



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday November 30th, 2023

No. 35 - 2023

The St Damian's School Community acknowledges that we come together on the ancestral lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation



St Damian's Carols Evening



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This Sunday, we light the second candle on the Advent wreath which symbolizes peace. During this second week of Advent, we focus on Jesus who came to be the Prince of Peace. The word Peace in Hebrew is *shalom* which means *completeness* or *well-being*. Jesus did not come just to end wars, but to make us complete. All we have to do is trust in Jesus as the Son of God who came to us, and we will have the peace, or *shalom*, of God.

What a wonderful evening we enjoyed last night. Our beautiful and very talented students certainly entertained us with their singing, narration and dramatization of the Nativity. Thank you to all our families for joining us last night and for supporting the Carols evening. A huge thank you to all the students who were amazing and to all the staff for their commitment to our school community. A special thank you to Mrs O'Leary and Mr De la Rambelje for all their work in preparing the students for this night. It was a great night!

Congratulations to the winners of the raffle. I hope you all enjoy your lovely prizes. I would like to especially thank and acknowledge the wonderful mums from the P.A. committee for organizing the raffle. Each of these ladies sourced all the prizes from local businesses. We are most grateful to them for all their hard work and commitment to our school community and for everything they do throughout the year. Thank you Ladies, the prizes were fantastic!

Whole School Orientation for 2024

The students from Prep to Year 5 will meet their new classes and teacher for next year on Friday 8th December 8th for lunch at 11.30am and then again for an hour's activity session on Monday 11th December at 10.30am. We hope that as many of the new teachers as possible will be able to join us on these days.

Final School Assembly Date Change

The final school assembly date has been changed and will now be held on Wednesday 13th December at 10.00 am in the hall. At this assembly,, we usually announce our new Student Leaders for 2024 as well as farewell staff officially. Families are warmly welcome to attend.

Thank you Morning Tea

We are holding a special thank you Morning tea on Wednesday 13th December straight after the school assembly at 11.40am. This morning tea is to celebrate and thank all the parents who have helped our school community in any way this year. It is a small way that the staff say thank you to all the parents who came on camp, on excursions or incursions, who helped in the classrooms, during sports day, and in many other ways. Please check your child's bag for your invite.

Staff News

Staffing has been finalized for 2024. We welcome some new faces to our staff and school next year:
Miss Stephanie Caligiuri; Miss Sajantha S; Miss Amber Bourke; Miss Kira Young; Mrs Christine Soosie Raj;
Mrs Bernadette Rizzo; Miss Victoria Allen; Mrs Sonia Tay; Mr Mario Gauci and Mrs Lauren Bozinovski.

It is with much pleasure that I announce the following class teachers for 2023:

Prep- Miss Caligiuri; Miss Mullane; Mrs Walpole

Year1- Miss S; Mrs Marotta

Year 2 - Mrs Ciurleo; Mrs Karayanis/Mrs Bozinovski; Miss Young

Year 3 - Miss Amber Bourke; Miss McArdle, Mrs Soosie Raj/ Mrs Rizzo

Year 4 - Mr Bossini; Miss Capogreco; Mr Nethercote (as support 3 days)

Year 5 - Miss Allen/Mrs Tay; Mrs Milana, Miss Richardson

Year 6 - Mrs Cannatelli/Mr Gauci, Miss Starr

Our Specialist Team for 2024:

Mr Tim Holland – Learning Diversity; Mr Alex de la Rambelje – Performing Arts, Mr Simon Insolita & Mr Rodney Nethercote – Digitech/STEM; Mr Simon Insolita – P.E./Sport; Miss Charissa Beeby – Visual Art; Mrs Marg O'Leary - Music; Mrs Alison Smith – Literacy Enhancement

School Leaders:

Mrs Rosanna Piccolo – Principal, Mrs Dianne Viola – Deputy Principal & Learning and Teaching;
Mrs Angela Lombardi & Mrs Julie Cannatelli—Literacy, Mrs Mary-Ann Wright—Religious Education, Miss Charissa Beeby – Student Wellbeing; Mrs Carmen Bruce – Mathematics.

