



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday August 1st, 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

There are some exciting events happening over the next couple of weeks in which our students will be participating. Some of our Year 5 and 6 students will be participating in Hoop Time this Friday 2nd August. They will be attending the Mill Park Basketball Stadium under the supervision of Mr Insolia and Ms Starr and competing against other schools. We wish them every success and hope they have an enjoyable day. Next Wednesday 7th August, the senior students will be participating in a lawn bowls program at the Whittlesea Bowls Club. The students will spend the day learning to play lawn bowls and participating in games throughout the day. We wish them a great day of fun. Thank you to Mr Insolia for organizing these exciting events for our senior students.

The Matific Mathematics Competition has started for all students from Prep to Year 6. The students will complete different mathematics tasks assigned to the different year levels. This competition is designed to help students challenge themselves and apply their mathematical knowledge to complete various math tasks.

Next Tuesday 6th August, the Australian Mathematics Competition will be held for all students from year 3, 4, 5 & 6. This is a 60 minute Mathematics competition for Years 3 to 12. The AMC is Australia's longest running, largest and most well-known Mathematics competition. We hope that all students participating find this opportunity worthwhile and stimulating. Good luck to all participants. A huge thank you to Mrs Bruce for organizing these opportunities for our students.

Lots of exciting learning opportunities for our students. We wish all participants an enjoyable, stimulating and fulfilling experience. Have fun everyone.

P.A. Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be on Tuesday 6th August at 7.00pm in the school. All welcome to attend. It would be lovely to see some new faces on this committee. We are always open to new ideas and welcome any suggestions to support our school.

100 Days of Prep

We congratulate all our students in Prep who will celebrate the first 100 days of Prep next Friday 9th August. I know that the teachers have planned some fun activities for the children to enjoy. Well done Preps, congratulations. Our hope for you is to continue to flourish throughout your time here at St Damian's.

Prayer of St Ignatius Loyola

*Dearest Lord,
teach me to be generous;
teach me to serve You as You deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for reward
save that of knowing I am doing Your Will.*

Amen

Have a great week everyone.

Rosanna

Faith News

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord – Tuesday 6th August

During Ordinary Time in the Church's Liturgical Year, we are invited to behold The Transfiguration of Christ. The white light that shone from Christ suggests a divine splendor that is beyond human comprehension.

The Transfiguration was a moment in time when Jesus' divine glory broke through His humanity and shone with a brilliance that was blinding. Jesus' glory is often proclaimed within the Psalms.

Sometimes we experience powerful moments of connection with God or with other people. Sometimes this might be through a special experience of nature; a meaningful retreat experience; a powerful sense of being 'in tune' with another person; a reflective Prayer experience; or some other significant experience. The temptation when we have these experiences is to wish that we could remain in the experience. The challenge, however, is to take that experience back into the everyday of our lives – changed by it without remaining in it.

We are the ones who today possess the prophetic message; we are the present day eyewitnesses of Christ's majesty. We too have moments when we might behold His glory and hear the voice proclaiming His identity, but we need eyes of faith and ears that are open.

Solemnity of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop (1842 – 1909) – Thursday 8th August

Next Thursday, we will celebrate the Feast of St Mary MacKillop with a Whole School Mass at 9:15am. Everyone is welcome to join in the Liturgical Celebration.

Saint Mary simply wanted to serve the poor wherever she found them in her native Australia. She took the name Mary of the Cross and her life was a series of trials and tribulations. Saint Mary was encouraged by God's love shown through the pain of Christ's cross. She dedicated her life to poor children wherever there was need and wherever her Congregation was needed.

Saint Mary faced many conflicts but what mattered to her most were people and the heart which is open to love and to be loved. Wherever she went, she met children in schools, visited prisoners in jails and encouraged the Josephite sisters who taught in schools and cared for poor children. She saw each human being as important in God's eyes and her meetings with each person always spoke of God's love.

