



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday October 13th, 2022

No. 29 - 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. FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Halloween Disco

What a wonderful response to the Halloween Disco. It is now a sell-out event. This has never happened before so we are delighted that our community has responded so positively and embraced this opportunity to come together. I understand that some families have missed out on purchasing tickets and I apologise to anyone who has been left disappointed, however we are at capacity and cannot accommodate any further entries. This is a safety issue in case there is an emergency. This has never happened in the past, we have never had a sell-out event and such a positive response. Given that our earlier attempt to have a community drive-in event needed to be cancelled due to the poor response, it is wonderful that we have this opportunity to come together as a community. A huge thank you to our P&A Committee for all their hard work in organizing this opportunity for our school.

Prep Orientation Sessions

Next Wednesday 19th October is the third Prep Orientation Sessions. There are two more sessions on November 3rd and November 16th. We are offering an Information Session for new Prep Families on Wednesday 16th November, during the final session, to inform parents about our school expectations and to support new families to our school. All parents whose children are beginning Prep in 2023 are warmly welcome. We will also hold an Information Evening to be held early next year when families will be invited to hear how to support their children in the first year of school. We are very excited to welcome all our new students and their families to the St Damian's School Community.

Preparing for 2023 School Year

Thank you to those families who have already informed us of their intentions for next year. This is important for us as we begin the planning process for 2023. If families know that they will not be returning to St Damian's next year please notify the school office as soon as possible as we will soon begin the process of organising classes. Thank you.

Year 3 Camp experience

On Wednesday 3rd November our Year 3 students will be heading off to enjoy their one day camp experience at the Campaspe Adventure Camp in Kyneton. This will be the first time that these young people have had the opportunity to enjoy a camp experience post COVID. I know that many of them are very much looking forward to the experience. Many thanks to Miss Richardson, Mrs Calli and Miss Tran for all their preparation and organization in providing this exciting camp experience for our students.

School Closure Day

Monday 31st October is a school closure day to enable staff to work on the students' reports. **Tuesday 1st is also a Public Holiday (Melbourne Cup).** **Students are not required at school on both days.**

Prayer

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen. (Peace prayer of St Francis)

Have a great week,

Rosanna

Faith News

Saint Teresa of Avila – 15th October

During the 16th century, Teresa lived in an age of exploration as well as political, social, and religious upheaval. It was a time of turmoil and reform. She was born prior to the Protestant Reformation.

Teresa entered the Carmelites despite strong opposition from her father. She valued Prayer and the virtue of compassion. By leading a contemplative life, Teresa sought ways to be both practical and graceful.

Always thinking of others, she founded over a half-dozen new monasteries. She travelled, wrote, fought — always to renew and to reform. In her self, in her Prayer, in her life, Teresa became both inspirational and life giving to those around her.

Her writings, especially the *Way of Perfection* and *The Interior Castle*, continue to influence generations of believers.

In 1970, the Church gave her the title she had long held in the popular mind: Doctor of the Church. She and St. Catherine of Siena were the first women honoured with this title.

Perhaps we can imitate Teresa's promotion of renewal within our modern Church. May we remember her legacy of Prayer as we courageously face the challenges we experience today.

A Prayer by St Teresa of Avila for Internal Peace

*Let nothing disturb you.
Let nothing frighten you.
All things are passing;
God alone is changeless.
Patience gains all things.
Who has God wants nothing;
God alone suffices. Amen.*

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader

Writer of the Week



Chloe T 6S
Dev N 6S
Aiden 4M
Dom 2N
Lara 1S

Student Writing Piece Climate Change—Written by Dev N - 6S

Once we lived on a green Earth. A recognizable Earth. Now it's a hot and grey wasteland. The air is full with smoke and the sky is a terrifying blood red. Buildings crumble down, just like our futures. Bunker lids scattered across the land. Why? Why are humans so greedy? It's the money. They were blinded by the money. All the trees were barren with no leaves, they were just skeletons swaying in the wind.

Why did politicians not act fast enough? They had plenty of time. Why do the actions of those from the past affect the people in the future?

I guess we have to live with it. But why?

For so long scientists warned companies to turn to more eco-friendly solutions. They warned politicians about the damage and money it will cost to repair it all. They didn't listen and instead they made it worse, shattering the world around us. Shattering our futures. Shattering our faith. Instead of those shattered remains being on the ground and still being recovered, they were thrown into an endless black abyss never to be seen again.