Learning Support Officers

Mrs Answerth, Mrs Costanzo, Ms Della Riva, Mrs Hristova, Mrs Jirjys, Mrs Lee, Mrs Martini & Mrs Sobey.

Admin Staff

Miss Sophie Jarman – Library & ICT; Mrs Lina Parisot – Bursar; Mrs Angela Parisi & Laura Gibellini – Office Administration

The 2023 School Year Ends on **Thursday 14th December** after graduation **for the Year 6 students** and on **Friday 15th for all students from Prep – Year 5.**

First Two Days of 2024

As we did last year, staff will use the first two days of the school year to assess all students. All families will receive a letter detailing the day and the time that the children will need to come to school on one of the two days, either Tuesday 30th or Wednesday 31st of January. We request that families come on the day assigned as we have a limited timeframe to test students and if they come on the wrong day there may not be time to assess properly. This information will be sent home soon. Students from Year 1-6 will then begin the new school year on Thursday 1st February. The new Foundation Year students will begin on Friday 2nd February.

School Reports

The end of year reports will be emailed to families on Friday 8th December. The teachers have dedicated much time and effort to assessing the students and providing you with the details of their progress, standard reached and achievements. Parents wishing to discuss any aspect of their child's report are encouraged to make a mutually convenient time with their child's teacher.

Prayer

Father in heaven, thank you for the gift of your son Jesus, who came to be the Prince of Peace. Help us to trust in Jesus to make us complete and to show the peace of Jesus to one another. Amen

Have a great week everyone. Only one week to go!

Rosanna

St Damian's Parent Association

2023 Christmas Carols Raffle Winners

Thank you to everyone involved in making our Christmas Raffle a success.
Congratulations to all the winners and a thank you to all the sponsors.

Summer 1M - \$500 Rug Voucher from Carpet Call
Elsa 2D - Ray White Gourmet Hamper
Oliver Prep M- Chemist Warehouse Hamper
Ian 5R- Chemist Warehouse Hamper
Helena Prep A - Flowers by Elizabeth Victoria Voucher \$100
Dominic 3C - Pure Clean Co -\$130 Home clean
Ava 4F - Mr Souv \$100 Voucher
Oliver Prep M - Deb Designs Lab \$50
Alex 2D- Deb Designs Lab \$50
Evan 1M - Coles \$50 Voucher
Dominic 3C - - Bernies Pizza \$25 Voucher
Evelyn 1A - Bounce Family Pass
Vincent 3K- Bundoora Fine Fruits \$20 Voucher
Zuey Prep A - Paddys Meat \$50 Voucher
Charbel 5B -Prego Cafe \$20 Voucher
Noah 1C - OztenPin Bowling Pass
Chloe 2S - Gotham donuts 6 Pack
Samuel Prep A - Woolworth \$30 Card
Marley 6C - Officeworks Art Pack
Dalton 1M - Bunning Voucher \$80
Raema 5R - Watermarc Waterslide and Swim Pass
Isabella 2W - Watermarc Waterslide and Swim Pass

Faith News

The Season of Advent

As we continue our celebration of the Season of Advent, this Sunday we light the second of the Advent candles. We are reminded of the way John the Baptist called people to prepare the way for Jesus, and we light this candle as a sign that we, too, are praying and preparing our hearts to welcome Jesus anew this Christmas.

Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary – Friday 8th December

Immaculate Conception is the belief that “the most Blessed Virgin Mary was from the first moment of her conception by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and in view of the merits of Christ Jesus the Saviour of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin...” (Pope Pius IX, Ineffabilis Deus). The angel Gabriel salutes Mary as “full of grace.” To become the mother of our Saviour, Mary was enriched, by God, with many gifts in order to assume her important role. Her prompt “yes” to the divine message is a model of faith for us all. Mary believed God’s promises even when they seemed impossible. She was full of grace because she trusted that what God said was true and would be fulfilled. She was willing and eager to do God’s will, even when it seemed difficult. Like Mary, may we believe that with God, nothing is impossible. May we continue to have faith that God also gifts us with a transforming grace within our lives and waits for us to also respond with willingness and heart-felt trust.

