



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday 6th March 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

A huge thank you to all our families who have supported our efforts to help the children line up properly. We really appreciate you working with us. We have already noticed a positive difference in the children and there seems to be more order and calm around the school. Again, thank you!

Just a gentle reminder that this Monday, 10th March is the Labour Day public holiday – school will be closed. I hope all our families enjoy the lovely long weekend.

Prep Picnic and Play

It was wonderful to welcome many of our Prep families at the Prep Picnic and Play last Thursday evening. The children thoroughly enjoyed playing together and freely running around on the oval as the adults mingled and got to know one another. Thank you to everyone who attended it was great to be with you all. A thank you to Mrs Bruce who organized the coffee van and attended, together with Ms Beeby and Mrs Viola who organized some music and games for the children and families to enjoy.

Ash Wednesday/Lent

Yesterday, was Ash Wednesday which is the day that marks the beginning of Lent. The whole school attended Mass in the morning and those children and staff who wished also received the ashes on their forehead. The ashes symbolize our mortality. Lent provides an opportunity to reflect, pray and repent for our sins. In doing so, many people make sacrifices or commit to life changes throughout the 40 days of Lent. It's a time for spiritual fasting so that we can cleanse our souls and renew our faith as we prepare for the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. I hope everyone enjoyed their pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, which is the day before Ash Wednesday.

Open Days

Today we held the first of our Open Day Tours. We began each session with general information about the school and then our student leaders led small groups of visitors around the school to showcase our school facilities. Thank you to our student Leaders who are always great ambassadors for our school. We look forward to our next Open Days to be held on **Tuesday 11th March**. Current families with children starting school next year are very 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 as soon as possible. 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 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. We welcome a new member to the SAC – Mrs Gillian McDonnell. It's great to have some interest in our school.

School Assembly

Next School Assembly will be held on Monday March 31st at 2.40pm in the hall. Year 5M & 5RB classes will present their learning to our school community. Parents and families are warmly welcome to attend.

NAPLAN

The NAPLAN Assessments will begin next week on **Wednesday 12th March**. All students in Year 3 & Year 5 sit the NAPLAN Assessments. These assessments are done Nationally and conducted yearly and all schools are required to administer them to the relevant year levels. To meet our compliance St Damian's will also have students participate. If any families wish to withdraw their child and prefer them not to sit the tests, please speak with Mrs Viola as soon as possible.

Easter Bonnet Parade

We will hold the easter bonnet parade on Friday 4th April, which is the last day of term. The students are also invited to come to school in casual clothes and bring a gold coin donation for Caritas.

Prayer for the Week:

God of goodness and mercy,
hear our prayer as we begin this Lenten journey with you.
Help us to be honest with ourselves as we search our hearts and souls,
noticing the times we turn away from you.
Guide us as we humbly seek to repent and return to your love.
Amen

*Have a great week,
Rosanna*



**Easter
RAFFLE**

Drawn Friday 4th April

Raffle tickets \$2 or 3 for \$5

The Parents Association kindly ask for any Easter Egg donations towards the raffle. Please donate by the 15th March.



The school production will be taking place at Loyola College this year on the following dates:

CAST A - Wednesday 27th August at 7pm

CAST B - Thursday 28th August at 7pm

All students will be allocated to a cast in Term 2, and all Year 6 students (and some students from other year levels) will perform in both shows.

Mr de la Rambelje and Mrs Collins



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



COFFEE ADDICT CAFE

Mention Ad to get a FREE Coffee

**SECOND HAND
UNIFORM SHOP**



The Second Hand UNIFORM SHOP is open each Friday 9am-10am.
Located up the hill from the School Office.
Cash only.

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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