



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday May 4th, 2023

No. 10 - 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

A warm welcome back to all our families, students and staff. I trust everyone had a restful holiday and a happy Easter. We have eased ourselves into another term with a shorter week last week due to the later start. Term 2 is now in full swing with the students and teachers settling into their units of work. The Year 4 students headed off to camp last week and enjoyed two days and one night at the Briars. The Year 5 & 6 camp will be held a little later in the term. This term, we also look forward to completing our enrolment process with interviews, Reconciliation Week, Sorry Day and the Long Walk. The Year 2 students are beginning their preparations to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation to be celebrated in June. The Year 6's also begin their formal preparations for the Sacrament of Confirmation, celebrated in July. Of course, amongst all this there is the normal daily learning and teaching. We are looking forward to another very busy term.

ANZAC DAY

ANZAC Day is the national day of commemoration of Australia and New Zealand for victims of war and for recognition of the role of their armed forces. It marks the first major military action fought by Australian and New Zealand forces during the First World War.

Last Tuesday our School Captain Tom, took part in the wreath laying ceremony at the Watsonia RSL. Our school was one of the many schools in the area that layed a wreath in honor of all those who served in this campaign. Our local state member, Mr Colin Brooks, was also in attendance as were many other dignitaries, each one representing a different aspect of our local community. I would like to thank Tom, his mum Melanie and his family for offering to represent our school at this important occasion. Tom was a wonderful ambassador for our school community and did a wonderful job in laying a wreath on our school's behalf. It was also lovely to see some of our current and past families at the ceremony as well. Well done Tom and thank you!

Before School Supervision

It is becoming increasingly alarming to see many students being dropped off at school before supervision begins. Parents, this is **not a safe practice**! Staff do not begin their work day, therefore supervision of students, until 8.30am, so your children are not being cared for by anyone until then. Staff on premises cannot see or hear the children, so if something goes wrong no one would be aware. The office does not open until 8.30am and the school is locked. NO students are to be left at school prior to 8.30am. I am well aware that many parents work and that is why we have contracted with the Out of Hours CareService – Their Care – who operate from 7.00am to cater for students who need to come to school early. Parents must use this service or else remain with their children until staff duty begins. This is to ensure that your children are safe at all times. Please work with us to keep your children safe!!

Kiss and Drop

The Kiss and Drop area off Joseph Street is closed to cars after school. At times parents may see the gates open, however this is **not an invitation to enter**. Cars are not permitted to enter the school from this entry point in the afternoon as students and families exit the school and it is very dangerous. Also, please be aware that only one side of Joseph Street is available for parking. The other side is a No Standing Zone. Council has been informed that there are many cars parking on the wrong side so you could be booked. Park your car in surrounding side streets and walk to the school grounds. Walking is very good exercise for both adults and children alike. Also do not use the driveway closest to the school gate to conduct a three point turn. Again, this is very dangerous and reckless.

Only families picking up from After School Care may enter the school after 3.30pm. Thank you for your co-operation.

Tuckshop

Lisa has advised that during Term 2 and Term 3 there will not be any over the counter sales. Therefore students will not need to bring money to spend at the tuckshop. Only lunch orders are available during the next couple of terms. Over the counter sales will resume in Term 4 when the weather is warmer.

School Assembly

Our next school assembly is Monday 15th May at 2.30pm in the hall. The Year 5R class will present their celebration of Learning at this assembly. All families welcome.

Staff News

I am pleased to announce that Mrs Julia Strentz has been employed as the new Learning Diversity Leader to replace Mrs Renee Pearce who finished up last week. We were very fortunate to be able to employ Julia who is very experienced in this area and will be a great support to our families and teachers in assisting those students who have additional needs. Julia is currently employed at a P-12 school and will be joining St Damian's later this month.

We also welcomed Mrs Adrienne Lee to our Learning Support Team this term. Adrienne speaks fluent Mandarin and Cantonese and is a very welcome addition to our staff. We warmly welcome both Adrienne and Julia to our staff and hope that their time here is both rewarding and enjoyable.

Condolences

We offer our deepest sympathies to the Pantelidis family on the passing of their father and grandfather (James and Andrew) during the holiday period. We pray that God will strengthen them during this difficult time. May his soul rest in eternal peace in God's loving embrace.

