



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday June 27th, 2024

No. 16. 2024

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

Dear Parents/Guardians & Carers

We have come to the end of another term and it is amazing to realise that half the year has already gone. I must admit that with so much sickness going around and with the extra week this term making it an eleven week term, we can't wait for the holidays to begin. These next two weeks will hopefully give children, teachers and families an opportunity to recuperate and get well so that we can begin next term feeling healthy and relaxed.

A huge thank you to all the teachers, students and families for the very successful Learning Conversations held last Monday. I am sure that all the children will celebrate their achievements so far and have already thought about how to further improve in their learning in the second half of the year. Congratulations children on your efforts. We look forward to working with you and supporting you to continue your learning progress.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone in our community a safe and enjoyable holidays. Take the time to relax, unwind and get well. These holidays are a great opportunity to recharge and re-energise in readiness for the next term. For our families who are heading off to overseas or interstate travel – I wish you a great time away. Travel safe and well. To those of us who are staying in Melbourne – rug up, keep warm and enjoy as many sleep-ins as you can. I look forward to seeing everyone back next term.

Year 1M Reports

Reports will be available on Compass for the families of 1M this Friday after 3.30pm. I would like to acknowledge and thank the parents of this class for their patience and understanding. The Learning Conversations for this class will be held in the second week of Term 3 on Tuesday 23rd July.

Staff News

This Friday, we will farewell **Mrs Mary Karayannis** who has been working in Year 2AB. We wish Mary all the best as she prepares to enjoy some overseas travel later in term 3. We welcome back **Mrs Annemarie Anthony** from maternity leave. Mrs Anthony will be teaching Year 2AB and sharing the class with Mrs Bosinovski.

Mrs Julie Cannatelli (Year 6GC) is currently on Long Service Leave and will be returning on the 22nd July. **Mr Gauci** will be on leave for the first week of Term 3. Both Mrs Cannatelli and Mr Gauci are travelling overseas – but not together! Rather, with their respective families.

Mrs Saveria Ciurleo (Year 2C) will be returning from LSL on 15th July

Mrs Bernadette Rizzo (Year 3SR) will be returning from Leave on 18th July.

Mrs Dianne Viola will also be taking LSL in the first week of Term 3. Everyone seems to be escaping the cold Melbourne winter in search of warmer climates – they are indeed very lucky! We wish all these teachers a safe and enjoyable time whilst away.

End of Term Two

This Friday school will conclude **at 1.30pm**. School will resume school on Monday 15th July at 8.40am. As is usual, we invite the students to attend school dressed in casual clothes wearing appropriate footwear. We ask for a gold coin donation please. Their Care will provide a service during the afternoon on Friday as well as a holiday program during term break. You must register your child for this service if you wish your child to attend.

Prayer

We thank you Lord, for this term. For our challenges, our successes and the mistakes from which we have learnt. Be with us as we spend our time with family and friends. Give us strength and courage to do what is right: to be witnesses of our faith.
Amen

Enjoy the holiday break everyone, stay safe and keep warm

Rosanna

Faith News

Sacrament of Confirmation

Thank you to all Families who attended the Sacrament of Confirmation Parent/Child Workshop last Thursday evening. Infused by the Holy Spirit, our Confirmation Candidates engaged in sharing and consolidating their understanding of the gifts and fruits of the Spirit. They also reflected on why we are called to renew our baptismal vows at Confirmation. As with all investigations into our faith, the Students have been exploring Scripture stories and Church teachings. They have also been researching a particular Saint whom they aspire to live like. We encourage Students and Parents to discuss the significance of the chosen Saint together. Please continue to pray for our Confirmation Candidates and their Families as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament early in Term Three on **Saturday 20th July at 2pm.**

PRAYER WHEN I NEED THE HOLY SPIRIT

*God our Father,
thank You
for sharing Your Holy Spirit
with me.
You give me Your Spirit
to teach me
how to be truthful
and loving
and ready to do
what pleases You.
Right now
I have a big decision
to make.
Help me
to listen to Your Holy Spirit
so that I may honour You
and be the best person
I can with your help.*

May God Bless you and keep you and your Family safe throughout the School term break.

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader



Instrumental Music Lessons - on school campus
Places still available for next term!



