



# St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday November 2nd, 2023

No. 32 - 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**

Just a reminder that school will be closed on both **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November. Monday's school closure day is to** compensate staff for Time In Lieu for work done outside their normal working hours and Tuesday is a Public Holiday for the Melbourne Cup. I hope everyone finds the time during this long weekend period to rest and enjoy some family time. It's hard to believe we have already hit the month of November and that the year is fast coming to an end.

November is traditionally the time we remember all those we loved who are no longer with us. We begin the month with All Saints Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> and All Souls Day on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. All Saints' Day commemorates all the saints in heaven. The feast dates back to the early Church, when communities would gather and celebrate the anniversary of all the martyr's and Saints' death. The liturgical celebration on the day before the feast became known as hallowed evening or Hallowe'en. All Saints' Day is a time to consider the example saints offer us and to reflect on how we can imitate their lives. All Souls' Day follows All Saints Day and is also known as the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed and the Day of the Dead. It is a day of prayer and remembrance for the souls of those who have died. The day is dedicated to prayer and remembrance, with requiem Masses held. Many people also visit and sometimes decorate the graves of deceased loved ones on All Souls' Day and throughout the month of November.

### **Prep Orientation Sessions**

The final session is on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am. Once again the new Preps will be with their class cohort for next year.

### **P.A. Committee Meeting and AGM**

To help the P.A. Committee finalise events for the year and begin preparations for next year, there is a scheduled meeting to be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 5.30pm. As the AGM will also be held at this meeting, I strongly encourage parents/carers to join the meeting and consider joining this vibrant group. Being part of the P.A. is also an opportunity to connect with other parents and really feel part of the school as we work together to benefit the children. If you wish to attend please let me know.

### **School Advisory Council - AGM**

The next meeting of the SAC will be held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm. As this is the final meeting for the year, it will coincide with the Annual General Meeting. As some members of the SAC have completed their two year tenure there is an opportunity for other interested parents to put themselves forward to be part of this group. If you wish to nominate to be a member of the SAC for 2024 please email me expressing your interest. Current SAC members are also able to renominate.

### **Front of School Car Park**

We respectfully ask all parents to use the Kiss and Drop zone through Joseph Street when dropping off students in the morning. The front carpark is not to be used as a drop off zone. This is very dangerous as students are walking around where cars are moving. Drivers using this parking area must park their car in a bay and walk the children into the school. If children arrive after 8.45am they must be signed in at the office by an adult. If there are no parking spaces available do not double park, you must leave the area immediately without stopping. The front car park is reserved for staff and for parishioners attending morning Mass. Please be mindful of the safety of all the children.

### **2023 School Fees**

**Just a gentle reminder that all fees for 2023 are now due and must be paid by 21<sup>st</sup> November unless a payment plan is in place.** Payment of fees is a responsibility that each parent committed to when enrolling your children into the school. If families are having financial difficulties please make an appointment with me to discuss how we can work together to meet this financial responsibility. Please do not let the amounts accumulate to a point where it becomes overwhelming.

### **School Closure Day**

Please note that **Thursday 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 this day.**

**Prayer for All Souls**

*"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God,  
Rest in peace.  
Amen."*

Please note that there will not be a newsletter week next due to the short week.

*Have a great week everyone. Good luck on Tuesday- happy punting!*  
*Rosanna*



## Faith News

### **The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day) – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

Today we commemorate All Souls' Day

The Church has encouraged Prayer for the dead from the earliest times as an act of Christian charity. "If we had no care for the dead," Augustine noted, "we would not be in the habit of praying for them." Yet pre-Christian rites for the deceased retained such a strong hold on the superstitious imagination that a liturgical commemoration was not observed until the early Middle Ages, when monastic communities began to mark an annual day of Prayer for the departed members.

In the middle of the 11th century, Saint Odilo, abbot of Cluny, France, decreed that all Cluniac monasteries offer special Prayers and sing the Office for the Dead on 2<sup>nd</sup> November, the day after the Feast of All Saints. The custom spread from Cluny and was finally adopted throughout the Roman Church.

The theological underpinning of the feast is the acknowledgment of *human frailty*. Since few people achieve perfection in this life but, rather, go to the grave still scarred with traces of sinfulness, some period of purification seems necessary before a soul comes face-to-face with God. The Council of Trent affirmed this purgatory state and insisted that the Prayers of the living can speed the process of purification.

