



# St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday October 5th, 2023

No. 28 - 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

On behalf of all the staff I warmly welcome back our students and families for Term 4. We hope that everyone had a safe and restful break to recharge for the final term of the 2023 school year. I hope that the holidays were an enjoyable and restful time for everyone in our community. The warmer weather is certainly very welcome, even though the last two days have been colder. Term 4 is always a very busy, but exciting, term as we celebrate all the wonderful learning and growth that has happened over the year and we also make preparations to begin a new year.

### St Damian's Feast Day

Today, as a school, we celebrated St Damian's. The actual feast day falls on the 26<sup>th</sup> September which is always in the school holidays. It is important for the students to appreciate the Saint for whom the school was named and to understand the charism of our school, which was established by the Poor Clare Sisters under the guidance of Fr Dunlop, the founding Parish Priest. We began our day with Mass to thank God for all we have been given and then the children enjoyed a day of various activities. It was wonderful to see the children enjoy their special feast day together.

### Preparing for 2024 School Year

Thank you to those families who have already informed us of their intentions for next year. This is important for us as we begin the planning process for 2024. If families know that they will not be returning to St Damian's next year, please notify the school office as soon as possible as we will soon begin the process of organising classes. Thank you.

### School Uniforms

A gentle reminder of the expectations for all students to wear the school uniform correctly, as we commence Term 4. Your support with this over the coming weeks would be appreciated. All students are required to wear their school sun hats this term. Our school policy is No Hat No Play. This policy is designed to protect children from the harmful rays of the sun, therefore if the students do not have a hat, they are not able to play outside. I trust that all students have their **school hats** to wear when outside. Please note that jewellery, other than sleepers or stud earrings, should not be worn with the uniform. It would be a real shame if students were to lose precious items.

Also given that the weather can be variable at this time of year, it is appropriate for the students to wear either Summer or Winter uniform dependent on the weather. However, we expect all students to be in Summer uniform by the beginning of November.

### Staff News

It is with the greatest of pleasure that we welcome two new staff to our St Damian's Team. We welcome Mr Tim Holland as our new Learning Diversity Leader. Tim will join our school mid-way through October as he is currently working at another school. We also welcome Ms Martina Battista, our new Italian Language Assistant. It is wonderful to have our full complement of staff at last! We also welcome back Miss Mary McArdle who has been on LSL. We hope that Mary has had a very enjoyable time on her travels and I'm sure she is truly ready to return to her class. We also welcome back Mrs Angela Parisi, who has returned after a term's leave due to personal circumstances. We hope Angela has settled back into her normal school routine.

### School Closure Day

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November** is a school closure day to compensate staff for Time In Lieu for work done outside their normal working hours. **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November** is a Public Holiday (Melbourne Cup). Also please note that **Wednesday December 7<sup>th</sup>** is a pupil free day to allow staff to plan for the 2024 school year. **Students are not required at school on these three days.**

### Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

*Have a great week everyone,*

*Rosanna*

# Faith News

## **Saint Damian's Feast Day – 26<sup>th</sup> September**

Saint Damian dedicated his life to serving the people of God. He was steadfast in his faith and offered his helping hands to the sick, as well as professing his love of God. We pray that we too may be the practical sign of the hands, heart and voice of Jesus. Thank you to all who made our Feast Day celebration a joyous event.

### **Prayer to Saint Damian**

*Saint Damian, to you we pray, guide us through each day.*

*You cared for the weak, the frail and the lonely.*

*You cared for those who were ill; you gave your life serving others.*

*Teach us to live your way.*

*Saint Damian, to you we pray, guide us through each day.*

*You used your skills, knowledge and talents.*

*You walked in the path of Christ; you set no fee for serving others.*

*Teach us to live your way.*

*Saint Damian, to you we pray, guide us through each day.*

*You heard God's Word, "love one another," and cared for those in need.*

*You gave new life, hope and compassion.*

*Teach us to live your way.*

*Saint Damian, to you we pray, guide us through each day.*

## **Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

The month of October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. Tomorrow, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary in honour of the Blessed Mother. October was also the month in which Mary appeared for the last time to shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal, urging them to "say the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world."