St Damian's Feast Day

On Sunday, we celebrated St Damian's Feast Day.

We started the day in the Church with a mass led by Fr Dong. After Mass, we all headed to the School/Parish Hall for Entertainment, a sausage sizzle and assorted hot food and drinks.

Our First act for the day was our School Choir. We Thank all the children and Mrs O'Leary who attended and performed.

All attending and especially the children all had a great day with lots of entertainment. Captain Adam (dressed as a Pirate) who kept the children involved in dancing and singing.

We also thank Loyola College students for assisting with the Face Painting. The children also enjoyed the Jumping Castle and Tennis activities. Thank you to all our very talented entertainers on the day.

We hope to see you all again next year for Feast Day.

St Damian's Parish.

MUSIC NEWS

St Damian's School Choir helps to celebrate Feast Day



**Thank you to Dinara, Neveah, Chloe, Winter,
Laura, Chelsea, Alannah and Alyssa**
for committing to and contributing such melodious
singing at the Mass at 10am and presenting two songs
in the parish concert in the Hall for St Damian's
Parish feast day celebration last Sunday - 9th
October.

There really was a great festive feel!
Hoping supportive parents and grandparents who
came along to join in really had a good time too.

Thank you too.

From Marg O'Leary - proud Music teacher.

St Damian's Parent Association

Halloween Disco - Volunteers Needed

This Fridays Halloween Disco has been so popular that we have reached the capacity for the hall.

THE EVENT IS SOLD OUT. Unfortunately we are unable to sell further tickets at the Door.

Everyone who has already sent in your form and money will have your name at the door.

Reminder - this event has Food, Donuts, Drinks, Novelties and Lollies available by CASH ONLY.

Your child will need Parent Supervision at all times.

Please be mindful of carpark at night and driving slow.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

Second Hand Uniform Shop will be open this Friday at 9am- 10am

CASH ONLY

New location at old Canteen entrance next to Office through the tall fence.

Yellow and Red Polos at \$5 - Winter Jumpers \$10 - Green Parkas/Jackets for \$8.

Student Writing Piece

Where are You -Written by Chloe T - 6S

The sky was a crisp, clear blue. The birds were tweeting their sweet little song.

The air was as warm as the glow of a topaz. And then you disappeared.

When I heard the news, I felt as if a piece of my heart had been chipped away, and thrown into the inky, dark, soulless depths of the deepest indents of the world.

I felt as if I wanted the floor to eat me up, make me disappear, because all I want now is to slowly, just slowly disintegrate into the void.

I never knew that you would be gone so soon.

But who knew?

They say that you have been somewhere far away. Alone.

I could easily imagine how you had felt then. Overwhelmed by your surroundings. Lost. Scared.

And that was when you disappeared.

The media was covered in a sea of images. Pictures of you adorned all the news websites I know. Headlines bearing your name repeatedly popped up on the screen.

Auretta Kravchenko, missing girl, not found.

Auretta Kravchenko, police hunt for body.

Auretta Kravchenko, the truth behind her disappearance.

It feels as if I can never avoid you, where your ghostly presence is following me wherever I go. Your happy, smiling face is always in the back of my mind. Every time I see something that has to do with you, a piece of my heart gets ripped out, tossed out of the window, never to return.

And even when the media forgets about you, leaves you behind, labels you as a thing of the past, the scars of this fateful event will always be lodged deeply into my scarred, shrivelled up heart.

Every day, every week, every month, I miss you more and more. There are still pictures of you and me that I had found not long ago, of that place where we used to meet.

That place that I can never look at again.

And I wonder, where are you now?



