



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday March 30th, 2023

No. 8 - 2023

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/Guardians & Carers



This Sunday we celebrate Palm Sunday, which is *the last Sunday in Lent and the Sunday before Easter*. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, the most important week of the year for Christians. On this day we commemorate the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified.

We call it Palm Sunday because at Church services we receive palm fronds which are used to participate in the reenactment of Christ's arrival in Jerusalem. In the Gospels, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a young donkey, to the lavish praise of the townspeople who threw clothes, or possibly palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. This was a customary practice for people of great respect.

Palm branches are widely recognized as a symbol of peace and victory, hence their preferred use on Palm Sunday. The use of a donkey instead of a horse is highly symbolic, it represents the humble arrival of someone in peace, as opposed to arriving on a steed in war. Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week where we remember the events of Christ's Passion and which culminate with his death and resurrection a week later.

Notification of Absences

We remind all parents to please use either email or the Flexischools App to notify the school or the classroom teacher of absences. **Please do not use Seesaw** as we require notification of absences in writing with the reason for the absence stated. It is a legislative requirement of schools that we maintain accurate records of student absences. Receiving them via email allows us to print and retain for our records. Thank you for understanding.

Working With Children Checks

Just a gentle reminder that anyone entering the school must have a WWC check. It is a Child Safety requirement of all schools to ensure that anyone entering has a current WWCC. These are required even if attending for special school/social events. Working With Children Checks are available online and are free for volunteers. Please ensure that you have one so that you can participate in all school and class events. Thank you for supporting us to keep all the children safe in our school community.

School Assembly

Next Monday is our final assembly for this term. Year 3T will present their learning to our school community. We welcome all families to attend.

Sports Day

Congratulations to Red Team who were the overall winners at the Sports Day held last Friday. Well done to all the house teams for your sportsmanship and for making the day a fun experience for everyone. A huge thank you to all the parents who volunteered on the day and those that came to provide support. A big thank you to Mr Insolia, the Sports Captains and all the teachers for such a great day.

Easter Bonnet Parade

We are holding an Easter Bonnet Parade next Wednesday. Students are invited to create an Easter bonnet (hat) to wear on the parade. Miss Beeby will send home more information so please look out for it. Families are welcome to join us for the parade.

End of Term/Casual Clothes Day

The last day of the term is next Thursday, 6th April. The students will finish at 1.15pm. As is tradition at St Damian's, we invite all students to come to school in **casual clothes and bring a gold coin donation** for Project Compassion – Caritas. The money collected goes to Caritas who use it to provide aid to people in countries where there is significant need.

Holy Week Prayer Services

We will hold our school prayer services marking the events of Holy Week on Thursday 6th April at 10.30am in the Church. All are welcome to join us as we remember the special events leading up to Easter. Please note that **Easter is on Sunday 9th April**.

Staff News

Sadly, at the end of this term we will farewell **Mrs Renee Waters**, who is leaving St Damian's to take up a position with the Education Department. Mrs Waters has been with us for a little over a year, but in this short time has worked tirelessly to support families and our most vulnerable students here at St Damian's. Mrs Waters has worked with our Learning Support Officers and teachers so that students who need extra support can achieve their fullest potential. We thank Mrs Waters so much for all she has contributed to our school community. We are very sad to see her go but wish her every success as she moves on to a new role within the Education Department. Goodbye and good luck. We will miss you!

Prayer

Almighty God, on Palm Sunday we joyfully acclaim Jesus our Messiah and King. May we reach one day the happiness of the new and everlasting Jerusalem by faithfully following him who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen

*Have a wonderful week,
Rosanna*



Faith News

The Easter Triduum

The contemporary Catholic Church has reclaimed the ancient Christian practice of the *Triduum*, the Great Three Days.

On Holy Thursday (next Thursday, 6th April) we enter into the Triduum as we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper.

The Triduum continues through Good Friday, culminates in the Easter Vigil and concludes with Evening Prayer on Sunday, Easter Sunday (this year, 9th April).

The Great Feast of Easter begins on Easter Sunday. It is a day of overlap between the Triduum and Easter.

Easter Sunday is both the final hours of the Triduum and the first hours of the Easter Season.

The Easter Season is a period of fifty days that begins on Easter Sunday with the week-long celebration of the Octave of Easter and concludes with Pentecost Sunday (this year, 28th May).

During the Easter Season, the Church rejoices in the Resurrection and the Ascension of the Lord, and the bestowal of the Spirit. It is a period of renewal and commitment to that same mission taken up by the early Christian communities.

For those who have been newly initiated, it is a time to reflect on their experiences and is oriented towards spiritual growth and entering more fully into the life of the community.

Social Justice - Project Compassion

Thank you to each family on behalf of Caritas for your generosity in supporting Project Compassion throughout Lent. Please remember to return all Project Compassion collection box donations to the school by tomorrow, **Friday 31st March**.

Palm Sunday Prayer

Merciful God, as we enter Holy week,
turn our hearts again to Jerusalem,
and to the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Stir up within us the gift of faith that
we may not only praise Him with our lips,
but may follow Him in the way of the Cross.

