



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday May 30th, 2024

No. 12. 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.

Dear Parents/Guardians & Carers

Thank you to the mums who attended the winery lunch last Saturday. By all accounts it was a lovely day spent in good company enjoying delicious food and the beautiful scenery. The beautiful weather also added to the day. If families have ideas on how to engage the community in social events, we would love to hear your thoughts. It is important to build community and to feel connected.

Last weekend a number of Year 2 students were presented to the Parish community during the weekend Masses. These students are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday 6th June at 7.00pm. We are very blessed to be part of the faith journey of these young people as they learn more about their faith and traditions and understand the commitment they are making. Please pray for these young people and their families as they take their next step in the faith journey. Thank you to the Year 2 teachers and Mrs Wright for their presence at the Masses and for their support of the students.

Prep 2025

Interviews for Prep 2025 students and families will begin next week. These interviews are an opportunity to meet the new families and students and to get to know them a little better. Through these interviews, we also learn more about the individual students and their needs, so they are an important part of the enrolment process. If any current family would also like an interview time to discuss their child's needs please let the office know so an appointment can be made. Again a gentle reminder to any families who have a child starting Prep next year and have not yet lodged an enrolment form to please do so asap. If you know of anyone looking for a Prep placement for their child for next year please let them know of our school. Thank you for your support.

Reports and Learning Conversations

It is almost that time of year again when we report to families on how the students have progressed in their learning. Teachers have been very busy assessing and writing reports. We will hold the Learning Conversations on **Monday 24th June from 8.30am – 5.00pm**. As usual this will be a **Pupil Free Day** students are not required at school on this day. Information on booking for the Learning Conversations will be sent home in a few weeks.

End of Term Two

Term Two will conclude on **Friday 28th June at 1.30pm**. Students will be dismissed at this time to allow staff to finish at the normal gazetted time and not accrue Time In Lieu. School will resume on Monday 15th July at 8.40am.

Prayer – Feast of the Ascension

Dear Lord Jesus Christ,
right before your Ascension into heaven you told your apostles to be
Your witnesses to the ends of the earth upon receiving the Holy Spirit.
May we be similarly inspired to spread your Gospel message in word and deed,
according to Your will.
Help us to do so prudently and joyfully,
with your help,
your guidance, and your grace!
Amen.

Have a great week everyone, Keep warm

Rosanna

Faith News

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Please pray for our Year Two Students who will participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation next Thursday 6th June at 7pm.

Sacrament of Confirmation Parish Presentation Masses

Please choose whichever Mass time suits your family best: Saturday 15th June at 5:30pm or Sunday 16th June at 10am. The children do not need to bring anything with them. They will be invited to stand on the altar after the Homily and everyone present will be invited to pray for them. The students will receive a copy of the Nicene Creed and a Confirmation pin.

Sacrament of Confirmation Parent/Child Evening

We look forward to welcoming you to our Sacrament of Confirmation Parent/Child Evening on Thursday 20th June at 7pm. The evening will be facilitated by Michele from the Presentation Family Project and will be held in the Hall.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Please pray for our Year Six Students and their families as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 20th July at 2pm. In preparation for this special occasion, the Year Six Students will be exploring the gifts and fruits of the Spirit and reflecting on why we are called to renew our baptismal vows at Confirmation. As with all investigations into our faith, the Students will explore Scripture stories and Church teachings. The Students will also research a particular Saint whom they aspire to live like. We encourage Students and Parents to discuss the significance of the chosen Saint together. Please ensure all CONFIRMATION CARD DETAILS forms are returned to the School by Friday 7th June.

Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) – Sunday 2nd June

This Sunday, we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi. Jesus, Himself, identifies His flesh as the bread of heaven, and within John's Gospel, He alludes to His death given for the life of the world. Jesus is *flesh and blood*; first as the sacrificial victim on the cross, and then as food and drink. Like the manna, the flesh and blood of Jesus have become the source of life for those who partake. Eternal life comes from feeding on Jesus, not simply from believing in Him. Jesus teaches that eternal life is not something believers hope to enjoy in the future. Rather, those who share in this meal already possess eternal life. Jesus further maintains that just as we and the substance that we eat and drink become one, so Jesus and those who feed on Him form an intimate union - they abide in Him and He abides in them. *I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If you eat this bread, you will live forever.* John 6:51

St. Vincent de Paul Annual Winter Appeal

Winter will soon be upon us. Therefore, the time has come for our School to once again, support the *St. Vincent de Paul Annual Winter Appeal*. With the rising costs of gas and electricity, many people are looking for alternative ways to stay warm in the winter months. In response to this need, our Social Justice Leaders are running a *Warm Up Winter Drive* in aid of Vinnies. Donations of items such as socks, beanies, hats, scarves, gloves etc. would be most sincerely appreciated. Please send these donations to your child's classroom anytime between Monday 27th May and Friday 14th June. Your donated items will be distributed to families in need. St. Damian's has a strong tradition of caring for those in need.

Prayer

***O Lord Jesus Christ
You who have given us your precious Body
and Blood to be our food and drink,
grant that through frequent reception
of You in the Holy Eucharist,
we may be strengthened in mind and body
to do your Holy Will. Amen.***

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader

Maths Take Home Bag of Fun

This term, one lucky student in Years Prep, 1, 2 and 3 will take home a Maths Bag full of fun games and activities. The students will keep the bag for up to a week then pass it on to another student. Students can play the activities by themselves, but getting the whole family involved shows children that you value maths and that maths can be fun.



Azai (prep) and big sister Rianna (year 5) playing the maths games.

Here is Azai from Prep! He enjoyed using the playing cards and making pairs to ten.

Mum, Neha said "The games are very interactive and educational for the kids. These games engage students directly in the learning process, encouraging them to participate, collaborate, and think critically. It's a perfect combination of fun and learning."

Maths Competitions Update

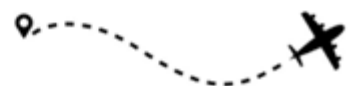
Thank you to all of the parents that signed up for the maths competitions. The CAT, OUCC and Australian Maths Competitions are now CLOSED. The ICAS maths competition for years 2-6 is still open to buy entries (see Compass notification for an email regarding this).

Congratulations to 3SR for winning the St Damian's Times Tables Rock Stars competition and 5M for a close second. These classes enjoyed their prizes this week.

*** I will be on Long Service Leave and return on June 28th. I will still have access to my emails but may take longer than usual to respond. If your query is urgent please call the school.

Kind regards,

Carmen Bruce





CASUAL CLOTHES DAY Thursday June 6th 2024

This year we are hoping to make a change to the lives of many Aboriginal School Children by fundraising for 'Opening the Doors Foundation' <https://www.openingthedoors.org.au/> we can all help children access programs, books, uniforms, camps etc that they otherwise would not have.

We are having a 'Dress up in Aboriginal flag Colours Day' on **Thursday June 6th**

Please bring a \$2 to donate to this very worthy cause. You can wear the colours of the flag to school.

ENROL NOW AT SANTA

Year 7 2025 & 2026




*Visit us in Northcote and experience the **Santa Spirit***

REMAINING TOUR DATES BEFORE AUGUST CUT OFF:
24 June 9.00am, 18 July 9.00am, 6 August 9.00am



BOOK A TOUR or APPLY ONLINE

Year 7 2026 enrolments close August 16
Very limited places for Year 7 2025

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