



# St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday September 6th, 2022

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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 ACTING PRINCIPAL**

On behalf of all the staff we warmly welcome back all of the students and families for Term 4. We hope that everyone had a safe and restful break to recharge for the final term of the 2022 school year. I hope that the holidays were an enjoyable and restful time for everyone in our community. The warmer weather is certainly very welcome as we head into the final term of learning here at St Damian's. Term Four is always a very busy, but exciting, term as we celebrate all the wonderful learning and growth that has happened over the year.

### **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.

### **SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

A gentle reminder of the expectations for all students to wear the school uniform correctly, as we commence Term 4. Your support with this over the coming weeks would be appreciated. All students are required to wear their school sun hats this term. Our school policy is No Hat No Play. This policy is designed to protect children from the harmful rays of the sun, therefore if the students do not have a hat, they are not able to play outside. I trust that all students have their **school hats** to wear when outside. Please note that jewellery, other than sleepers or stud earrings, should not be worn with the uniform. It would be a real shame if students were to lose precious items.

Also given that the weather can be variable at this time of year, it is appropriate for the students to wear either summer or winter uniform dependent on the weather. However, we expect all students to be in Summer uniform by the beginning of November.

### **Halloween Disco**

Our wonderful mums in the Parents Association are busy at work preparing for this exciting event for our school community. I am looking forward to mingling with as many families as possible and enjoying the evening together. If you haven't purchased your tickets, please do so asap.

### **Naming our new Library**

Many entries were received from our school community to help name our new Library space. It was an extremely difficult decision to choose as there were so many worthy suggestions. Special mentions go to a number of families for their entries, in particular the Fisher family (Benbullen – quiet place), Ivanovski family (Amaroo – beautiful place), Todara Family (Cosmos), Shahin family (Yurlunggur Mind – Rainbow), Luna family ((Brightminds Hub), Davide family (Information Station) and the Chen family (Booktopia). The **winning entry** was received by our school FIRE Carriers who suggested Bunjil. We congratulate and thank all our families for their suggestions and entries. We are now looking to create a sign to be placed in the Library naming this space the Bunjil Centre.

This entry was chosen as Bunjil is the Creator Spirit in the dreamtime stories and fits in beautifully with what we have created and also with our own faith beliefs. The name, the Bunjil Centre, was inspired by the special parable-like stories about Bunjil, the creator – a wedge tailed eagle that floated above the earth and brought the world and life into existence. Through these stories we can connect with the traditional owners, the Wurundjeri peoples. We needed to seek permission from the Wurrundgeri Council to officially use this name. This has now been granted.

### **Staff News**

Mrs Jenny Rubira is currently on leave until the end of the term. Mrs Angela Lombardi is Acting Deputy in her absence.

### **School Closure Day**

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

**Prayer** – Lady of the Rosary (Feast day 7<sup>th</sup> Oct)

*O dearest Mother, may you be everywhere blessed, today and always, on earth and in heaven.*

*Have a great week,*

*Rosanna*

# Faith News

## **Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary – 7<sup>th</sup> October**

The month of October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. Tomorrow, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary in honour of the Blessed Mother. October was also the month in which Mary appeared for the last time to shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, urging them to "say the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world."

## **The Story of Our Lady of the Rosary**

Saint Pius V established this feast in 1573. The purpose was to thank God for the victory of Christians over the Turks at Lepanto—a victory attributed to the praying of the Rosary. Clement XI extended the feast to the universal Church in 1716. The development of the Rosary has a long history. First, a practice developed of praying 150 Our Fathers in imitation of the 150 Psalms. Then, there was a parallel practice of praying 150 Hail Mary's. Soon, a mystery of Jesus' life was attached to each Hail Mary. Though Mary's giving of the Rosary to Saint Dominic is recognized as a legend, the development of this Prayer form owes much to the followers of Saint Dominic. One of them, Alan de la Roche, was known as "the Apostle of the Rosary." He founded the first Confraternity of the Rosary in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the Rosary was developed to its present form—with the 15 mysteries: joyful, sorrowful and glorious. In 2002, Pope John Paul II added the five Mysteries of Light to this devotion.

## **Reflection**

The purpose of the Rosary is to help us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation. Pius XII called it a compendium of the Gospel. The main focus is on Jesus—his birth, life, death, and resurrection. The Our Fathers remind us that Jesus' Father is the initiator of salvation. The Hail Mary's remind us to join with Mary in contemplating these mysteries. They also make us aware that Mary was, and is, intimately joined with her Son in all the mysteries of His earthly and heavenly existence. The Glory Be's remind us that the purpose of all life is the glory of the Trinity.