#### **Prayer**

*We pray for our sisters and brothers who have gone before us this year.*

*They have ended their service on earth and passed from  
death to new life in company with Christ.*

*We pray that God may welcome them and shine  
His face upon them in with all the saints of heaven. Amen.*

**Mary-Ann Wright**  
Religious Education Leader



**The Canteen will be closed on the following dates**

Thursday 9th November

Monday 27th November

Friday 1st to Friday 8th December

## Bundoora Extended Care Visit

# Bringing a Smile to Our Elderly

### Student Reflection

My classmates and I went to the Bundoora Extended Care Centre to perform puppet shows for the residents. I was very excited to perform my puppet show in front of the elders. When it was my group's turn, I felt as if my heart was going to explode.

After that I talked to Mrs Chin for a while and I had an amazing time with her, she was very kind. She didn't understand English, so some of my friends who spoke mandarin went to talk to her. She told us that in the age care all the nurses listen to her, she was the boss. I had an amazing time!

Some elders talked about how they used to do puppet shows when they were kids. I loved to hear about their past lives. When we were about to leave, I said goodbye to the elders with big smiles.

#### Emily 5B

When we arrived, I noticed how the residents started smiling and waving at us. We soon started our puppet shows and my group was first. As I was reading my line, I looked up to see the seniors smiling and they seemed to be enjoying themselves. Bringing a smile to the seniors' faces made my day and I felt happy to bring joy to the nursing home.

At the end, we had the time to speak to the elderly and communicate with them. It was interesting listening to their stories and hearing about their past. I am very grateful that I received the chance to communicate with the seniors at the local nursing home, it made me feel proud knowing that our visit put a smile on their faces.

#### Farah 5B





## Chinese and Indonesian Shadow Puppetry Incursion

The whole school attended a Performing Arts incursion today in the hall. Students watched traditional Pi Ying Xi and Wayang shadow puppetry performances of Chinese and Indonesian folk stories to complement their Performing Arts learning. Year 2 - 6 students are currently creating their own shadow puppets and working in groups to prepare a puppet play, and it was a great opportunity to see some traditional puppetry in action.

Alex de la Rambelje - Performing Arts Teacher



# MILL PARK SUMMER HUB

PLAY FOOTY WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY THROUGH  
VARIOUS OFFERINGS THIS SUMMER

**PLAY NAB AFL AUSKICK**

- 4 weeks \$40
- For participants aged 5-8





**PLAY AFL SUPERKICK**

- 5 weeks \$50
- For participants aged 8-12

**PLAY AFL NINES YOUTH & OPEN**

- Youth - \$65pp for participants aged 13-18
- Open - \$100pp for participants older than 18



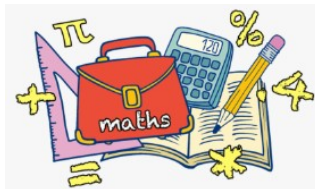
**THURSDAYS  
STARTS NOVEMBER 2**



Auskick & Superkick



Nines



### Maths Family Fun

#### Seniors

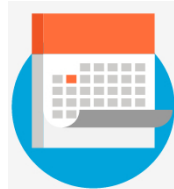
Dave is 4 years older than Autumn. Three years from now, the sum of their ages will be 23. If Autumn is  $X$  years old as of current, the correct equation to express this information in terms of  $X$  is?

#### Juniors

Jim buys 2 boxes of chocolate chip cookies to share with him and his friends. In each box there are 30 cookies. If Jim has 2 friends, how many cookies should each of them get if Jim shares them equally?

Take a photo of your workings out, and submit to [Carmen.bruce@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au](mailto:Carmen.bruce@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au)

Happy Solving!



**DATES  
FOR YOUR  
DIARY**

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>Term 4</b>        |  |
| <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                |
| <b>Friday 17th</b>   | Fire Commissioning Ceremony 2.30pm       |
| <b>Thursday 29th</b> | St Damian's Christmas Carols Evening 7pm |
|                      |  |
| <b>December</b>      |  |
| <b>Thursday 7th</b>  | Student Free Day                         |
| <b>Friday 15th</b>   | Last Day of Term 4                       |

**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.

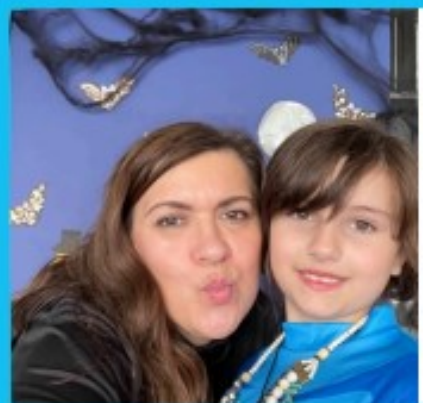
Open each FRIDAY: 9am-10am (located up the hill just after the office entrance).

Please email [sduniformshop@hotmail.com](mailto:sduniformshop@hotmail.com) for any item requests



Theircare at St Damian's would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters on which we 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.

## HALLOWEEN PARTY



### TIMES

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

### CONTACT HEAD OFFICE

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