We also offer our sympathies to Mrs Lauren Bosinovski on the passing of her mother. Mrs Bosinovski is currently on Maternity Leave. We pray for Lauren and her family that through God's mercy, they will be sustained during this very sad time. May God give rest and eternal peace to her mother and welcome her into his Heavenly Kingdom.

Prayer

May the glory and the promise of this joyous time of year bring peace and happiness to you and those you hold most dear. And may Christ, Our Risen Saviour, always be there by your side to bless you most abundantly and be your loving guide.

*Have a great week everyone,
Rosanna*



On the 25th of April I was invited to attend the ANZAC ceremony in Watsonia to commemorate the fallen soldiers of Australia. As I arrived I observed many of the active soldiers in their uniform with their guns. The police had blocked off the road so the soldiers were able to walk to the RSL to observe silence. The ceremony started off by some veterans marching down the road in their kilts, playing the bagpipes.

Once the bagpipes stopped playing students from a variety of schools around the area were invited to lay wreaths. I was nervously waiting for my time to bring up my wreath and at the same time two children fainted from the scorching hot sun which shocked me. They nearly forgot to call up St Damians but luckily I walked up to the front and they gave me the wreath to lay on the monument.

It was a real honour to represent our school at this important event.

Tom P
School Captain—6C



Faith News

Sacrament of Reconciliation

This term, our Year Two Students will be participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday 7th June at 7pm in the Church. We pray that we may be good examples of forgiveness and healing in the way we live our lives.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Parish Presentation Masses

Please choose whichever Mass time suits your family best: Saturday 3rd June at 5:30pm or Sunday 4th June at 10am. The children do not need to bring anything with them. They will be invited to stand on the altar after the Homily and everyone present will be invited to pray for them.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Early in Term Three, our Year Six Students will be renewing their baptismal promises and professing their faith as they celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 15th July at 2pm. We pray for them as they prepare to participate in the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost. Further details regarding the Sacrament of Confirmation will be sent home over the coming weeks.

Sacrament of Confirmation Parish Presentation Masses

Please choose whichever Mass time suits your family best: Saturday 17th June at 5:30pm or Sunday 18th June at 10am. The children do not need to bring anything with them. They will be invited to stand on the altar after the Homily and everyone present will be invited to pray for them. The students will receive a copy of the Nicene Creed and a Confirmation pin.

Sacrament of Confirmation Parent / Child Evening

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Sacrament of Confirmation Parent / Child Evening on Thursday 22nd June at 7pm. The evening will be facilitated by Michele from the Presentation Family Project.

Social Justice - Project Compassion

Thank you to each family on behalf of Caritas for your generosity in supporting Project Compassion throughout Lent. Our School Community raised \$253.15.

The core of faith is equated with the doing of justice....

The doing of justice is not the application of religious faith, but its substance.

Without it, God remains unknown.... John O'Donohue.

A Prayer for World Peace

*We pray for the power to be gentle,
the strength to be forgiving,
the patience to be understanding,
and the endurance to accept the consequences
of holding on to what we believe to be right.
May we put our trust in the power of good to overcome evil
and the power of love to overcome hatred.
We pray for the vision to see and the faith
to believe in a world emancipated from violence,
a new world where fear shall no longer
lead men or women to commit injustice,
nor selfishness make them bring suffering to others.
Help us to devote our whole life and thought and energy
to the task of making peace,
praying always for the inspiration
and the power to fulfill the destiny for which
we and all men and women were created. Amen.*

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader

SCHOOL MUSICAL

2023 School Production News

Another reminder: 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.