### **The Story of Our Lady of the Rosary**

Saint Pius V established this feast in 1573. The purpose was to thank God for the victory of Christians over the Turks at Lepanto—a victory attributed to the praying of the Rosary. Clement XI extended the feast to the universal Church in 1716. The development of the Rosary has a long history. First, a practice developed of praying 150 Our Fathers in imitation of the 150 Psalms. Then, there was a parallel practice of praying 150 Hail Mary's. Soon, a mystery of Jesus' life was attached to each Hail Mary. Though Mary's giving of the Rosary to Saint Dominic is recognised as a legend, the development of this Prayer form owes much to the followers of Saint Dominic. One of them, Alan de la Roche, was known as "the Apostle of the Rosary." He founded the first Confraternity of the Rosary in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century, the Rosary was developed to its present form—with the 15 mysteries: joyful, sorrowful and glorious. In 2002, Pope John Paul II added the five Mysteries of Light to this devotion.

### **Reflection**

The purpose of the Rosary is to help us meditate on the great mysteries of our salvation. Pius XII called it a compendium of the Gospel. The main focus is on Jesus—his birth, life, death, and resurrection. The Our Father's remind us that Jesus' Father is the initiator of salvation. The Hail Mary's remind us to join with Mary in contemplating these mysteries. They also make us aware that Mary was, and is, intimately joined with her Son in all the mysteries of His earthly and heavenly existence. The Glory Be's remind us that the purpose of all life is the glory of the Trinity.

The simplicity of the Rosary is very appealing. The constant repetition of words helps create an atmosphere in which to contemplate the mysteries of God. We sense that Jesus and Mary are with us in the joys and sorrows of life. We grow in hope that God will bring us to share in the glory of Jesus and Mary forever.

### **Prayer to Mary**

**Our Lady of the Rosary,**

**You care for each of us with tender motherly love.**

**You wish us to truly turn to you so that you may care for us as a mother.**

**Please bring all of our needs before the throne of your Divine Son,**

**and we particularly ask today that you pray that we and**

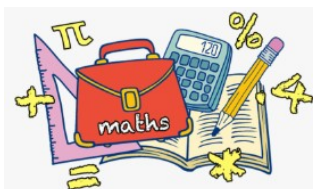
**all people may grow in true devotion to you. Amen.**

**Mary-Ann Wright**

**Religious Education Leader**



Aiden J—5R  
Max D—5R  
Kaiden D—3C



### Maths Family Fun

For the rest of the Term, our Year 6 Maths Leaders Annabelle and Jonas will be adding a question to the newsletter for families to work on at home. We would love families to sit and work out the problem, take a photo of their workings out, and submit them to [Carmen.bruce@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Carmen.bruce@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au)

The maths leaders will then go through the submissions and assign and collate points to families. So get cracking!

(Prep-Two) Lucy counted 15 birds on her walk to Jack's home. Her brother Tim counted 25. Who counted the most birds, and by how much was the difference between Lucy and Tim?

(Senior 4-6) Angela is 4 years older than Maggie. 3 years from now, the sum of their ages will be 23. If Maggie is  $x$  years old now, the correct equation to express this information in terms of  $x$  is?

**Happy Solving!**

**Carmen Bruce -Maths Leader**



<b>Term 4</b>	
<b>October</b>	
<b>Friday 13th</b>	Year 3 Camp Experience to Sovereign Hill
<b>Friday 20th</b>	Grade 2 Excursion to Science Works
<b>Monday 23rd</b>	Assembly 2.30pm led by Prep K&M
<b>November</b>	
<b>Monday 6th</b>	Student Free Day
<b>Tuesday 7th</b>	Melbourne Cup Public Holiday
<b>Monday 13th</b>	Assembly 2.30pm led by 1C

**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 cannot accept damaged, old or stained items). Cash sales only.