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader



Sports Day 2023

Thank you to all of the parents who were able to come along and cheer on the students at last Friday's Sports Day and to all of the parent helpers who made the day possible. It was a fun day for all students and staff and the weather was very kind to us. Congratulations to Red House (Francis House) for winning the day overall, it was great to see such a close competition and great sportsmanship being shown on the day.

Final Results

1st Red (Francis) 638 Points
 2nd Blue (Cosmos) 619 Points
 3rd Gold (Clare) 610 Points
 4th Green (Damian) 604 Points

Simon Insolia—PE Teacher



SCHOOL MUSICAL

2023 School Production News

We are excited to announce that the St Damian's whole school production, **The Magical Toy Box Tour**, will be taking place at Loyola College in the Inigo Theatre later this year. This will be held over two nights.

The dates are : Thursday 24th August and Friday 25th August

Each student will be assigned to perform in at least one of the two shows. Year 6 students, and other selected students, will perform in both shows.

More information will be provided in due course, including the show date or dates each student will be involved in.

Please pencil **both** dates into your calendar.

Alex de la Rambelje (Drama / Dance teacher) and Marg O'Leary (Music Teacher)



The Year Fives are in need of your expertise and assistance in Term Two.

If you are involved in the health profession - doctor, nurse, psychologist, yoga instructor, nutritionist, podiatrist...anything at all to do with health and wellbeing - we're asking for you to share your expertise with the Year Fives next term.

We'd love for you to share with us what you do, the parts of the body you work with/help to maintain or improve, how you help to maintain the health/wellbeing of people - any information you think will be interesting for our students.

Details will be confirmed next term regarding dates and times, however, we're anticipating one morning session in the middle of the term where you conduct a short presentation (5-10minutes). All forms of presentation would be great - feel free to bring props, create a slideshow, conduct the session via skype - we're open to any and all ideas.

Please let us know via email if you would be willing to be a guest speaker and your preferred day of the week to present.

Riki Bossini riki.bossini@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au

Nicole Richardson nicole.richardson@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au

Please note: All expert speakers are required to have a current Working With Children's Check.

We're also asking for donations of the following items that you may have at home that will be used during our Inquiry:

*tubing - old pipes or postal tubes (cut in half preferably)

*ping pong balls *old tennis balls *straws *sticky tape *blu tac

*small toy cars *spaghetti *playdoh *newspaper *balloons *string *wool *cardboard *cotton wool *split pins *icy pole sticks *foam

*egg cartons *buttons *skewers *pipe cleaners *paper cups *pegs

Thank you in anticipation for supporting our learning next term,

Riki Bossini and Nicole Richardson



ST DAMIAN'S

STUDENT SPECIAL

50% OFF

HOT SHOTS PROGRAMS TERM 2

Use the code STPS when booking in for any of our Hot Shots programs in Term 2 to receive 50% off our normal fees. Special offer valid for new clients only.

Call 0402 296 835 or
email info@grippingpotential.com.au



GPTENNIS.COM.AU



Term 1	
April	
Monday 3rd	Assembly 2.30pm
Thursday 6th	Last Day of Term 1. 1.15pm Finish
Term 2 April	
Tuesday 25th	Anzac Day Public Holiday
Wednesday 26th	First Day of Term 2

St Damian's Parent Association



Easter Raffle

Monday 3rd of April.

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.

Hot Cross Bun Day on Last Day of Term

Thursday 6th of April.

Volunteers needed in the morning. Sign up here:

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

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

Donations of clean, good condition uniforms and school bags etc are gratefully appreciated. They can be left in the labelled box outside the School Office.

(We will not accept damaged, old or stained items). Cash sales only.

Open each FRIDAY: 9am-10am (located up the hill just after the office entrance).

Theircare at St Damian's would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which we learn and grow: The Wurundjeri people. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future. We extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our school and community.



LAST WEEK - HARMONY WEEK

Last week we came together to celebrate diversity and inclusion for Harmony week. We had engaging activities that required us to work together, made friendship bracelets that we shared with each other and celebrated cultural diversity.

Harmony Day is celebrated by the colour orange which represents diversity and inclusion, so while some children came dressed in traditional cultural costumes others wore orange. Each activity incorporated many shades of orange to support this special day!



THIS WEEK - EASTER

This week marks the beginning of a fortnight of Easter celebrations. As Easter is fast approaching so we have began making bunnies and baskets, fingerpainted Easter cards and made 3D carrots! We will continue next week with an Easter egg hunt and continue to create various Easter projects.



LAST DAY OF TERM 1 - THURSDAY 6TH APRIL AFTER SCHOOL CARE 1:30PM - 6:30PM

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.

Holiday Program: 11th - 21st April 2023

Theircare's goal is for your Children to have a blast when they spend time in our Holiday Program!

Bookings are now open for our latest adventure - "Wild Child"

⌚ TIMES	CONTACT HEAD OFFICE	CONTACT SERVICE
Before School: 7:00AM - 8:35AM	☎ 1300 072 410	☎ 0477 731 175
After School: 3:15PM - 6:30PM	✉ info@theircare.com.au	✉ stdmiansbundoora@theircare.com.au
Holidays: 7:00AM - 6:30PM		