

# St. Damian's Newsletter

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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 PRINCIPAL

Welcome back everyone, students, families and staff to another great term of learning at St Damian's. I trust you have all enjoyed a good break and managed to relax and spend family time together. This term we are putting on our school production of A Magical Toybox Tour. This is a very exciting time for us and the students are all very busy practising and preparing for their production evening. If past productions are any indication of what we should expect, then know that it will be a wonderful evening. Mr De la Rambelje and Mrs O'Leary and our wonderfully talented students will be putting on a great evening for us to enjoy. We are very much looking forward to the school production. Please look out for further information regarding ticket purchasing, as this will be done online. Any families who have not yet purchased their tickets are urged to do so before the remaining tickets are offered for anyone to purchase. Please note, it is expected that ALL students will be attending and performing on their respective night according to their Cast allocation.

#### Confirmation

This weekend the Year 6 students will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 15th July at 2.00pm. We congratulate these young people on reaching another milestone in their faith development and wish them a joyous celebration. Please keep these young people in your prayers as they move forward in their faith journey.

#### **Building Works**

I am certain that everyone has noticed the portables on the top basketball court. These were delivered last Friday even though they were promised to us early in the holidays. At the moment they are being prepared to accommodate the Year 3 and one Year 4 class as their current classrooms will be refurbished in this next round of building works. Once completed these classes will move in so that the builders can begin. We are still waiting for the delivery of two more portables which will be situated near the Creed building. These two portables will house one Year 4 class and one Year 6 class. Whilst the portables are being made ready, the Builders have fenced off the top basketball area to ensure the safety of all in the community. I understand it is a little inconvenient at the moment and I apologise for this, however once the portables are completely finished then we will reopen the top gates to the oval and families can use these to enter the school grounds. In the meantime, please use the gate on the second basketball court. We thank you most sincerely for your understanding as we work together to improve the school facilities for our students, your children.

#### Car Parking

During the construction phase of the building works, we will once again be using the bottom carpark for staff parking. Therefore, parking will be very limited and I strongly suggest that the Kiss and Drop is utilized to drop off students in the morning. Parents should park at the Coles carpark or surrounding streets. All front gates will be locked early in the morning and afternoon and there will not be the possibility of entering to drop off students nor to use this area as a drop off. Parents are asked to abide by the rules to ensure everyone's safety during this time. We will advise families when the bottom car park is no longer available for parking. This will be dependent on when the actual building works start. At the moment we are waiting for the tenders from builders to come in. Once the builder is selected by MACS, then we will know the start date.

#### **PUPIL FREE DAY**

Next Wednesday 19th July, is a Pupil Free Day. Students are not required at school on this day. Staff will be participating in First Aid training throughout the day. First Aid training for staff is a requirement of schools to ensure that students are managed safely in emergency situations.

#### **Family Day**

After a two year hiatus, this year we will be celebrating **Family Day** on Wednesday 26th July. We will begin the special day with a whole school Mass at 9.15am and then families are invited to join us for some fun activities in the school. We also invite our families to bring a plate to share at morning tea held in the hall. Looking forward to catching up with many of you on this special day.

#### Child Safety - Keeping children safe online

Child Safe Standard 9 – Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed. In complying with this standard one of the areas that must be addressed is that the online environment is used in accordance with the organisation's Code of Conduct and child safety and wellbeing policy and practices.

At St Damian's, we have very clear policies and guidelines around the responsible use of digital devices and accessing appropriate sites. We monitor the students' use of different technologies and ask students and families to sign an agreement, thereby committing to abide by our policies. However, once the students are home we no longer have any control over their devices or their choice of what is accessed by them. Unfortunately, this opens up avenues for students to access sites which may not be age appropriate and also have the potential to create behaviours online which are not desirable.

There are many online sites which are restricted, for example, **Instagram** and **Snapchat** requires everyone to be at least 13+ years old before they create an account (for some sites, the age limit may be higher). There are many sites that are not appropriate for students to use. Parents have the responsibility to monitor their children's online activities as there are many dangers that exist online. Some sites provide opportunities for children to behave inappropriately by posting messages that may be bullying in nature or harmful to themselves and others. I have attached the following link for families to peruse and gain some information regarding some of the dangers that unsupervised access can pose. Parental supervision of the use of digital devices is critical to keeping all our children safe. https://www.comparitech.com/blog/vpn-privacy/online-chat-safety-kids/



St Damian's Primary School

Production of
The Magical Toybox Tour
Cast A - Thursday 24th August
Cast B - Friday 25th August

Performance begins at 6.30pm at Loyola College Theatre

No prams at the venue please.

## **Confirmation Prayer**

Lord, Look kindly on all candidates for Confirmation as they listen to Your voice.

Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfillment the good work that You have begun in them.

As we prepare these children for Confirmation, make each of us an instrument of Your love.

Teach us to appreciate what is holy in others, and to be patient with what we do not understand.

Deepen our faith in the Gospel and help us to pass it on by our example.

We pray that You will continue to guide us and sustain us.



Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

#### Condolences

We offer our sincerest sympathies to the Mullin Family. Ned Mullin was in Year 6 last year and was one of our school captains. We offer Ned and his family our condolences at the passing of his mother and pray that God will grant them all His strength and grace during this difficult time.

Have a great week everyone, *Rosanna* 

# Faith News

#### **Sacrament of Confirmation**

Please pray for our Year Six Students who will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation this Saturday 15th July at 2pm.

#### **Sacrament of Eucharist**

This term, our Year Four Students will be participating the Sacrament of Eucharist on Saturday 9th September at 2pm. Please let me know in writing if you wish your child to receive a special Blessing.

#### St. Damian's Family Day

This year, we will celebrate St. Damian's Family Day at School on **Wednesday 26th July**. An outline of the day has been sent home to families and we will commence our celebration with a Parish and School Mass at 9:15 am. All are welcome. Please remember to bring a plate of food to share and deliver to the Hall on the day. Students are asked to wear Sports uniforms on the day. We are looking forward to welcoming lots of visitors to our School.

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader



Term 3	
July	
Wednesday 19th	Pupil Free Day—Staff Professional Training
Friday 12st	Pyjama Day—Gold Coin Donation
Wednesday 26th	St Damian's Family Day
August	
Wednesday 16th	Whole School Production Rehearsal
Thursday 24th	School Production Cast A—6pm
Friday 25th	School Production Cast B—6pm

## AUSTRALIAN MATHS COMPETITION

Students in Years 3-6 received a letter this week inviting them to participate in the Australian Maths Competition. The comp will be on Wednesday 2nd of August during school hours.

If you would like your child to enter, please fill in the permission form and send it back to their class teacher with a \$10 entry fee by Tuesday 18 July.

Carmen Bruce Maths Leader

### WONDER RECYCLING

Congratulations on such a wonderful effort from the whole school Community in collecting bread bags to recycle. We managed to send off two full huge box loads to the recycling centre over the holidays which will be saved from ending up in landfill.

We would like to thank Betty and Cinzia, our year 6 sustainability leaders, who did an amazing job of running the initiative with minimal teacher intervention. They demonstrated initiative by forward thinking, carefully planning and seeing through a project from beginning to end. Well done girls, you stepped up to get the job done. Thank you to the year 6 students who also helped with collections and counting.

Congratulations to Year 2D for collecting the most bread bags overall!!!! An amazing effort.

Charissa Beeby and Carmen Bruce Student Wellbeing and Maths Leaders





#### The Magic Toy Box Tour - First Round Ticket Sales closing soon

The School Production of The Magic Toy Box is fast approaching.

The closing date for the first round of ticket sales for both performances has been moved back one week. Round one sales will now close on Friday 21st July at 10pm.

Each family is allocated a maximum of 3 seats.

**Please click** here to purchase tickets: https://www.trybooking.com/CIJZC

Please only buy tickets for the performance date that your child/ren have been allocated.

Cast A—Thursday 24th August Cast B—Friday 25th August

More information about the performance nights will be sent in due course.

We look forward to sharing the fantastic work of the students with th school community!

Alex de la Rambelje and Marg O'Leary—Performing Arts and Music Teachers



National Pyjama Day on Friday 21st July is all about wearing your favourite pair of PJ's to help The Pyjama Foundation raise much-needed awareness and funds for children in foster care.

Gold coin donation. Thank you.



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).

Thank you so much for supporting our school, especially through fundraising. This term, we are running a Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough fundraiser to raise money for school resources.

Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough is an exciting fundraiser, made by an Australian, family owned and operated business. There are nine (9) dough-licious flavours to choose from, including the most popular Choc Chunk and Caramel White Choc.

You can also create your own cookie magic with the Golden Classic flavour – the base of the Billy G's secret family recipe. Add Hundreds & Thousands, macadamia and white chocolate pieces, anything you like: the sky is the limit on what you can create! There is even something for your special furry friends, with a cheese flavoured Doggie Dough! Billy G's Gourmet Cookie Dough is exclusive to fundraising – so stock up!

Get started! Cookie dough orders must be placed online using the online platform. Create your child's profile by visiting <u>australianfundraising.com.au</u>, and follow the instructions in the order form. Orders are open from 13/7/2023 until 27/7/2023, so make sure you get rolling and create your online fundraising page today!

How do prizes work? Every student who sells a tub will receive an incentive prize for their efforts!

But why not aim higher? The more tubs you sell the more prizes you will receive! There are 12 prizes up for grabs, so why not set your own fundraising goal and aim for them all? Prizes are automatically ordered at the end of our fundraiser based on the number of tubs you have sold.

Family and friends are your greatest supporters, so make sure you ask them for support. You will reach your fundraising goal in no time!

You can Win Big! Our highest tub seller will go into a draw to win a \$10,000 JB Hi-Fi Shopping Spree OR a Playstation 5 Gaming Bundle. Plus, every [student/member] that achieves all online virtual badges will win a Billy G's Cookie scented Plush Toy.

Don't forget to refer to your Order Form for all the information. Happy fundraising!

St. Damian's P&A Committee

