Carlton Football Club Visit
St Damian Students
PLEASE NOTE:  
SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS IS BETWEEN 8.30am TO 3.30pm ON SCHOOL DAYS.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Education Board

The purpose of the Education Board is to give parents a voice in the school and to make recommendations to the Parish Priest and Principal. The Board includes a representative from every year level as well as a representative of the P&F and from the school staff. This year we are looking for 3 new members to replace those that completed their tenure at the end of last year. The three grade levels are Prep, Year 4 and Year 5. These grades received a letter inviting nominations for our Education Board. It is important to have parent voice in the decision making process of our school, so I encourage parents in these grade levels to please consider your availability. I sincerely thank the parents that have already expressed interest in Year 4. This grade level will go to a vote of the parent body as per the Board Guidelines.

The continuing members of the Board are as follows:
Prep – TBA;   Year 1 – Andrew McGregor; Year 2 – Damien Del Medico:   Year 3 – Genevieve O’Connor, Year 4 – TBA; Year 5 – TBA;   Year 6 – Karen Salisbury;  P&F Rep – Sameer Das.

The Education Board convenes for six meetings over the year. The first meeting of the Education Board is scheduled for Tuesday March 21st.

Parent Information Sessions

All families would have received a letter detailing the dates and times for our parent information sessions which will be held next Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd evening. This year we have ensured, as much as possible, avoiding clashing with our local secondary schools. The information sessions are as follows:

**Tuesday 21st:**
Year 1 – 6.30pm – 7pm  
Year 2 – 7.10pm– 7.40pm  
Year 3 – 7.50pm – 8.20pm

**Wednesday 22nd:**
Year 4 – 6.30pm – 7pm  
Year 6 – 7.10pm – 7.40pm  
Year 5 & 6 – CAMP INFORMATION SESSION 7.45pm – 8.00pm  
Year 5 – 8.10pm – 8.40pm

All sessions will start off in the Library as a whole level and then parents will be invited to visit their child’s classroom to hear specific information related to their child’s class. These sessions have been well received and successful in the past and we hope that parents will find them useful, however we are always open to improving and would welcome feedback from parents.

Learning Conversations

Last year we changed the format of our parent/teacher meetings to include the students and this was very successful as it was a wonderful opportunity for children to become involved and have input into their learning. Staff are currently testing and analyzing data to ascertain the students’ learning needs so that these conversations will be focused on discussing and developing learning goals for each individual student for the semester. We hope that all parents will be able to take advantage of this important opportunity and attend on either Tuesday March 7th or Wednesday March 8th. Please look out for information on booking a time as it will be advertised at a time closer to the event.

Please note the change for this year as we are asking parents to please collect the children at 1.00pm as we are dismissing them at this time. This change has been implemented due to the lack of availability of staff to supervise given that teachers will be involved in the Learning Conversations. We thank you for your understanding and for working with us.

Mathletics

We are very excited to announce that St Damian’s school will be participating in the Mathletics program this year. This program will be used in school and at home by all the students from Years One to Six. Mathletics is an engaging and highly supportive online Mathematics resource with activities targeted to the Victorian Mathematics Curriculum for both Primary and Secondary students. The activities are in line with what students are learning in class, giving them opportunities to practise and reinforce skills and concepts. Through this program the students’ level of learning is tracked and they are given activities to help them reinforce their understandings in Mathematics. As it is an online resource, students also have the opportunity to receive instant feedback, encouraging independent learning. Mathletics will form part of the homework assignments that students will be given over the year. We are very excited to have this opportunity for our students.

School Assembly

Just a reminder that at next week’s assembly we will be acknowledging and presenting all our 2017 School Leaders with their badges.
NO HAT NO PLAY POLICY
St Damian’s school is an accredited Sunsmart School. This means that our School Policy states that all students and teachers must wear a hat when out on the yard in Term 1 & Term 4 to ensure their safety and wellbeing during peak UV periods of sunshine. At present, there seems to be a growing number of students who are spending their recess play and lunch in the office due to not having a hat. We prefer the children to be outdoors during these break times enjoying playing with their friends, developing good friendships and building up their social skills. Therefore, could all parents please ensure that your child(ren) bring a school hat to wear when at school. It is a good idea to label every piece of uniform, including hats, with their names as children seem to lose their belongings easily. Also, we encourage the children to leave their school hats at school rather than bringing them home, to ensure that they don’t miss out on playtimes. Hats can come home at the end of the term for laundering.

School Photos
School photos will be taken on Thursday March 2nd. We would appreciate all students being in attendance and wearing their correct summer uniform.

Staff News
Mrs Rachel Lorkin, our Dance and Drama teacher is currently on Long Service Leave and is expected to return to work on Tuesday 28th February when the Dance and Drama program will begin. Mrs Carmen Bruce is on leave at present. Mrs Bruce’s mother is very ill and Carmen is, understandably, by her bedside. We ask that our families keep Mrs Bruce and her family in their prayers during this very difficult time.

Prayer for the Week:
Lord, help us learn to love unselfishly and to find great joy in giving. May your spirit fill us with love and peace, so that we bring out the best in each other.

Have a great week

Rosanna

Faith News
Reconciliation reminder
We will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday 22nd March at 7pm in the Church. Please email me at amccarthy@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au by Friday 24th February if you would like your child to receive a Special Blessing. Orders for sashes are due in by Friday 24th February. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sacrament Bookings
A reminder that online bookings for Confirmation and Eucharist will open at 10am on Monday 20th February. The website is www.schoolinterviews.com and the relevant booking codes are below.

