



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday 27th February 2025

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

A Note From the Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians & Carers

Lining up in the morning

In line with our learning philosophy at St Damian's, we recognize that students who begin their school day in an orderly and calm way will be better able to focus on their learning throughout the day. To help us achieve this goal, we need our **families to work with us**. We are currently practising with the children how to line up in two lines in roll order and how to walk into the school in line and in silence. This enables the children to focus on what is happening and to prepare themselves mentally for the beginning of their day. We are encouraging and supporting students to enter the school quietly and to transition into classes, including their specialist classes, quietly so as not to disturb the learning of others.

All this effort is being put into place to help the children to focus on learning, safety and their wellbeing. We ask **parents to please not stand in the student lines in the morning** as they may be in someone's spot, which may confuse other children not knowing where to stand. This expectation also helps children develop independence and take responsibility for themselves, which is crucial for learning. We ask that parents who are present in the morning, please stand at the front away from the lines so that when teachers collect the children they can move them quickly to class and not navigate around adults. Please do not stand on the stairs as these need to be clear for movement. Having these structured routines in place also means that in an emergency, the students are ready for any eventuality and can be moved to safety quickly and that teachers can see immediately if a child is missing. This structure also assists students who have difficulty "leaving mum or dad in the morning" as the distance has already been created and they will understand more easily that they are part of their class group. We ask that families please work with us on this. Thank you.

School Assembly

Next School Assembly will be held on Monday March at 2.40pm in the hall. Year 5M & 5RB class will present their learning to our school community. Parents and families are warmly welcome to attend.

Year 5/6 Camp

By all accounts our senior students are all having a wonderful time on camp. They have been very lucky with the weather, which means they will have experienced many of the outdoor activities that Sovereign Hill offers to school groups. The campers will be returning from camp this Friday. I am sure there will be many happy but tired children and adults who will be most appreciative of their beds on Friday night.

Car parking

Just a reminder that the **front carpark is not a drop off zone**. Please note that the carpark gates close between 8.30am and 8.45am and again between 3.15pm and 3.30pm to allow a buffer period of safety whilst the students are entering or leaving the school premises. Parents are not allowed to open or close gates, this is the responsibility of the staff on duty. Also, drivers are requested to remain in the bays until the gates are open. **No parking on the driveways please and never double park. If the car park is full you will need to park at Coles.** Working together in this ensures that everyone is kept safe at all times. Thank you for understanding.

Parish Car Park and the Vet Car Park

We have been advised, and I have also noticed, that some parents are still parking in either the Parish or Vet carpark. Both of these areas are not to be used by parents for pick up or drop off. Please be respectful of this request as it reflects poorly on our school community.

School Advisory Council

Please note the change of date for the first **School Advisory Council meeting** for 2025. It will now be held on **Tuesday 18th March** at 7.30pm due to a clash with Open Day. My apologies for the inconvenience. Membership of the SAC is not onerous as we meet six (6) times a year, usually in the evening, for around 1.5 hours.

Prep Picnic and Play

Tonight we are looking forward to our Prep Picnic and Play **between 5.30pm and 7.00pm**. All families who have a child in Prep are invited to come along to the school and have a picnic on our school grounds. Any other family who would like to attend is also very welcome.

This is a great way for new families and current families to come and join together in an informal way and meet one another. Bring your picnic baskets, picnic blankets, drinks (preferably non-alcoholic) and just relax on the oval. The children are welcome to bring their balls, etc and join with others in some fun games. This is not a school event, so teachers are not required to be in attendance. Parents will be supervising their own children, especially if you allow them on the playground. We hope many of our families will come and enjoy a little community time. All attending students will be given a Zooper Dooper to enjoy. There will also be a coffee van onsite where families can buy a drink and snacks.

Preps Starting Full Time

As of this coming Monday, 3rd March, the Preps will attend school the full five days. I am sure there will be very tired and probably grumpy little people by Friday as the children accustom themselves to the full week of school.

OPEN DAYS

Our Open Days will be held on **Thursday 6th March and Tuesday 11th March**. The times are as follows for both days; **9.30am – 10.45am & 6.00pm – 7.00pm**. There is an **information session at 9.30am – 9.45am and 6.00pm – 6.15pm**. Current families with children starting school next year are also welcome to come and tour the school. Please spread the word if you know of someone looking for a school for their little one next year. Enrolments are now open and we are taking applications for Prep 2026. Any family with a little one starting school next year are asked to please lodge your enrolment form. Thank you for your support.

School Photos

School Photos will be taken on **Wednesday March 12th**. Further information regarding ordering will be sent home closer to the date.

School Closure Day

On Monday 10th March school will be closed for the Labour Day public holiday.

NAPLAN

The NAPLAN Assessments will begin on **Wednesday 12th March**. My apologies for the confusion.

Prayer for the Week:

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us,
Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Lord throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.
Amen.

*Have a great week,
Rosanna*

REMINDER



HATS ARE MANDATORY IN TERM 1
NO HAT NO PLAY



ST DAMIAN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

THURSDAY 6 MARCH

TUESDAY 11 MARCH

9:30-10:45 AM & 6:00-7:15 PM

**15 MINUTE INFORMATION SESSIONS AT
9:30AM & 6:00PM FOLLOWED BY TOURS**

**TOURS AVAILABLE AT 9:30AM
EVERY 2ND THURSDAY IN TERMS 1 & 2
BOOKINGS ARE REQUIRED VIA THE OFFICE**

9467 8566

5 SETTLEMENT RD BUNDOORA

School Photographs will be taken at

St. Damian's Primary School

Wednesday 12th March 2025

There is no need to return any forms or payment to school before photo day



Flyers with Unique Image Codes will be issued to all students on or after photo day

Our Mission

To provide exemplary care and learning in an inclusive early childhood service that nurtures each child's potential, values the diversity of the families they belong to and the staff who work with them, and promotes learning within our community.

Our Vision

To inspire children and families to become lifelong passionate learners.

Our Educational Philosophy

We view children as active participants in their own learning, celebrating their unique capabilities and contexts.

Our approach to education prioritises well-being, intentionality, and independence, demonstrating sensitivity and responsiveness in our interactions.



Centre Information

Centre hours: 7:30am—6:15pm

**9 Ring Road
La Trobe University
Bundoora 3086
Phone: 9479 2122
Email: children@latrobe.edu.au**

How to enrol

Head to our website: www.latrobe.edu.au/child and complete the waitlist application online. The Centre will contact you to discuss your child's application



**La Trobe University
Community Children's
Centre**



Acknowledgement of Country

We wish to acknowledge the custodians, as the first learners and teachers of this land, The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge their Elders, past and present.



COFFEE ADDICT CAFE

Mention Ad to get a FREE Coffee



STOCKTAKE CLOSURE

THOMASTOWN STORE

OUR STORE WILL BE CLOSED ON:

FRIDAY
7TH MARCH 2025



Book a tour today!



Goodstart Early Learning Bundoora karl crt



SANTA MARIA COLLEGE
A CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

REGISTER VIA QR CODE
OR COLLEGE WEBSITE



OPEN DAY 2025

Thursday 20 March 2025

2pm - 6.30pm

Visitors will enjoy **presentations** from our Principal and expert staff, take **student-led tours**, see our **classrooms in action** and learn about the unique Santa programs

- Our IB - MYP Program
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Program
- A holistic wellbeing model



Community Festival



**Sunday
16 March
2025**

Free event

**11AM
UNTIL
5PM**

Civic Centre lawns, 25 Ferres Blvd, South Morang

whittlesea.vic.gov.au/CommunityFestival



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