UPCOMING PERFORMING ARTS CONCERT ASSEMBLY OCTOBER 20TH - 2.20 TO 3.15PM SCHOOL HALL

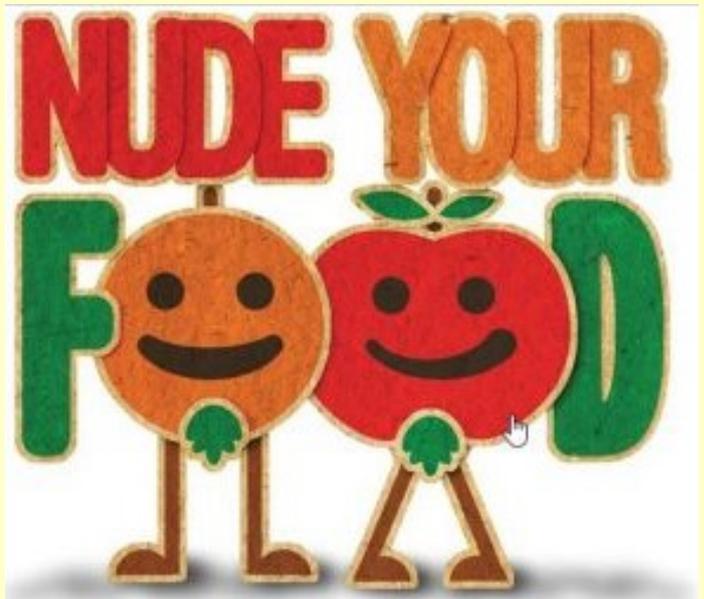
THIS WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE SOME SELECTED SOLOISTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO EXCELLED IN THE TALENT SHOW HELD EARLIER IN THE YEAR, AND TO SHARE AND AFFIRM LEARNING SUCCESS FROM CLASS LEARNING IN DRAMA AND MUSIC CLASSES ACROSS THE SCHOOL AT ST DAMIAN'S SCHOOL. PARENTS ARE MOST WELCOME.

MRS ZEENA HESSENKAMP (DRAMA TEACHER) AND MS MARG O'LEARY (MUSIC TEACHER)



Term 4	
October	
Monday 31st	School Closure Day
Wednesday 19 th	2023 Prep Orientation 9.30am—10.30am
November	
Tuesday 1st	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Thursday 3 rd	2023 Prep Orientation 9.30am—10.30am
Wednesday 16 th	2023 Prep Orientation 9.30am—10.30am
Wednesday 30th	Carols Evening 7pm
December	
Wednesday 7th	End of Year School Mass 11.30am
Wednesday 14th	Year 6's Finish School
	Year 6 Graduation Evening 7pm
Thursday 15th	Years 1-5 Finish 3.15pm

Nude Food Day Every Wednesday and Friday





Amazing Before + After School Care Programs

THEIRCARE SPRING HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Mission: Possible! St Damian's Theircare kicked off the spring holiday program with a bang! Our varying daily themes were programmed to keep the children engaged, enthusiastic & excited. These holidays were so jam packed with activities that the children and educators were in need of holiday when the program ended!

WEEK 1

Our first week was a 3-day week due to the passing of Queen Elizabeth & the Footy Grand Final. The children decorated & planted individual mini green houses in jars, made keyrings & jelly oranges for afternoon tea. We danced to the Cha Cha Slide & the children taught the educators the moves to I Eat Tacos! The week ended with an energetic excursion to Bounce.



WEEK 2

Week 2 was packed full of fun - children made their own foosball tables which kept them entertained for most of the day! They also participated in flipping pancakes, making chocolate coconut balls & created painted leaves into hanging mobiles. There was an incursion that showed the children how to make rocket cars & through this activity learnt about water & pressure.

The highlight of the week was an excursion to the movies to see DC Super Pets. Not only was it a great movie, the children were so well behaved that Rob, our Area Manager, rewarded the children with a little running around in the theatre! They were thrilled!





TERM 4 - WEEK 1
THEME: DC SUPER PETS & HEROES



First week of term 4 and it is starting to feel like spring! (well ... most of the days anyway, with daylight savings having kicked in!).

The children enjoyed eating in the Aboriginal garden in as the weather is starting to become milder.

The children that attended the holiday program commented that their favorite activity in the two weeks was the movies - DC Super Pets; theme inspired for this week.

We made super hero masks and puppets and used pipe cleaners to make superhero figurines

As a "welcome back" to school, we had a special treat on Friday... fairy bread! The children were beyond thrilled!!!



REMINDER
No Hat No Play
 Children are welcome to leave a spare hat at the service

Booking your child into the program in 3 simple steps:

1. Create an account through www.theircare.com.au. Bookings & cancellations can be managed through your account.
2. Provide CRN Centrelink details, any medical conditions & contact details.
3. Select booking dates through your calendar. Casual bookings & regular bookings available. Bookings made within 48 hours/changes to bookings will occur a small fee.