Confirmation booking code: nxwms
Eucharist booking code: mvah7

Sacramental Evening
A letter is being sent home in the coming days regarding our Sacramental Evening on Tuesday 28th February at 7:30pm in the School Hall. Michael Yore will be our guest speaker for the evening. This evening is a parent only event and although it is aimed towards parents of students in Years Three, Four and Six, all parents are welcome to attend.

Aoife McCarthy
Religious Education Leader
Swim Team 2017

Congratulations to the Year 4-6 students who will representing St Damian's next Tuesday at the Bundoora District Swimming Carnival to be held at WaterMarc. Unfortunately not all students who trialed last Friday can make the team, however I thank you all for taking part and hope that the students in Year 4 and 5 come back to try out again next year.

Thank you to Mrs O'Donnell, Mrs Prisc and Mrs Wang for organising the kids into their swimming races and to Mrs Marotta and Mrs Goodrope for their assistance on the day.

Carlton Player Visit

Last Thursday, Dale "Daisy" Thomas and Liam Jones from Carlton FC spoke with some students about a wide range of topics, including leadership, values, commitment and teamwork among other things. It was wonderful to hear the footballers tell their stories of what is expected of them within the football club and relating them back to similar situations that the students might face. I was especially impressed when the footballers spoke about leadership and that it wasn't just up to the leaders to set standards but it was up to every member of the team to set the correct example. An important message for the Year 5 and 6 students to hear.

Mr Tim Watson
Physical Education Coordinator

The FIRE Carrier ART show listed in the dates section has been changed. It was recorded as an event commencing in Week 4 - from the 20th of February, however the actual dates for the exhibition will coincide with our Parent student teacher conversations in Week 6.

The exhibition will be open to the school community from Tuesday 7th of March until the 10th of March.

Apologies for any inconvenience.

Parish/School Social Events Committee Meeting.

The first Parish/School Social Events Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd February in the Dunlop room at 7.30pm. We would like to invite any person who would like to join this committee to help in organising events such as the fete to come along.
## TERM ONE
**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### February

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### March

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### CSEF Payment Forms

Any parents with a Healthcare Card please fill out the CSEF form attached on the last page of the newsletter and return them to the Office ASAP.

The CSEF Programme closes on the 30th June 2017.
NEW TENANT OF 15 PLENTY RD, BUNDOORA
After the move of CatholicCare to Epping, Irabrina, specialists in children Autism and Behaviours is now the new tenant of this parish property. Irabrina work with children and adolescents who have autism and related conditions and their families.
If you need their service, please call 9720 1118 or email Claire Jones, the Bundoora manager claire@irabina.com

Happy Birthday

to the following students who will celebrate their birthday:

February
16th
Ella
Abby
17th
Alannah
Matthew
18th
Luca
Archer
Alannah
Bruce
19th
Tracy
Marco
Avneet
Alvin
20th
Grace
21st
Krishna
22nd
Samantha

PB
PB
PB
5C
5L
3CW
6G
5L
2BW
5SF
5C
6G
1MO
4DA
6M
Second Hand Uniform
Second Hand uniforms to be sold in the Dunlop Room
This year the P&F Committee will be taking over the sale of the second hand uniforms. All uniforms can be donated by placing in the second hand uniform box. Located in the school office. All uniforms need to be in a good condition. The second hand uniform shop will be open on a Friday every fortnight. Starting this Friday 10th February. Time: 2.30 pm to 4.00pm. Venue: Dunlop Room. Only Cash or Cheque.

Thanks P&F Committee

It’s Interview Time..
Here are some tips for our Year 6 students who are preparing to attend High School interviews:

- Prepare a document folder 2 weeks before your interview
- Keep a checklist of the required documents
- Make copies of your documents, including reports
- If you are unable to find documents apply for copies ASAP
- Set a reminder on your Ipad, mobile phone or computer 1 day before your interview
- Keep calm and remember you are a STAR!
Australian Girls Choir – February Open Classes
Look no further than the Australian Girls Choir (AGC) because we encourage, challenge and inspire girls as they learn to sing, dance and perform. School aged girls are invited to try our fun and inclusive classes and learn more about being part of the AGC! Contact us if you would like to attend a free trial class in February.
Ph 03 9859 6499 or email melbourne@aspagroup.com.au

Miscellaneous computer items.
Various computer items available to good home. Items were not collected last year.
Please contact Mr Riki Bossini via info@sdbundooa.catholic.edu.au if you are interested.
Items will be given to the first Inquirers.

CommBank School Banking – Volunteers Urgently Needed
For many years now St. Damian's has participated in the “Dollarmite” School Banking program.
It provides an opportunity for all primary aged children to learn about saving money by banking into their accounts on a regular basis.
This program is run entirely by volunteers and we are in urgent need of more people willing to spend a couple of hours once a week/fortnightly to help process the students deposit books and count and prepare money for banking.
We meet every Tuesday morning at 9am and we are usually all finished by 11am.
If you are willing and able to join our small but friendly team then please leave your contact details at the office.
Unfortunately without more helpers banking cannot continue and will permanently cease.

Academy Uniforms will be operating in the Uniform Shop at St Damian’s Every Friday 8.30am-9.30am for the 1st Term of School
CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname

First name

Address

Town/suburb State Postcode

Contact number

Centrelink pensioner concession OR Health care card number (CRN)

Foster parent* OR Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

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I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child’s school.

Signature of applicant __________________________ Date __ / __ / ___
CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student’s eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
- on the first day of Term two;
  a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
  b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
  c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian’s concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (30 January 2017) or term two (18 April 2017).

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: $125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: $225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child’s school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student’s date of birth. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
   Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
   If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.

3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2017 closes on 30 June, 2017.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.