



Melbourne Archdiocese
Catholic Schools



St. Damian's Newsletter

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Thursday 1st May 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

ANZAC DAY

We thank our three school captains, Lucia, Orlando and Alyssa for representing our school community last Friday at the ANZAC Day service at the Watsonia RSL. They were wonderful ambassadors for our school and laid a wreath on behalf of our school. Once again, we thank our Year 6 Leaders and their families for taking the time out of their day to represent our school at this important community event.

School Uniforms

All students are expected to wear their full winter uniform from now on. Please ensure that the children are wearing the correct school uniform including the school jumper and black leather shoes. Runners, party shoes and jewelry are **not to be worn**. Runners should only be worn with the sports uniform please.

P.A. Meeting

Tuesday evening the P.A. committee met to discuss Mothers' Day. As per each year, the Mother's Day stall will be held at school to give our students the opportunity to purchase a special gift for their mum. There are many lovely items which are very reasonable priced to allow all students to purchase something. Please look out for more information. A huge thank you to our wonderful mums for their dedication and hard work to ensure our students enjoy many wonderful opportunities. Thank you ladies.

School Advisory Board

The next meeting of the SAC will be held on Tuesday 20th May at 7.00pm in the meeting room.

Prep 2026

Very soon we will begin the process for enrolment of the new Preps for 2026. At the moment we have a number of enrolment forms already lodged and ask that if there are any families who have a child starting Prep next year and have not yet lodged an enrolment form to please do so asap. We would be very disappointed to learn that your child missed out on a place because the enrolment was not lodged in time. We need to ensure that all siblings are placed before we can offer a place to new families. We are still receiving enrolments and doing tours which is very encouraging.

Prayer

Dear God, as we begin the new month of May, we thank you for your blessings and guidance. We ask for your peace and harmony in our lives and for the strength to overcome challenges. May this month be filled with love, joy and opportunities for growth. We pray for all our loved ones, seeking your protection and well-being for them. Amen.

Have a great week,

Rosanna



Faith News

Sacrament of Confirmation

This term, our **Year Six Students** will be renewing their Baptismal promises and professing their faith as they celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Saturday 31st May at 2pm**. We pray for them as they prepare to participate in the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost.

Sacrament of Confirmation Parent / Child Evening

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Sacrament of Confirmation Parent / Child Evening on **Thursday 15th May at 7pm**. The evening will be facilitated by Michele from the Presentation Family Project.

Sacrament of Confirmation Parish Presentation Masses

Please choose whichever Mass time suits your family best: **Saturday 17th May at 5:30pm or Sunday 18th May 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 Reconciliation

This term, our **Year Two Students** will be participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **Thursday 5th June at 7pm** in the Church. We pray that we may be good examples of forgiveness and healing in the way we live our lives.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Parish Presentation Masses

Please choose whichever Mass time suits your family best: **Saturday 24th May at 5:30pm or Sunday 25th May 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.

Sacrament of Eucharist

This year, our Year Four Students will be participating in the Sacrament of Eucharist on **Saturday 13th September at 2pm**. Please keep them in your Prayers.

Social Justice - Project Compassion

Thank you to each family on behalf of Caritas for your generosity in supporting Project Compassion throughout Lent. Our School Community raised \$736.40

The core of faith is equated with the doing of justice....

The doing of justice is not the application of religious faith, but its substance.

Without it, God remains unknown.... John O'Donohue.

Feast of St Joseph the Worker – Thursday 1st May

Today, we celebrate the Feast of St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church and the Sisters of St Joseph. St Joseph was a deep listener with a contemplative heart. 'Deep listening' is often associated with 'Conversations in the Spirit.'

Perhaps we can make time to listen to the 'Whisperings of God' within our own hearts through attentive listening and responding.

Inspired by the contemplative heart of St Joseph, may we be people who take time amid the hustle and bustle of life to listen deeply to our good God, to the needs and voices of our neighbour and world, and to respond as Joseph did with a generous heart.

Sometimes, this means taking a significant risk and stepping out into an unknown reality, trusting God who walked with St Joseph in each situation.

May: The Month of Mary

The tradition of dedicating the month of May to Mary came about in the 13th century. It was created because May is the time when Spring (Northern Hemisphere) is at the height of its beauty. Spring is also connected with nature renewing itself. In her way, Mary gave new life to the world when she gave birth to our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The link between Mary and the month of May became popular amongst the members of the Jesuit Order. By 1700, it was heartily embraced by students at the Roman College and a short time later, it was publicly celebrated in the Gesu Church in Rome. From there, it became accepted by the rest of the Church.

The pious practice of honouring Mary during the month of May has been especially promoted by the Popes. Pius XII made frequent references to it as well as in his Encyclical, on the Sacred Liturgy, *Mediator Dei* (20th November 1947).

Devotion to Mary is an important part of our Catholic Identity. As our mother, she is an example of a committed "Yes" to the will of God. Because of the devotion to her, many people ask her for help in the most difficult moments of their life as children do with their mother.

***Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.
Holy Mary Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death
Amen.***

Prayer

***St. Joseph, by the work of your hands and
the sweat of your brow, you supported Jesus and Mary,
and had the Son of God as your fellow worker.
Teach me to work as you did,
with patience and perseverance,
for God and for those whom God has given me to support.***



Mary-Ann Wright
Religious Education Leader

**St Damian's
PRIMARY SCHOOL
BUNDOORA**

Mother's Day Stall

Friday 9th May 2025

Gifts ranging from \$1 - \$10

Please bring a bag to collect items



Prep A	Selina Disco	For her attention and focus in all areas of learning.
Prep M	Arhav Batth	For working hard to sound out new words in your reading.
1CA	Stevie Burns	For writing an interesting and descriptive school holiday recount.
1C	Aleks Silva	For consistently applying learnt strategies to spell.
1S	Florence Keeler	For showing persistence and working diligently towards improving her writing.
2A	Dante Disco	For his dedication and effort in practicing his reading for our Easter prayer service.
2Y	Ela Horvat	For reading fluently and with expression when retelling the Easter story.
3B	Gianna Pieterman	For presenting with confidence when sharing your holiday show and tell.
3M	3M	For making Mrs O'Bryan very proud while she was away by working hard.
3S	Wenxuan Gong	For working consistently hard on his maths tasks.
4NK	Lara Ristevski	For great contributions to class discussions.
4R	Antoni Bernardi	For showing a genuine eagerness to learn and improve.
4W	Micah Burns	For demonstrating an understanding why Australian's celebrate ANZAC Day.
5M	Thomas Winnell	For consistently putting in your best effort and showing enthusiasm during class discussions.
5RB	Vincent Wilam	For showing respect towards his peers and ensuring fairness is shown to all.
6B	Jack Ristovski	For being a considerate, well mannered student.
6B	Aiden Abraham	For the amazing way you have settled into your new school and class.
6H	Madison Bourke	For her incredible perseverance independence and dedication to doing her best.



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

Maths Competitions at St Damian's Primary School 2025

This year, St Damian's is excited to offer the following Mathematical Competitions.

Date	Competition Name	Year Level	Cost of Entry
Wed 21 May	CAT Computational and Algorithmic Thinking Comp	5 & 6 only	\$9.50
Tues 18 June	CC Coding Challenge (formerly OUCC)	5 & 6 only	FREE
Tues/Wed 5&6 Aug	AMC Australian Maths Competition	3, 4, 5 & 6	\$9.50 Bundle AMC and CAT together for a discounted price of \$15
TBA	Matific Online Comp	Whole School	Free (automatic entry)
Tues/Wed 26/27 Aug	ICAS	Years 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	More information TBA

Extra information:

CAT, CC and AMC are all run by the Australian Maths Trust. To find out more about the competitions, see below or please take a look at <https://www.amt.edu.au/competitions>

Matific is a whole school online maths games competition that we participate in each year.

ICAS is an external competition that we have hosted at the school for the last 4 years. A separate notice will be sent about ICAS later in the year.

All paid competitions are completely voluntary and are run online during school hours.

CAT	The Computational and Algorithmic Thinking competition gives students the opportunity to develop their problem solving skills through algorithmic thinking. It uses unique three-stage tasks to encourage students to develop informal algorithms and apply them to test data of increasing size or complexity. amt.edu.au/cat
CC	The Coding Challenge (formerly Oxford University Computing Challenge) is designed to be accessible for all students, even with basic coding skills. Divisions are based on skill level rather than age. amt.edu.au/cc
AMC	First run in 1978, the Australian Maths Competition is Australia's longest running, largest and most well-known maths competition for school students. amt.edu.au/amc

Please register your child's interest and make payment by Wednesday 7th of May through COMPASS.

LOYOLA COLLEGE PRESENTS



SHREK The MUSICAL

BASED ON THE DREAMWORKS ANIMATION MOTION PICTURE AND THE BOOK BY WILLIAM STEIG

BOOK AND LYRICS BY
DAVID LINDSAY-ABAIRE

MUSIC BY
JEANINE TESORI

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON BROADWAY BY
DREAMWORKS THEATRICALS AND NEAL STREET PRODUCTIONS

LICENSED EXCLUSIVELY BY MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (AUSTRALASIA).

JULY 24 - 26, 2025

INIGO THEATRE: 325 GRIMSHAW STREET, WATSONIA

WWW.LOYOLA.VIC.EDU.AU/TICKETS

The Second Hand UNIFORM SHOP is open each
Friday 9am-10am.

Located up the hill from the School Office.
Cash only.

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP



School Crossing Supervisor positions now available

Enjoy the benefits of permanent part-time work!

There are so many great reasons to join the City of Whittlesea team as a Crossing Supervisor:

- Join the City of Whittlesea's active social club and attend organised events
- Starting hourly rate of \$35.02 (work 40 weeks but be paid for 52 weeks a year)
- Work 15 hours per fortnight during school terms (Annualised salary paid 12.6hrs per fortnight)
- Paid public holidays that fall during school terms
- 11.5% superannuation and pro-rata sick leave
- Receive on-the-job training and uniform is provided
- Reduced price memberships available at Mill Park Leisure and Thomastown Recreation & Aquatic Centre
- Health & Wellbeing Programs available

TO APPLY



Complete the application form on the reverse side of this flyer or online at

www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au/schoolcrossings

For further information please contact the School Crossing Team on 9217 2170 or email school.crossing@whittlesea.vic.gov.au



SECURE YOUR SPOT FOR 2026

Located in the heart of the northern suburbs, just minutes from Plenty Road and the Ring Road.
53 Balmoral Avenue, Bundoora VIC 3083

Easily accessible Close to tram 86 (La Trobe Uni stop) Short walk to bus routes safe walking and cycling paths nearby. Easy drop-off/pick-up zones and accessible parking.

No uniform required We support individual expression and practical dress. No uniform = more comfort, creativity, and confidence.

Community engagement Students participate in local environmental programs, university partnerships, and workplace initiatives real-world experience builds resumes and confidence.

Ready for the future

University Direct Entry partnerships, trade pathways and VET programs (specialist and through the network).

Career counselling starts early Dedicated Year 8, 9 & 10 programs focused on purpose, curiosity, and capability.



Empowering a lifelong love of learning to thrive in a rapidly changing world.



Call Us
(03) 9467 1511



More Info
<https://www.bundoorasc.vic.edu.au/>