Prayer for the End of the School Year

*At the end of this School Year we give thanks to God:
For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our School –
both in and out of the Classroom;
For the talents and gifts that have been shared and the
challenges that have been faced;
For the burdens that have been lifted and
the hurts that have been healed;
For the respect and care that has been given.
We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun
and for those that have grown. Amen.*

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader



2024 SCHOOL FEES

FAMILY FEES

School Fees	\$ 1,970
Capital Fees	\$ 575

	\$ 2,545

STUDENT FEES

Curriculum Levy

(includes excursions, student resources, art and library resources)

Year Prep	\$ 395
Years 1 to 3	\$ 460
Years 4 to 6	\$ 490

\$130.00 discount for fees paid in full by the 30th March 2024

Camp Fees

Year 3 Camp Experience	\$ TBA
Year 4 Camp Experience	\$ TBA
Year 5/6 Camp Experience	\$ TBA

School Camp fees must be paid prior to the Camp commencement date.

Prep Carols Reflections

I felt excited. I went on the stage. I had a good time. I saw my mum. **Dante**

I sang and danced. I felt scared. **Archie**

I felt excited and I went on stage and I sang Christmas songs. At the end I won a prize and put it under my Christmas tree. **Oliver**

Hi my name is Alley. I went to the Christmas Carols. I saw my family from the stage. I felt excited and scared. **Alley**

I went to the carols and I sang on stage. I sang Christmas Star. I was scared but it was OK. I had fun. **Ela**

I sang a song called Christmas Star and I was scared but it was good and it was fun and I had lots of fun. **Salma**

I went on stage and I sang Christmas Star and I saw my mum and dad and I was excited. **Hazel**

On the Carols night I sang on the stage. I felt excited. **Sophie**

On the Carols night I went on the stage and I was excited. **Isabella**

I went on the stage. I sang and danced. **Aaron**

On the Carols, we went to the stage and we sang a Christmas Star. I felt excited but it was very good. I danced. It was very very fun. **Sophia**

I went on the stage. I could see my parents. I felt excited. **Dylan**

I sang and danced. I felt scared. I went on stage. I could see my parents. I dressed up like an elf. **Mia**

I went on the stage. I saw my parents from the stage. I felt excited. I sang a song called Christmas Star. I had so much fun. **Jeremiah**

I felt scared and nervous. We sang Christmas Star. **Carina**

I went to the Christmas Carols. I sang a Christmas Star. **Candice**

I felt scared and I went to the stage and I was not scared and I felt happy and I can dance and I can see my mum. I can see my little sister and I felt excited. **Ethan**

Student of the Week

Prep A	Mia Zheng	For being a hardworking and interested student.
Prep M	Sophie Stojanovski	For having a positive mindset and trying her best in all activities.
1A	Ivan Huang	For having a go with learning and asking questions.
1C	Lawrence Yen	For an amazing year of great learning.
1M	Brittany Wu	For always being a kind and caring friend and helping others succeed.
2D	Lauren Davies	For being a positive role model to her peers and for displaying acts of kindness.
2S	Jimmy Stechemesser	For listening to instructions well.
2W	Isabella Zhong	For always ensuring her written work is edited correctly.
3C	Domenic De Angelis	For being a super helper and keeping our learning environment tidy and clean.
3M	Mason Causovski	For working hard to improve his handwriting, focus and presentation of work during learning time.
4F	Sierra Tarantelli	For improving her descriptive writing and excellent spelling.
4M	Stephen Trikilis	For working conscientiously and doing his best on tasks.
4N	Cecilia Dinh	For fantastic learning about animal habitat and for creating an amazing diorama.
5B	Franklin McDonnell	For consistently striving to do your best and setting an excellent example for others.
5R	Sebastian Zinni	For your skill and expertise in Italian.
6C	Joanna Paul	For her consistent and conscientious approach towards all aspects of learning.
6S	Nawal Mazna	For being a dedicated and conscientious student who always strives to do her best.



Sofia R—Prep A

Kosta B—2W
Emilia M—2W
Isabella Z—2W

ST DAMIAN'S 2024 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



St. Damians Church
Bundoora



24TH DECEMBER: SUNDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE

6.00pm Christmas Carols

6.30pm Family Mass

9:00pm Christmas Carols

9:30pm Christmas Eve Mass



25TH DECEMBER: MONDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY

St Damian's Parish Dates to Remember

Saturday 9th December—Advent Retreat led by the Proclaim Office. 10.00am to 4.00pm, Venue St Damian's Parish

Friday 15th December 7.00pm—3rd Rite & Individual Confession if you wish.