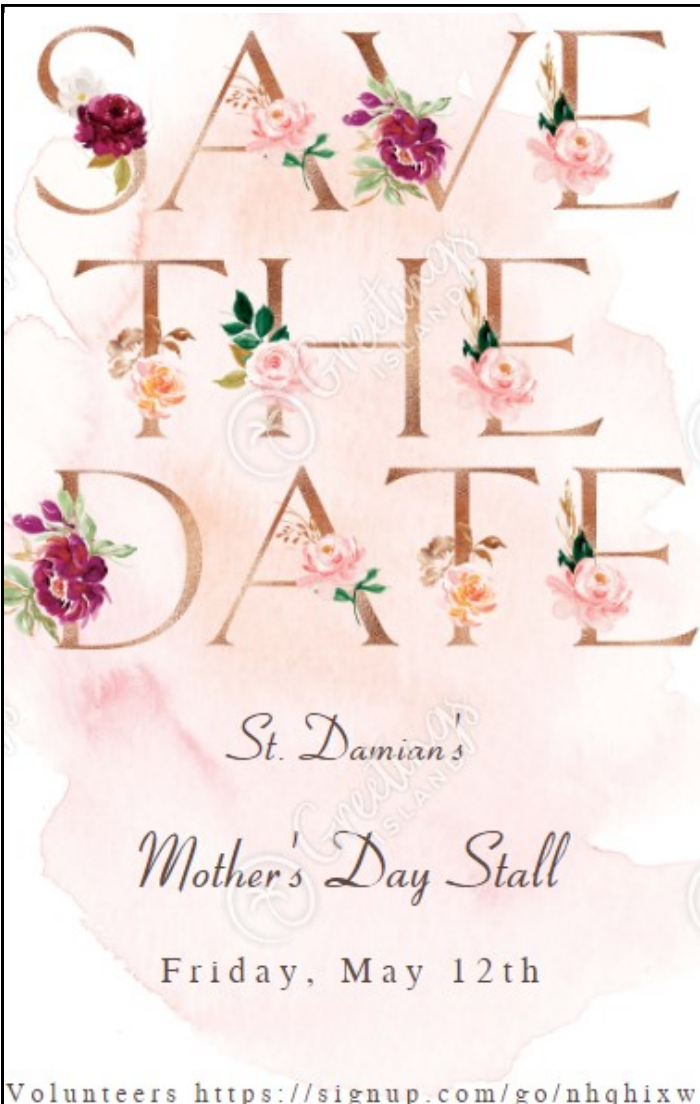
The dates are scheduled on:
Thursday 24th August
Friday 25th August

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 that each student will be involved in. If you haven't done so already, please pencil both dates into your calendar for now.

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



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).



Prep A	Hong Rui Guo	For always putting lots of effort into the presentation of your work.
Prep M	Aaron Batal	For the improvement you are showing in your reading and writing.
1A	Weini Liu	For being respectful by working collaboratively with her peers.
1C	Luana Catanese	For being an outstanding student who strives to do her best at all times.
1M	Alexander Lemberiadis	For doing his best and working hard to improve his maths.
2D	Radmehr Nakhostinfathi	For working hard during writing.
2S	Taylor Adams	For being a focused learner and helping his peers to succeed.
2W	Zachary Mulholland	For responding confidently to open ended questions during class discussions.
3C	Yiota Evangelakos	For being an efficient and selfless helper.
3M	Flora Lin	For consistently doing her best across all aspects of the school day.
3T	Angela Chen	For continuously doing your best and pushing yourself through challenging circumstances.
4F	Alyssa Maroge	For always improving in her work and showing great manners.
4M	The 4M Class	For your outstanding behaviour and excellent participation in group activities.
4N	Henry Huang	For showing determination and courage while participating in camp activities.
5B	Charbel Salloum	For the enthusiasm and effort you bring to all learning activities.
5R	Orion Tran	For the leadership you demonstrated during group inquiries.
6C	Sienna Cutrone	For consistently applying yourself to your work.
6S	Rachel Hao	For always striving to do your very best at all times in all areas of your work.

UPCOMING COLLEGE TOURS

Discovery Tours

Tuesday 6 June: 9.15am
Wednesday 19 July: 9.15am
Wednesday 9 August: 9.15am

Express Tours


We are now also hosting small, group express tours every fortnight, for approximately 45 minutes.

Visit the College website or scan the QR Code to register for a tour



P: 9488 1600 E: registrar@santamaria.vic.edu.au W: www.santamaria.vic.edu.au

Year 7 2025 enrolments close in August! Very limited places for 2024


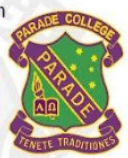


Year 7 Information Evening
All Year 4-6 Families Welcome
Wednesday May 31

What Makes Parade College Unique?

Tours of the College commence at 5.45pm
Presentation to commence at 7pm

BOOK NOW: www.parade.vic.edu.au

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