We Welcome our new Preps for 2016

Prep B

Prep C

Prep S
Parent Information Evenings
Thank you to all the parents who attended the Information Evenings held over the past two days. Many favourable comments have been received with regard to these sessions. I sincerely thank the staff who have put in much effort and time into preparing for these and for providing an informative session for our community. We would sincerely value your feedback so that we can continue to improve how we work together for the benefit of your children. Please email the school office or your class teacher or just send a note with your thoughts on the positives of the evening and any suggestions for improvement. We value your input. Thank you.

School Closure:
Just a gentle reminder that tomorrow, Friday February 26, is a school closure day. Students are not required at school as the staff will be engaged in working on updating their First Aid & Anaphylaxis qualifications.

Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences
We hope that all parents will be able to take advantage of this important opportunity and attend on either Tuesday March 8 or Wednesday March 9. These conferences form part of the assessment and reporting accountabilities for schools and recognises the important role that students have in their own learning. Where parents wish to raise concerns and issues which may be too sensitive to discuss in the presence of the children we encourage you to make a separate appointment for this purpose.

School Education Board
The School Education Board meets six (6) times in the year to discuss various matters related to the running of the school. The main role that parents on the Board hold is to advise, from a parent perspective, on matters related to policy development and school governance. Each Board member represents the parents from their particular year level and is their voice within the school. With the retirement of 3 members last year due to the completion of their tenure we are looking for new parents to join the Board for 2016. In particular the year levels that we require a representative are Prep, Year 1 and Year 6. If there are any interested parents from these year levels wishing to join the Board please contact the school office. I am looking forward to welcoming new parents onto the Board.

School Photos
School photos will be taken on Thursday March 3. It would be appreciated if all students are present and wearing their complete summer uniform on this day.

Open Day: Wednesday March 16, 2016
The main purpose of the Open Day is to provide prospective Prep parents with an opportunity to visit our school. However if you are an existing parent and would like to tour the school, you are welcome to join a tour. Tours will be available at 9.30am, 11.30am, 2.30pm and 6.00pm.

Parents’ Committee
Parents interested in forming part of this group are invited to a meeting scheduled for Friday March 4 at 9.00am. We welcome everyone to join us in discussing how we can reform this important aspect of school life and of course anyone who would like to contribute to this committee in any way is encouraged to attend.

Staff Commissioning Mass and Welcome to all our new families
This Sunday February 28, Father Vincent will commission the staff and welcome all who are new to our school and parish community. We hope to see many of you at 10.00am Mass.

Swimming
We congratulate all the students who participated at Watermarc last Tuesday on their success in taking 3rd Place overall. Many individual students also excelled on the day and these children will go on to the next stage. We wish each one every success. Well done, everyone. We are very proud of your achievements and celebrate these with you.

Prayer
Lord, during this Lenten Season, nourish me with Your Word of life and make me one with You in love and prayer. Fill my heart with Your love and keep me faithful to the Gospel of Christ. Give me the grace to rise above my human weakness. Give me new life by Your Sacraments, especially the Mass. Father, our source of life, I reach out with joy to grasp Your hand; let me walk more readily in Your ways. Guide me in Your gentle mercy. Amen

Have a great week,
Rosanna
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

2016 Student Representative Council (SRC)
The students from Prep to Year Six are provided with the opportunity to further their leadership skills by participating in the Student Representative Council (SRC). Class meetings are held prior to each SRC meeting. St Damian’s has an active Student Representative Council (SRC) comprising an elected member from each of the classes. The SRC provides the students with the opportunity to further their leadership skills. This group is responsible for providing a voice for the student body in making ongoing improvements to school resources and supporting student wellbeing.

We congratulate the following students who will form the 2016 Student Representative Council (SRC). Members will be presented with their SRC badge at the Assembly on Monday March 7 at 2.20pm. All are welcome to attend this assembly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<th>Class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Prep C</td>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td>1/2DW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace O'Connor</td>
<td>Alessia Catanese</td>
<td>Eric Lai</td>
<td>Abbey Marcou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aden Ricci</td>
<td>Zara Simiele</td>
<td>Lucas Apicella</td>
<td>Benjamin Matusko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2T</td>
<td>1/2M</td>
<td>1/2M</td>
<td>1/2MM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archer Werner</td>
<td>Petar Trajceski</td>
<td>Stephanie Comito</td>
<td>Julian Cosentini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6C</td>
<td>5/6SC</td>
<td>5/6KW</td>
<td>5/6S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison McPhee</td>
<td>Joel Flajnik</td>
<td>Aaron Tran</td>
<td>Patrick Warry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4B</td>
<td>1/2DW</td>
<td>1/2T</td>
<td>1/2MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Braidwood</td>
<td>Joel Flajnik</td>
<td>Julian Cosentini</td>
<td>Patrick Warry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>5/6L</td>
<td>5/6J</td>
<td>5/6SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia Micomonaco</td>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>5/6K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Jenny Rubira  
Deputy Principal  
Learning and Teaching Leader

FAITH NEWS

Term One Masses
Father Vincent will be celebrating a Staff Commissioning and Welcome Mass on Sunday February 28 at 10:00am. At this Mass the staff of St Damian’s will be commissioned and Preps and new students welcomed to the community. The staff will say a prayer together and Preps and new students will be invited to stand on the altar so the Parish can make them welcome. All families are warmly invited to attend.