Saturday 16th December—Christmas Preparation Working Bee at 9.00 to 11.30am

Friday 22nd December—Christmas Carols Prayer Service @ 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Sunday 24th December—Christmas Eve Mass , Carols at 6.00pm Mass at 6.30pm
Christmas Eve Mass, Carols at 9.00pm Mass at 9.30pm

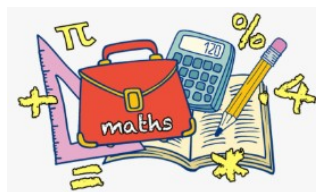
Monday 25th December, Christmas Day—8.00am & 10.00 am Christmas Mass

Saturday 30th December—Feast of the Holy Family, 5.30pm

Sunday 31st December—Feast of the Holy Family 8.00am & 10.00am

Monday 1st January 2024—Mary, the Holy Mother of God, 7.00pm Mass

During January normal weekday and weekend Mass Program..



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Family Maths Question. We would now like to announce the winners...

Andrea Hagiliassis from 6S

AJ from 1C

Liam Canil from 1A

Thomas Winnell from 1A

Congratulations to these 4 individuals, hope that the new maths leaders continue this in 2024.

Carmen Bruce - Maths Leader



Term 4	
Thursday 14th	Last Day Year 6's
	Year 6 Graduation Mass 7.00pm
Friday 15th	Last Day of Term 4
January 2024	
Tuesday 30th	Student Testing 8.45am—3.15pm
Wednesday 31st	Student Testing 8.45am—3.15pm

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 for any item requests

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Holiday Program Important Information!

What to bring

- ☐ A healthy morning tea and lunch
- ☐ A labelled drink bottle for water
- ☐ Suitable clothing for an active day – closed toe shoes and jacket if wet/cold
- ☐ SunSmart hat for Spring and Summer holidays
- ☐ Medical Management Plan & Medication if applicable – see below for details



Don't forget!

- ☐ Keep your lunchbox nut-free to keep everyone safe
- ☐ Do not include food items that need to be reheated
- ☐ Label all items with child's name!
- ☐ Bus departure and arrival times are indicative only. For an accurate estimated time of arrival and departure please contact your service directly.



Personal belongings

Electronic devices, money and other valuables should be left at home.

If brought to the service, these items remain the responsibility of the family. TheirCare does not accept responsibility for loss or damage.



TheirCare provides

- ☒ Breakfast and afternoon tea snack
- ☒ Sunscreen
- ☒ Water to refill bottles



Child Care Subsidy

Please note that subsidised hours are calculated and allocated by Centrelink on a fortnightly basis. Check Centrelink for eligibility. Each session is calculated using the full service operational hours, not the hours attended by the child.



Unexpected changes to activities

In the unlikely event that an activity is unable to run, an alternative activity will be provided.

Activities and times are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances such as severe weather or provider availability. If an alternative cannot be sourced, we will update your invoice to reflect this.



Serious stuff!

Medical Management Plan & Medication

All children who have been diagnosed with a medical condition including allergies, food/chemical intolerances, anaphylaxis, asthma, epilepsy will need to provide:

- ☐ a completed Medical Management Plan with a colour photo
- ☐ necessary medication

Please note it is a legal requirement under the Education & Care National Regulations and the Terms and Conditions for booking that these are provided.

In the interests of child safety, care may be refused on the day should the appropriate documentation or medication or medication not be supplied.



Changes to your booking

Simply log into your account anytime to make the relevant changes or call us between 8:30am – 9:00pm weekdays on 1300 072 410.



Fees for changes to your booking

More than 5 days	Less than 5 days*	On the day
No Charge	\$10.00	Full Fee

*Less than 5 days from the start of the booking (120 hours from the start of the session).

When making additional bookings, the \$10.00 fee is eligible for the Child Care Subsidy, which means you may only need to pay the gap, depending on your families' circumstances.