Saint Mary was humble and tough, practical, prayerful and persistent. Like Jesus, she walked with the poor and weak, those on the fringes of society, the unfed and the unloved. May we, like Saint Mary, see the value in each person we meet, not because of what they have or who they know, but because they are human beings. May we be inspired by her life and her words: "Have courage no matter what your crosses are" and "There where you are, you will find God" (Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop).

Prayer

*The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.*

Psalm 19

Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader



Maths Competitions Update

Australian Maths Competition: Next week the Australian Maths Competition will be run on Tuesday and Wednesday. I am proud to announce we have 74 students participating from Years 3 to 6. As a voluntary competition it is excellent to see the amount of students wanting to challenge themselves in maths. We wish all of the students participating the best of luck.

Matific Olympiad: The annual Matific Olympiad starts next week. Students should now have their log ins and can jump onto the platform to create an avatar and get their maths pilot's licence. They can practice maths questions and familiarise themselves with the site. There is already a buzz around the school about the competition. Prizes are on offer for the highest achieving classroom and the top 3 students of the 5 day competition. Students will complete the Olympiad from home after school. Students will have access to the Matific site until the end of August to build on and reinforce their mathematic skills.

Carmen Bruce
Maths Leader

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St Damian's Primary School

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Kirsty Robertson

Caritas Australia CEO



caritas.org.au/project-compassion 1800 024 413 #projectcompassion

ST DAMIAN'S THEIRCARE

Website: theircare.com.au

Email: stdmiansbundoora@theircare.com.au

Ph: 0477 731 175

July 22nd -26th July 2024



★ WEEK 2 HIGHLIGHTS ★

Week 2 has been incredibly fun with our circus-themed activities, providing plenty of opportunities for children to create their own games and crafts. The children enthusiastically participated in rounds of circus charades, imitating various circus acts with great excitement. Throughout the week, they engaged in a variety of craft activities, with one of the highlights being a carousel craft. Using their creative skills, the children decorated their carousels, resulting in an engaging and satisfying experience for all.

In the middle of the week, Jane introduced some children to a new card game, which they could play in pairs, encouraging strategic thinking and planning their next moves which will be a game easy enough for children to teach their friends. On Thursday, a group of children painted foam eggs and enjoyed a treasure hunt, working together to find all the hidden eggs. We plan to build on this by organising an Olympic-themed treasure hunt for Week 3, where the focus will shift to the excitement of the Olympics.



Hello families of St Damian's Primary school, For anyone that may not know who I am or have yet to meet me my name is Jane and I'm the coordinator for the service. If I haven't meet you I'm looking forward to meeting you all and working with you to achieve a great service for your children. I have some exciting things planned for the service. and would love to hear any feedback.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- If you no longer require our service, especially of an afternoon, please ensure that you are cancelling your booking
- we have a lot of lost property located in the Theircare space your more than welcome to come and collect it

UPCOMING DATES

yummy

THIS WEEKS MENU

Assorted fruit and sandwich platter
Nachos
popcorn
cheese and tomato toasties
roast potatoes
honey joys

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK:

salt fairy floss painting
carousel craft
circus charades
mini puzzle challenge
acrobat spinning craft

Meet Pi Maths Festival

Sat
31 Aug 24

HEIDELBERG GOLF CLUBHOUSE
8 MAIN ROAD, LOWER PLENTY

FOR
GRADES
5 & 6

- Suitable for youth with a range of interests & abilities, not just those who already love maths
- Explore, play & collaborate on various puzzles, games and craft challenges
- Non-competitive: no scores, prizes or time-limits
- New Chill Zone for sensory breaks
- Parent workshops with Mathematical Association of Victoria & headspace Greensborough

TICKETS NOW ON SALE

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If you are experiencing financial hardship or identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples, please email us on enquiries@meetpi.com.au to access our free ticket allocation.



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YEAR 7 2026 APPLICATIONS CLOSE 16 AUGUST, 2024

Enrolment applications for Year 7 2026 will be open until Friday, 16 August 2024.

Families wishing to apply for enrolment at Loyola College are required to do so via our Online Application Portal at www.loyola.vic.edu.au