Reconciliation
Reconciliation Masses will take place on Saturday March 5 at 5:30pm and Sunday March 6 at 10:00am. Please choose whichever Mass suits your family best. Father Vincent is looking forward to welcoming all of the students and their families.

Eucharist
Some families have enquired as to sashes for Eucharist. A letter will be sent in Term Two asking for sashes to be sent in so please wait until then to send in sashes. Thank you.

Aoife McCarthy

ICT NEWS

Could all families please ensure they have returned the following notices to their class teacher:

- Annual Photograph and Permission to Publish (one for each child)
- Standard Collection Notice (one for each family)
- User Code of Conduct (one for each child)

If you require any further information please contact Jenny Rubira or Cris Brewer.

Cris Brewer  
ICT Leader
Congratulations to all of the students who represented St Damian’s at the Bundoora District School Sport Association Swimming Carnival yesterday. All students competed to the best of their ability on the day and we had many students finish in the placings in their events. We finished in third place overall, not far off first and second place. Well done!!!

A big congratulations and the best of luck to all those students who qualified to represent the Bundoora District at the Divisional Finals this coming Monday.

Thank you to Mrs Ciurleo and Mrs McDonald who helped marshal and supervise our team on the day. It was great to see so many family and friends at the pool in support of the students.

Our next major carnival is Cross Country which is held during term two. This is open for all Year four–six students to try out for a place on the team. Training and trials will be held towards the end of term one.

Tim Watson
Sport Co-Ordinator

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**WELCOME TO MATHS AT ST DAMIAN’S FOR 2016**

The term has passed by so quickly already and teachers and students are well into their units of work in Maths. Students have participated in pre-assessments to assist teachers to target their learning. Classroom Maths Walls are beginning to fill with maths vocabulary, strategies, understandings and samples of student work.

Some parents have been approaching teachers with queries about how they can support their child at home with learning Maths, particularly through the use of online games and activities. Below is a comprehensive list of some free useful web-based resources. The more we make Maths fun and engaging, the more students will develop a positive attitude to learning Maths and persist through challenges.

**YouCubed.org** - research-based lessons and tasks, as well as articles and ideas on how to instil a positive maths mindset.

**Topmarks** - a searchable site of thousands of quality, interactive maths games and resources.

**Woodlands Maths Zone** - for engaging and fun maths games for all year levels.

**ict games** - a great site for maths games targeted at Prep to Year 2 students.

**BBC Bitesize** - fun games and clips that explain concepts and skills.

**Studyladder** - an online program built by teachers with over 2700 maths games and activities.

**Brilliant.org** - maths concepts and problem-solving skills are explored through examples and problems contributed by mathematicians, scientists and engineers.

*Enjoy these games together.*

Danielle Di Stefano
Mathematics Leader

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**UNIFORM SHOP**

As tomorrow is a student free day, the **uniform shop will be closed**. Any orders that have been placed through the office will be filled and ready to go home to students on Monday. The uniform shop will also be closed next Friday March 4, however please place orders through the office and they will be filled and returned to students. Any orders for **winter tunics** need to be placed no later than Friday March 4. Remember these are a special order and only one order is placed, they are not available to purchase during the year from the uniform shop.
Parent Class Assistant workshops in Literacy for Years 3-6

Assisting in the Literacy program in your child’s class is a positive and rewarding experience which allows you to observe current teaching practices and assist the class teacher and the students with their learning. This year once again we will offer a one and a half hour workshop for parents who would like to make a commitment to helping in the year three–six classes. Please note that if you have completed the junior training, you will be required to completed this workshop as content is different. Two session times will be offered for your convenience.

Wednesday March 9, 9:00-10:30
Tuesday of March 15, 9:00-10:30

You will be working with small groups of students while the teacher works with other groups. Your help is required on a regular basis, (weekly or fortnightly). Please note that toddlers are not permitted to accompany you.

Both teachers and students benefit enormously having one or more adults in the room. Your support in the room ensures that the teacher can remain on task while the teacher is teaching.

All parent helpers are required by law to hold a current Working with Children Check. These are easy to arrange. Forms are available from the post office. You are still welcome to do the training while waiting for the paper work to come through.

If you are keen to assist please indicate which time suits you and return the reply slip to school with your child as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Mattie Dragonetti
Senior Literacy Leader

I (please print full name)………………………………………………………………… will be attending the Parent Helpers workshop.

