



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday February 29th, 2024

No. 4- 2024

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

PLEASE NOTE:

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS IS BETWEEN 8.30am TO 3.30pm ON SCHOOL DAYS.

We held our Picnic on the Oval last Friday evening. A few brave families ventured out and joined together for a social time. Even though it was a little cool, we were fortunate that the rain held off and we could continue with this event. Thank you to all our families and some staff who braved the weather and came along.

Congratulations to our Student SRC Leaders who were officially presented with their badges last Monday at the school assembly. We trust that each of these young people will be great role models for our school community. The final school assembly for Term 1 is on Monday 18th March at 2.40pm in the hall. All families welcome.

Open Days

Yesterday we held the first of the two open days. Our Year 6 student leaders led the tours and did an amazing job showcasing our school to prospective families. Our visitors were most impressed with our students and how they presented. Comments were made about the leaders being very proud of their school. Well done to our school leaders who are a product of our school system. Well done everyone. The next Open Day is next **Monday March 4th at 9.30am – 11.00am & 6.00pm – 7.00pm.**

Open Days provide an opportunity for prospective families to come and visit our school and see it in operation as well as provide working families the opportunity to see our facilities. Current families are always warmly welcome to join a tour.

Enrolment for Foundation Year (Prep) 2025

The enrolment period is now open and **we are accepting enrolments for 2025.** If any of our families have children starting school in 2025 could you please enroll as soon as possible. This will help us with offering places to new families. We have already had enrolment forms lodged for next year, which is very pleasing. .

Prep begin full time

Beginning from next Monday 4th March, our Prep students will begin their full week. They will attend school the full five days as per the rest of the school. At this stage we expect our Preps to now be able to cope with the full week of attendance, already show independence – though some have well and truly done this! – and have become familiar with school routines and the school environment. Parents be prepared for grumpy and tired children as they acclimatise to a full school week.

Sports Day

The annual school sports day will be held next Thursday 7th March. Our students always look forward to this whole school event and enjoy participating in the various sports and representing their house colour. We always welcome parent support on the day, so if parents wish to come and join in or help on the day, please look out for the information which Mr Insolia will send out to everyone on Compass.

St Damians Parents Association (P.A.)

The excitement is building momentum for the Fun Colour Run to be held on 22nd March. This is the major fundraiser for the year. At the assembly on Monday afternoon our student Literacy Leaders did a great job promoting this initiative. We congratulate Prep M who currently have the most profiles and who won icy poles for their class. Great work Preps. The top five students with the highest sponsorship were also acknowledged at assembly. Thank you to all those families for your support and enthusiasm. Come on everyone else! We invite you to get on board and get as many sponsors as possible. The students were very excited to learn that they would be doused in colours on the day and that perhaps teachers may get 'slimed' if enough money was raised (very brave teachers indeed!).

The money raised will support the purchase of resources to complement the new reading initiative which we have undertaken this year. Please support this fundraiser for our school. Extended families and friends are also able to sponsor your child. The more money your child raises the better the prizes they will receive.

School Photos

School Photos will be taken on 6th March. Further information regarding ordering will be sent home closer to the date.

End of Term 1

The end of term coincides with Holy Thursday, which is the 28th March. Given that this is the first day of the holy Triduum we will conclude school at 1.35pm. Students will be dismissed at this time to allow staff the opportunity to begin their Holy Week preparations. Term 2 will begin on **Monday 15th April** at 8.40am.

School Closure Day

On **Monday 11th March** school will be closed for the Labour Day public holiday. **Thursday 25th April** is ANZAC Day a public holiday. **Friday 26th April** school is closed for a Time In Lieu day for staff to compensate for extra hours worked over the second term.

Condolences

We offer our sincerest condolences to the Bastianelli family on the recent passing of their father and grandfather (Leo Yr 4C). We pray that God's mercy and love bring them all comfort during this very sad time.

Prayer -

Heavenly Father, look upon us and hear our prayers during this holy Season of Lent. Amen

Have a great week,

Rosanna



Faith News

Season of Lent

Lent is a time of reflection and renewal. It is a time for Christians to consider how they live the Word of God and to renew this living. The Lenten practices of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving are one way in which Christians embody the values of justice, compassion and generosity and the giving up of oneself.

Inspiration from Pope Francis

To those who 'wish to see Jesus,' to those who are searching for the face of God, we can offer three things: The Gospel, the Crucifix and the witness of our faith, poor but sincere. The Gospel: there we can encounter Jesus, listen to Him, know Him. The Crucifix: the sign of the love of Jesus who gave Himself for us. And then a faith that is expressed in simple gestures of fraternal charity.

