



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday June 15th, 2023

No. 16 - 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

I hope that all in our community had the opportunity to rest and relax over the long weekend. Hopefully some may even have gone away for a short holiday. Whatever way the long weekend was spent I trust it was enjoyable. This Friday evening we are looking forward to a fabulous night of dancing and partying at the Disco organized by the P.A. Once again, this is a sell out event with all tickets sold out. A huge thank you to our wonderful mums for their efforts in organizing this night for our community. These occasions are fantastic at bringing us together as a school community. Just a gentle reminder that all children attending must be accompanied by a parent please. Don't forget to wear your dancing shoes!!

Reports

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

Learning Conversations

The Learning Conversations will be held next 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 their 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.

School Advisory Council

There is a meeting of the SAC on Tuesday evening, 20th June at 7.30pm in the school.

School Production

The theme of our Production is the Magical Toy Box. I am certain that many of you have already started receiving information, 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 practises 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. **It is an expectation that all students attend on their assigned night** as the production is part of the students' learning.

Staff News

I am pleased to inform our community that, thankfully, we have a new Prep teacher for the Prep A class to replace Mrs Anthony who is now on Maternity Leave. The new teacher will commence next term, on Monday 10th July. In the meantime the students will continue to work with the current replacement teacher until the end of term.

At the end of this term we will farewell Miss Martina Tran who is currently teaching Year 3T. Miss Tran is taking some leave to travel overseas and will return to St Damian's next year. Miss Tran will be replaced by Mrs Sophie Kerss who will return from leave at the beginning of next term. We welcome Mrs Kerss back and wish her a wonderful second half of the year, we also wish Miss Tran a relaxing and enjoyable holiday and look forward to her return in 2024.

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 8.40 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

Father in heaven and on earth, we know your truth and your saving power. Grant that all may learn to look upward to you in faith and in trust. We put ourselves under your will, we hope in your will. In your will we are certain that everything will be made right and good, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Have a great week everyone, Rosanna.

Faith News

Sacrament of Confirmation Parish Presentation Masses

Please choose whichever Mass time suits your family best: this 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 next 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

Next Tuesday 20th June, our Year Six Students will be participating in a Sacrament of Confirmation Reflection Day. All Year Six Students are invited to wear casual clothes on this day. Most Rev. Bishop Terence R. Curtin will also be visiting the Students on this day. As in previous years, he will challenge them to reflect on the world around them and the types of choices they will be called to make as they journey through life.

Please continue to pray for our Sacrament of Confirmation Candidates and their Families as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 15th July at 2pm. 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 this Friday 16th June.

Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus – Friday 16th June

In 1899, Pope Leo XIII consecrated the whole world to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The meaning of this devotion is clearly expressed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 478: *The Sacred Heart of Jesus is quite rightly considered the chief sign and symbol of that love with which the divine Redeemer continually loves the eternal Father and all human beings without exception.*

The heart of Jesus was pierced for our sake. He willingly went to the cross and laid down His life as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. If we want to understand the depth and breadth of God's love for each of us, then we can look upon the heart that was pierced for us all. Jesus went to the cross to redeem us from sin and death.

May we be grateful that God is revealed to us through boundless mercy and infinite love. As we commemorate the Sacred Heart of Jesus, may we renew our love for Jesus, our Lord and God. In turn, may our devotion prompt us to show love and mercy to all others.

Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

*O most holy heart of Jesus,
fountain of every blessing,
I adore you, I love you, and
with lively sorrow for my sins,
I offer you this poor heart of mine.
Make me humble, patient, pure
and wholly obedient to your will.
Grant, good Jesus,
that I may live in you and for you.
Protect me in the midst of danger.
Comfort me in my afflictions.
Give me health of body,
assistance in my temporal needs,
your blessing on all that I do,
and the grace of a holy death.*

Amen.

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader



The rain and cloudy skies didn't dampen the spirits of our Year Six students and FIRE Carrier leaders. They were keen to embark on the Long Walk to Loyola College in Watsonia, to commemorate the important reconciliation event. Accompanied by the Loyola VCAL students.

With placards in hand and proud to be wearing their reconciliation T-shirts they set off. Bunjil must have been looking down with pride as the sun shone shortly after we left. We joined St Mary's Greensborough Year 6 students as they had walked from their school. The day was filled with various activities that allowed all the participants to be immersed in cultural experiences and enhance their learning. Uncle Ian Hunter, Wurundjeri elder, welcomed everyone with a smoking ceremony.

St Mary's FIRE Carrier students spoke about the significance of the Long Walk, St Damian's students led us in a special prayer. Our guest speaker was Natarsha Bamblett, Indigenous leader, speaker, story teller and dancer. Her delivery to the students was very moving. Loyola students were most hospitable and provided a Sausage sizzle lunch for all which was most delicious.

A great thank you to our staff, parent volunteers all involved in preparing the students for this incredible experience.

Mattie Dragonetti.



What's the Connection?

Thank you to the talented parents who volunteered their time and expertise with the Year 5s as part of our Inquiry, "What's the connection?"

Thank you to :

Andrea (psychologist)

Voula (nurse)

Cathy (social worker)

Iva (pharmacogenomic clinical pharmacist)

who all shared their stories with us, imparting interesting and valuable information about health and wellbeing. You are all making such a positive impact in the community and are role models for us all.

THANK YOU! from all the Year 5s

PS - Great to see women in science being represented!





School Production Parent Helpers - Expression of Interest

School production parent helpers

The production of The Magic Toy Box Tour is fast approaching. Students across the school are putting in a fantastic effort learning songs, dances and rehearsing scenes.

It would be great to have some assistance from parents with making and sourcing costumes and props. All the tasks are fairly straightforward, and a small amount of help would go a long way!

If this is something you might be interested in, you can fill in the Google Form below, or return the notice that went home this week.

Parent helper expression of interest form: <https://forms.gle/58sm9JeGijmoBgDq6>

Many thanks,

Alex de la Rambelje
Performing Arts teacher

Term 2	
June	
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—10.00am
Monday 19th	Pupil Free Day- Learning Conversations
Friday 23rd	Last Day of Term 2—3.15pm Finish
Term 3	
July	
Monday 11th	First Day of Term 3
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 cannot 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 our community.

Theme: World Environmental Week



REMINDERS

* Pupil Free Day
19th June
7:00am - 6:30pm
all day care

* Holiday Program
26th June - 7th July



Holiday Program!

Would you like to receive information about School Holiday Programs?

Make sure your communication options are set to receive marketing emails on FullyBooked!



TIMES

Before School: 7:00AM - 8:35AM
After School: 3:15PM - 6:30PM
Holidays: 7:00AM - 6:30PM

CONTACT HEAD OFFICE

 1300 072 410
 info@theircare.com.au

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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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