Small Group & Private Lessons

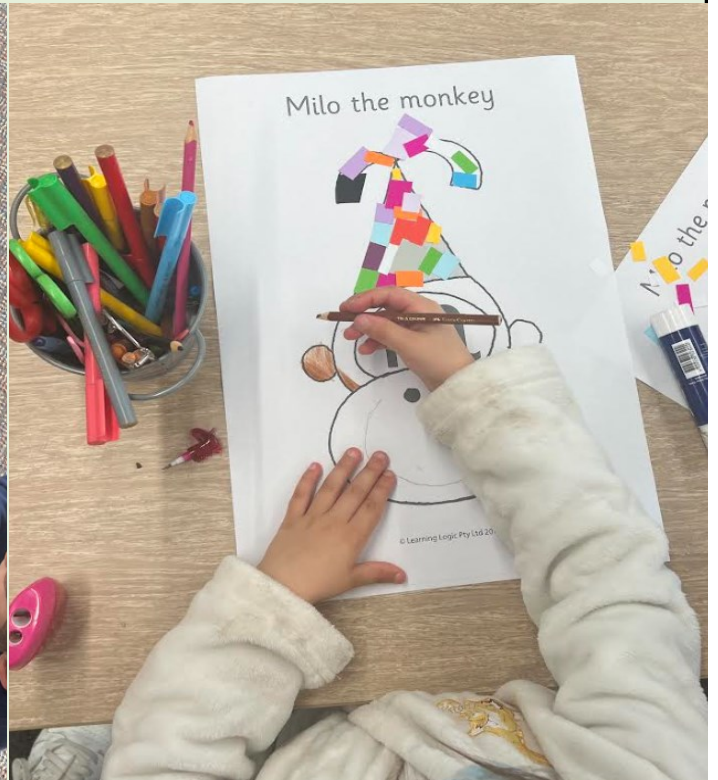
- Primary Music Institute offer instrumental music lessons right here on school campus!
- To find out all about the music lessons please visit PMI's website. You can check which instruments are available, get up to date program details and apply for lessons online
- Please **ENROL TODAY** via PMI's website
- Lessons are held once per week on campus – with lessons typically during school hours
- Private lessons (1-on-1) and pair lessons (max 2 students) are also available
- Online lessons (after hours) are also available direct to your home – contact us to find out more
- Instrumental music can improve your child's school results – including for reading, maths, coordination, IQ, abstract reasoning, performance confidence... and is great fun!



Little Learners Love Literacy

Dear Parents,

What a positive start to your child's learning in Semester One. Students have really embraced the 'Little Learners Love Literacy' Program. It was wonderful hearing such positive comments from parents at Learning Conversations that students are going home and sharing their learning with you.



Maths Take Home Bag of Fun

This term, one lucky student in Years Prep, 1, 2 and 3 have taken home a Maths Bag full of fun games and activities. Students could play the activities by themselves, but getting the whole family involved shows children that you value maths and that maths can be fun.



Jason from 2C had so much fun with the Maths Game Bag. His little brother Jasper from Prep M played with him. They created brilliant shapes with the GEOBOARDS that were so impressive. They played the card matching games so many times in the week. They also like playing the rolling dice game where they added the numbers.

CAT Competition

This year we had 16 students from Year 5, and 18 students in Year 6 who participated in the Computational Algorithmic Thinking competition.

7 students achieved a CREDIT award (Ella B, Samuel G, Francisco T, Max D, James H, Declan S and Orion T).

1 student, Jonathan Jiang, received a DISTINCTION and the coveted BEST IN SCHOOL award!

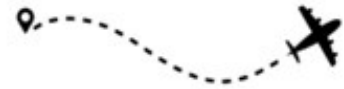
What an achievement!! We congratulate all participants for entering this very hard competition. Well Done!

Carmen Bruce

Maths Leader

New York New York!

As you may have read in a previous newsletter, Orion from Year 6, was invited to participate in the NBA Maths Hoops Global Championships in New York. I am pleased to report that Orion has made it to New York (after delays and cancelled flights) and has met his competition partner who is from Puerto Rico!



Orion will have the opportunity to play Maths Hoops, have a tour of the NBA office attend the NBA Draft to see all of the new and upcoming superstars on the red carpet and visit the Liberty Science Centre/museum.

We wish Orion the best of luck in his competition and hope that he has a fabulous time representing St Damian's and Australia.





St Damian's Parents Association Fundraising Event

Dress in your PJs for the day.



Thursday 25th July 2024

Gold Coin Donation

We will be fundraising for ASTHMA AUSTRALIA as this is an organisation that is relevant for our school communities' children.





winter holidays

Village Cinemas

Join City of Whittlesea Youth Services these school holidays as we enjoy the newly released movie *IF* (Imaginary Friends).

Follow the journey of a young girl who discovers she can see people's imaginary friends and watch as she sets out to reunite forgotten IFs and their kids.

Tuesday 2 July, 12.30pm-3pm
Village Cinemas
Westfield Plenty Valley

MEET

Village Cinemas
 Westfield Plenty Valley
 12.30pm arrival for a 1pm movie start

COST \$10.00 includes ticket, drink, and popcorn



To book or for more information scan the QR code or visit

whittlesea.vic.gov.au/youthevents



Indoor Rock Climbing

Join us for an exciting day of indoor rock climbing. Learn different techniques, and see how high you can climb.

BYO lunch and water bottle, afternoon snacks will be provided.

Thursday 4 July
9.30am-2.15pm

MEET

EDGE Youth Services
 Westfield Plenty Valley
 9.30am for a 10am bus departure

COST \$8.00



Music Production workshop

Unlock your musical potential in this workshop for budding young musicians, hosted by The Push,

Learn essential GarageBand techniques, the differences between MIDI and samples, how to construct a beat, and the use of music effects. Whether you're looking to grasp the basics or craft your next backing track, this is an opportunity not to be missed.

Wednesday 10 July
2pm-4pm

MEET

Janefield Community Centre
 2 Manchester Cres, Bundoora

COST FREE



youth!

For more info call ☎ **9217 2170**
 and ask for the youth team or email
youth@whittlesea.vic.gov.au