - Try the counting experiment with items found at home. Take a photo of your first and second attempt and send them to carmen.bruce@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au Add a quote about what your child (or you) noticed.

Carmen Bruce
Maths Leader

FIRE CARRIER COMMISSIONING CEROMONY

March 25th at 2.30 pm in the School Hall

Mr Colin Brooks, local member of parliament will be in attendance.
Parents welcome to attend

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Annual school photos have been taken by Arthur Reed Photos.

To view the images of your child and order photos, you will need to first register online.
Go to <https://order.arphotos.com.au> and enter the 2022 image code for your child (*from their personalized flyer*)
Tap on 'Add another child' to enter the image codes of any siblings
Fill in your email and mobile details and then review all details before confirming your registration
That's it! When 2022 photos are ready, you will be notified by email and SMS.

WE'RE PROUD TO CELEBRATE THE
DIVERSITY OF OUR COMMUNITY

HARMONY.GOV.AU

HARMONY
WEEK



HARMONY
WEEK



JOIN US IN
CELEBRATING

HARMONY.GOV.AU



HARMONY DAY AT ST DAMIAN'S

MARCH 21ST 2022

All students are invited to come dressed in clothing that reflects their cultural background or the colour orange.

Students will participate in fun activities throughout the day that celebrate the cultural diversity of our school community.

Students might like to bring a lunch that reflects their cultural background.

The message of Harmony Week is **everyone belongs**.

It is about **inclusiveness, respect and belonging** for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values.

Did you know?

- Nearly half (49 per cent) of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was.
- We identify with over 300 ancestries.
- Since 1945, more than 7.5 million people have migrated to Australia.
- 85 per cent of Australians agree multiculturalism has been good for Australia.
- Apart from English, the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Arabic, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Italian, Greek, Tagalog/Filipino, Hindi, Spanish and Punjabi.
- More than 70 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia.

ST DAMIAN'S PARISH
LENTEN PROGRAMME 2022

LENTEN PRAYER MEETINGS: Every Tuesday Evenings: 7.15 pm – 8.15 pm - with Pastorelle Sisters, **5 Nash Court, Bundoora** (22, & 29 of March; 5 of April.)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - We will be having it **every Friday** after Morning Mass

LENTEN REFLECTIONS:

Two Lenten Reflection Nights led by Fr. Dr. Brian Gleeson

DATES: Fridays 18 and 25 March

VENUE: St. Damian's Church

TIME: 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

The topic of the talks will be based on: "JESUS CHRIST THEN AND NOW." He is convinced that, in the words of Fr Gerald O'Collins, SJ, "What we DO with the Church depends upon what we THINK about Jesus."

You are invited

Small Business Breakfast

Proudly presented by Loyola College Alumni Association in conjunction
with VCAL/VET Small Business students

29 March 2022

7:30am - 8:30am

Magis Performing Arts Centre
Loyola College

Keynote address

Small Business surviving post COVID

\$10 registration at Trybooking

www.loyola.vic.edu.au/tickets/

RSVP 25 March





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term 1	
March	
Friday 18th	Hot Cross Buns Orders Due
Monday 21st	Harmony Day—Casual/Orange Clothes Day
Tuesday 22nd	PA Meeting at 7.30pm in the Hall
Monday 28th	School Sports Day
April	
Friday 1st	Hot Cross Bun Delivery
	Easter Raffle Donations Due
Friday 8th	Easter Raffle Drawn
	Last Day of Term 1
Term 2	
April	
Monday 25th	Anzac Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 26th	First Day Term 2



ALL AGES | ALL ABILITIES | ALL STYLES

BUNDOORA

new location

LALOR

Lalor formerly "Dance Discovery"

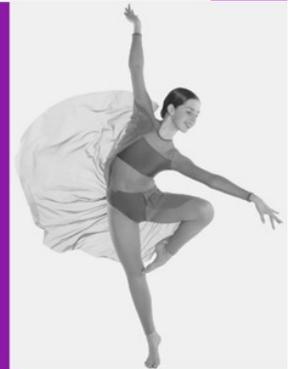


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Parent's Domain

Exploring Children's Emotions – Workshop

Navigating children's emotions can be tricky, especially when children have those BIG feelings.

Exploring Children's Emotions is an interactive and reflective workshop designed to discuss – emotional development, various emotional states in children, reflecting on parenting styles, learning how the body and brain react in BIG feeling states and walk away with a framework and strategies to support and guide children through BIG feelings.

Date: Monday 21st March 2022

Please note registrations close 14th March 2022

Cost: \$20 per person
 resource pack included

Time: 7pm-8:30pm

Suitable for: Parents, carers and educators

Venue: Parent's Domain Headquarters – Board Room
 135 Bamfield Road Heidelberg Heights

For more information and registration contact:

Annette D'Amore
 Child and Family Therapist
 BA (Psych) PGDip (Couns) -PACFA 25481

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