The simplicity of the Rosary is very appealing. The constant repetition of words helps create an atmosphere in which to contemplate the mysteries of God. We sense that Jesus and Mary are with us in the joys and sorrows of life. We grow in hope that God will bring us to share in the glory of Jesus and Mary forever.

## **A Prayer Recognising God's Presence Amongst Us**

Lord, we hide in fear of the unknown not realising you are with us always.  
 Your presence appears like a stranger, a companion,  
 as incomprehensible mystery,  
 the extraordinary breaking through into the ordinary,  
 and we are touched by the holy.  
 In these places, we see, we hear, we know you, God – closer,  
 deeper, beyond imagining, beyond expressing.  
 Christ Jesus, lead us to moments of epiphany, revelation.  
 Guide us to places where holiness touches ordinariness,  
*and where we long to see you face to face.*  
**Amen.**

**Mary-Ann Wright**  
 Religious Education Leader

# STUDENT WELLBEING NEWS

In Term Four we are reviewing our learning about the values of  
**INTEGRITY**  
**HOPE**  
**COMPASSION**

## Child Safety Standards

St Damian's Primary School is a Child Safe School. We have a firm commitment to uphold the Child Safe Standards and to embed a culture of child safety. Strategies that seek to prevent harm and neglect (including physical, sexual, emotional, neglect, racial and cultural or religious abuse) all contribute to a child safe culture. It is therefore critical that child safety is part of the everyday thinking and practice of all within the school community - including staff, students and families.



## TRANSITIONS

During Term 4 school communities begins to think about the transitions ahead for students. Year 6 students are preparing for their transition to secondary school, other students prepare to move to new year levels and young children begin to prepare for their transition to primary school.

Research tells us that the transition points relating to a child's education are some of the most important stages in life and can have far-reaching impacts on their wellbeing and success both in learning and in their later life.

Parents play a pivotal role in supporting children through these periods of transition.

The provided link shares some valuable ideas about how you can support your child in moving forward successfully.

[https://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au/media/9830/swh\\_parent\\_transition\\_points\\_accessible.pdf](https://studentwellbeinghub.edu.au/media/9830/swh_parent_transition_points_accessible.pdf)

## Busy Bees Garden

Our Sustainability Leaders have been very productive in the school garden over the last few months. There is a good crop of vegetables that they are extremely proud of.

Please come and purchase some of the wonderful, organic vegetables to help keep the garden going.

**FRIDAY 7TH OCTOBER 3PM - OUTSIDE THE SPORTS GARAGE**

## St Damian's Parent Association

### Halloween Disco - Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in helping out the Parents Association at the disco, PLEASE use the below link to Sign Up. We need to fill a number of fun roles on the night. With your help we can make this a memorable event for the children. Get your friends together and assign yourselves to a task via this link below.

<https://signup.com/go/kXUrfyO>

**St Damian's**  
**Halloween Disco**

**Friday 14th October 2022**  
**6:30-9:30PM**  
**TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

**Tickets:**  
Early bird:  
Family (2 adults plus 3 kids) \$15.00  
Individual \$5.00  
Must be purchased by 7th October.

**On the night:**  
Family \$20.00  
Individual \$7.00

**Buy tickets on signup:**  
<https://signup.com/go/kXUrfyO>

**Cash Only Event**  
Novelty Items  
DJ  
Drinks  
Pies  
Sausage Rolls  
Popcorn  
Doughnuts  
Lolly bags  
Tea and Coffee

This is a family event. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Parents will be called to collect their children who attend without an adult

### Second Hand Uniform Shop

Open this Friday at 9am- 10am

CASH ONLY

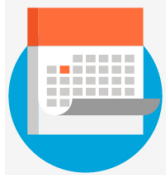
New location at old Canteen entrance next to Office through the tall fence.  
Yellow and Red Polos at \$5 - Winter Jumpers \$10 - Green Parkas/Jackets for \$8.



## 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)



**DATES  
FOR YOUR  
DIARY**

<b>Term 4</b>	
<b>October</b>	
Monday 31st	School Closure Day
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	2023 Prep Orientation 9.30am— 10.30am
<b>November</b>	
Tuesday 1st	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	2023 Prep Orientation 9.30am— 10.30am
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	2023 Prep Orientation 9.30am— 10.30am
Wednesday 30th	Carols Evening 7pm
<b>December</b>	
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