Angelus Address, 22nd March 2015

Social Justice - Project Compassion

Throughout the Lenten Season, our School Community is reminded to pay attention to the care of others. We are invited to support a Caritas initiative, Project Compassion, to help others and ensure that we consider their wellbeing. Catholic Social Teaching directs our attention to the most vulnerable members of our society. Christ's presence in today's world is made known when we reach out in love to those in need. Each class has a Project Compassion collection box and we are encouraging students to make donations, no matter how small, throughout Lent. A donation box is also located at the Main Office. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible and Project Compassion will issue you with a receipt on completion of a donation form. Donation forms are available on each Project Compassion Box, many of which are located near the Office. Thank you for your ongoing support of this worthy cause.

Lenten Prayer

***Forgiving God, your mercy and compassion bring freedom
and hope to our world.***

In this Season of Lent turn our hearts to you.

***Lift us up when we fall; restore our broken, fragile world,
and give us confidence to live and love again. Amen***

Mary-Ann Wright

Religious Education Leader



Prep C	Ali Mazna	For always being kind to his peers.
Prep M	Valentina Ramirez Suarez	For completing all learning tasks to a high standard.
Prep W	Asher Mendoza	For having a positive indset and completing his learning task.
1M	Aiden De Silva	For doing her best in all areas of the curriculum.
1S	1S	For being welcoming and doing their best.
2AB	Lisa Li	For always doing her best and helping others succeed.
2C	David Causovski	For being a kind friend and always doing your best.
2Y	Daniel Huang	For helping others succeed by offering other students help when they need it.
3B	Kyra Mullick	For doing your best during writing to follow the correct structure and narrative.
3M	Edwin Lee	For respecting the environment by keeping your classroom clean and organised.
3SR	Micah Burns	For helping others succeed by offering to help them when they need it.
4B	Chris Xiang	For always doing his best and helping others.
4C	Joshua D'Errico	For promptly listening to teacher instructions and being focused throughout learning.
5AT	Oskar Lai	For his difference and effort when listening and completing all tasks.
5M	Lucia Bernardi	Your continued dedication to learning and for setting personal goals.
5R	Alyssa Maroge	For your contributions to classroom discussions and group tasks.
6GC	Ethan Stingas	For consistently trying your best and giving everything a go.
6S	Leo Chen	For striving to do his best at all times, by seeking feedback to enhance his learning.
	James Harper	For exemplary initiative, leadership and problem solving help in Choir.

A recruitment poster for the Parade St Damians Junior Football Club. The top half shows a group of young boys in blue and yellow football kits posing for a photo. The text 'PLAYERS WANTED' is written in large yellow letters across the group. Below that, 'JOIN US FOR THE 2024 SEASON' is written in green. The bottom half shows a blurred action shot of boys playing football on a field. At the bottom, the text 'Boys & Girls Under 8s - Under 17s' is written in yellow. In the bottom left corner is a Facebook icon, and in the bottom right corner is an Instagram icon. A green URL 'https://paradestdamiansjfc.com.au/' is centered at the bottom.

PARISH NEWS

ST. DAMIAN'S PARISH 2024 HOLY WEEK PROGRAM

HOLY THURSDAY, 28th MARCH

7:30 PM MASS of the Lord's Supper followed by the Adoration.
(Please return your Project Compassion Boxes & Envelopes)

GOOD FRIDAY, 29th MARCH

10:00 AM Ecumenical Stations of the Cross followed by a morning tea in the Dunlop Room

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION

3:00 PM at St Damian's Church.

HOLY SATURDAY, 30th MARCH

6:30 PM EASTER VIGIL (NO MASS at 5:30pm)
(Blessing of Fire and Paschal Candle ceremony in front of the Church)

EASTER SUNDAY, 31st MARCH

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Masses



ST DAMIAN'S 2024 LENTEN TIMETABLE

@. LENTEN PRAYER MEETING:

Each Wednesday straight after 7pm Mass
Wednesday: 6, 13, 20 & 27 of March.

@. LENTEN REFLECTION EVENING

With Rev. Fr. Phuong Vu - Friday 8th of March at 7 -8:00pm

@. STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Each Friday straight after 9:15am Mass - 16th February & 23rd; 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd March.

@. LENTEN RECONCILIATION:

1st & 2nd Rites on FRIDAY 15 MARCH at 7:00pm



Congratulations to class: Prep M for being the class with the most profiles in the first week of fundraising! They have all received their icy poles!

We have hit over \$5,000 in the first week too which means we are sliming 1 teacher.

The more money we raise, the more teachers get slimmed. Let's see what we can do this week when you all share your profiles with family and friends!

We also need lots of volunteers on the day.

Please sign up at <https://signup.com/go/TzUqxfx>

Copy and Paste the link below to see what the color run is all about. <https://youtu.be/Q8oSPOCE2XA>

Apply now

Applications for Year 7 2026
close Friday 16 August

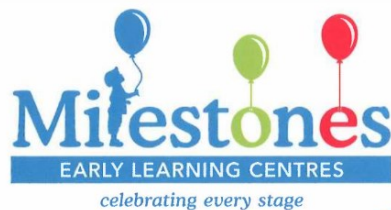


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