



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday June 8th, 2023

No. 15 - 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

Over the weekend some of our Year 2 students were presented as candidates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Masses. It was wonderful to see these young people at Mass being supported by the whole community during this very special time in their Faith journey. Last night, these same young people received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the very first time. We congratulate the students and hope that they will use the opportunities this Sacrament affords them throughout their lives. Congratulations to the Year Two students and thank you to their teachers, Miss Davies, Miss Solomons and Mrs Walpole, who prepared them so well. We also thank Mrs Wright for her support of the students and teachers and we cannot forget Fr Dong who made the ceremony a special one for the children. A big thank you to all the parents and carers for supporting your children during this important time. Well done everyone and thank you once again.

COVID

Unfortunately, we have had a number of cases of COVID reported amongst the students and staff. It seems to have struck our community once again. COVID can still be caught as it is rampant in the wider community and is most virulent during the colder months. I urge all families to be vigilant, maintain social distancing where appropriate and to use masks and sanitisers as needed. If students complain of feeling unwell, please do not send to school, even if they test negative to COVID. If everyone does their little bit, we will be able to maintain a safer and healthier school community. Thank you for working with us during these times.

Reports

Student Reports will be emailed to families next Friday 16th June. Please check your emails or spam if you do not receive it.

Learning Conversations

The Learning Conversations will be held on Monday 19th June. There is an opportunity to have these Learning Conversations both online and face to face to accommodate everyone's needs. The **students are not required at school** on this day as the Learning Conversations will begin at 8.30am and conclude at 5.30pm. Learning Conversations are an opportunity for all families to meet with the child(ren)'s teacher(s) to discuss the learning progress and to set further learning goals for the Second Semester. Students are encouraged to attend as they are part of the discussion and they can take ownership of their learning. If parents wish to discuss sensitive matters, then we encourage you to make an alternative appointment with the teacher.

Staff News

This Friday we farewell Mrs Anthony who is taking maternity leave to await the birth of her second child. We wish Mrs Anthony all the best during this special time and wish her and her baby a safe birth. We look forward to learning whether the baby is a boy or girl once it arrives. A huge thank you to Mrs Anthony for her work with our students over the past few years and look forward to her return once her maternity leave is over.

Public Holiday

This Monday is the King's Birthday public holiday, therefore the school is closed. We will return on Tuesday 13th June at normal time. I hope everyone enjoys the long weekend and the welcome break at this time of year.

School Production

Finally this year following the COVID lockdowns, we will be able to have a school production. Hooray! Mr de la Rambelje and Mrs O'Leary together with the class teachers and all the students have been very busy over the past term organising this exciting event for our school community. The theme of our Production is the Magical Toy Box. I am certain that many of you have already started receiving information around this, if not it will begin soon as the Production evenings are **Thursday 24th and Friday 25th August**. All students are in either cast A or cast B and assigned one of the nights. We have booked the theatre at Loyola College so that we can accommodate all our families over the two nights. Families will be able to begin purchasing tickets soon. All the money collected from the ticket sales goes to covering costs, such as theatre hire, sound and lighting technicians, costuming and props, licencing for music, bus costs for the two practices at the venue and other incidentals that happen along the way. We never make a profit from these events as we always budget to simply cover costs. We are definitely looking forward to a wonderful evening of entertainment.

End of Term

The term ends on Friday 23rd June at the normal time of 3.15pm. School resumes in Term Three on Monday 10th July at 8.45 am. As is usual, we invite the students to attend school dressed in casual clothes wearing appropriate footwear. We ask for a gold coin donation please.

Prayer

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If you eat this bread, you will live forever. John 6:51

Have a great week everyone, enjoy the long weekend

Rosanna

Faith News

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Congratulations to our Students who participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation yesterday evening. Father Dong Tran was joined by Father Terry Burgin. We thank them for welcoming everyone and celebrating with us. Thank you, also, to our Families who prepared with their children, and to our Year Two Teachers, Ms Lauren Davies, Ms Natasha Solomons and Mrs Anna Walpole who worked with the Students throughout the term.

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 look 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 and will be held in the Hall.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Please pray for our Year Six Students and their families as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Saturday 15th July at 2pm**. In preparation for this special occasion, the Year Six Students will be exploring the gifts and fruits of the Spirit and reflecting on why we are called to renew our baptismal vows at Confirmation. As with all investigations into our faith, the Students will explore Scripture stories and Church teachings. The Students will also research a particular Saint whom they aspire to live like. We encourage Students and Parents to discuss the significance of the chosen Saint together. Please ensure all CONFIRMATION CARD DETAILS forms are returned to the School by **Friday 9th June**. A photographer has been booked so if your family wishes to order ceremony photographs, please fill in the order form which was sent out by Strike-a-Pose photography and return to the School by **Friday 16th June**.

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) – Sunday 11th June

This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi. Jesus, Himself, identifies His flesh as the bread of heaven, and within John's Gospel, He alludes to His death given for the life of the world. Jesus is *flesh and blood*; first as the sacrificial victim on the cross, and then as food and drink. Like the manna, the flesh and blood of Jesus have become the source of life for those who partake. Eternal life comes from feeding on Jesus, not simply from believing in Him. Jesus teaches that eternal life is not something believers hope to enjoy in the future. Rather, those who share in this meal already possess eternal life. Jesus further maintains that just as we and the substance that we eat and drink become one, so Jesus and those who feed on Him form an intimate union - they abide in Him and He abides in them. *I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If you eat this bread, you will live forever. John 6:51*

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Winter Appeal

Thank you for your generosity in supporting the Vinnies Winter Appeal. We will finish collecting donations on **Friday 16th June**.

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ

*You who have given us your precious Body and Blood to be our food and drink,
grant that through frequent reception of You in the Holy Eucharist,
we may be strengthened in mind and body to do your Holy Will. Amen.*

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader



School Production Parent Helpers - Expression of Interest

It would be great to hear from any parents and adult family members who may be keen to help the school production.

We'd very much appreciate some assistance with a couple of tasks such as making and sourcing props and costumes and backstage support.

If this is something you might be interested in please email Mr de la Rambelje via alex.delarambelje@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au

Ticketing

An email went out to all parents and guardians on Tuesday this week with more information on ticketing. If anyone didn't receive that email please let the school office know.

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



Term 2	
June	
Monday 12th	King's Birthday Public Holiday—Student free day
Friday 16th	Reports emailed to families
Saturday 17th	Sacrament of Confirmation Presentaion Mass Year 6—5.30pm
Sunday 18th	Sacrament of Confirmation Presentaion Mass Year 6—5.30pm
Monday 19th	Pupil Free Day- Learning Conversations
Term 3	
July	
Wednesday 19th	Pupil Free Day—Staff Professional Training



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).

PUPIL FREE DAY

PYJAMA PARTY

Theme

Monday 19th June

Opening hours: 7:00am – 6:30pm

**COME DRESSED IN YOUR
PJS, ONESIE OR OODIE
FOR A DAY OF FUN!**



Rainbow Pancakes
Dancing, Musical Statues

Prizes for the Cutest PJ's, Onesies, Oodie
PJ Design Art



Book in now

Secure your
spot through
FullyBooked.

Any questions?

Please reach out with
any enquiries you may
have. You can find the
service number and
email address below.

Remember to bring



Brain Food
Lunch
Drink bottle
Party Slippers
Shoes for Outdoor Play (if
wearing slippers) 

Breakfast and afternoon tea are provided.

TIMES

Before School: 7:00AM - 9:00AM
After School: 3:15PM - 6:30PM
Holidays: 7:00AM - 6:30PM

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