My child/children are in …………………… (class)

My contact phone number is…………………………………………………………………

Please indicate preferred times (circle one)

Wednesday March 9                      Tuesday March 15

Junior Parent Literacy Class Assistant Workshop, Prep—Year 2

A reminder that if you have expressed interest in helping in your child’s classroom during their literacy block, the training sessions are Thursday March 3, Thursday March 10 and Thursday March 17. All three training sessions must be attended. A reminder that a Working With Children Check is required before being able to assist in the classroom. If you have not replied but wish to attend, forms can be picked up from the office.

Maree Foley-Smith
Junior Literacy Leader

SCHOOL PHOTOS, THURSDAY MARCH 3

Can all families please ensure that orders for photos are placed online before photo day. If you prefer to pay by cheque or cash, orders can be left at the office. Orders for photos must be placed online by Wednesday March 2 or returned to the office by Thursday March 3. Late orders will need to be placed directly with Arthur Reed. In the past envelopes have been sent home to children, Arthur Reed Photos have chosen not provided these this year.

A reminder that all students need to be in full summer uniform. Family photo order forms and additional student order forms are available from the office if required.

STUDENT FREE DAY
TOMORROW, FRIDAY FEBRUARY 26
(STAFF FIRST AID TRAINING)
Student of the week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Reason</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep B</td>
<td>Alannah P</td>
<td>For listening to instructions in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep C</td>
<td>Isabel</td>
<td>For being such a helpful and kind member of Prep C. Well done!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prep S</td>
<td>Alanna</td>
<td>For being a kind friend to others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2DW</td>
<td>Aaleighah</td>
<td>For settling into your new school with such ease and always with a smile on your face.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2M</td>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>For reading and comparing the data displayed in pictographs and bar graphs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2MO</td>
<td>Simran</td>
<td>For doing her best to write interesting and engaging texts!!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4G</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>For his ability to express his strategies in Mathematics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4J</td>
<td>Ella</td>
<td>For a huge improvement on her listening skills.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4L</td>
<td>Lucas</td>
<td>For being a diligent student and always striving to do his best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/4SZ</td>
<td>Heidi</td>
<td>For being a kind, generous and inclusive friend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6M</td>
<td>Elliot</td>
<td>For using descriptive language and creative ideas in his snapshot titled ‘Refugees’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6S</td>
<td>Patrick</td>
<td>For a committed and enthusiastic start to the school year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6SC</td>
<td>Tiara</td>
<td>For always showing mercy to others in his actions and work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6SC</td>
<td>Sean</td>
<td>For actively contributing to class discussions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**ST DAMIAN’S CATHOLIC PARISH - 2016 LENTEN TIMETABLE**

**LENTEN PRAYER MEETINGS:** With Pastorelle Sisters

- *Wednesday Evenings: 7.30pm – 8.30pm in Dunlop Room*,
  - (2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd March) *except 3 March in Briglia Room*

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:**

- Friday Evenings: 7.30-8.00pm
  - (26th February; 11th, 18th, & 25th March – with Legion of Mary)

**INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION (1st Rite):**

- Saturday evenings 5.00 – 5.30pm
  - (Before Vigil Mass)
  - Friday 4th March during Holy Hour

**WEEKDAY MASS TIME:**

- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 9.15am
Happy Birthday

to the following students who will celebrate their birthday:

**February**

25th  Sarah  5/6C
      Zachary  3/4J
      Yoael  5/6M

26th  Anjelica  5/6KW
      Daniel  3/4J

27th  Gabriella  5/6S
      Joanne  3/4L

28th  Grace  1/2DW
      Tomi  3/4L
      Callen  PrepB

**MARCH**

1st  Sophie  PrepS

2nd  An  1/2DW

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POSITION VACANT

St Damian’s Bundoora Church and House Cleaning

The Parish requires a cleaner to clean the Church (once a week) and the Parish House (once a fortnight). If you are interested please contact the Parish Office for more information. Parish Office is opened Tuesday to Friday 10.00am to 3.00pm. Ph: 9467 2797

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Loyola College
Parents & Grandparents are warmly invited to

**Lent & Easter Gathering**

for Prayer, Adoration & Refreshment

Every Friday at 2:15pm – 3:15pm
St Ignatius Chapel, Loyola College
18 March
15, 22, 29 April
6 May

(Future dates will be determined according to the desire of the group)

Contact: Sr Neila, sjbd loyton@loyola.vic.edu.au
9433 02 65 or 0422672368

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Dance Street

**DANCE, HIP HOP, ACRO, LYRICAL TAP & SINGING**

ALL AGES - Toddlers – Adults

ENROL NOW!


RACHEL DUNNE FUGA (D.F.T.A) – Principal
Former Australian Champion 25 years of teaching expertise

0432 949 499

Come and join the Dancing Performers
TERM ONE, DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY
Friday 26th  Student Free Day, Staff First Aid Training
Sunday 28th  Staff Commissioning and Welcoming of New Families Mass. 10:00am
Monday 29th  Division Swimming Competition, Northcote Pool

MARCH
Thursday 3rd  School Photos. Students to be in full summer uniform
Parent Helper Training (Junior), 9:00am—10:00am in the Library
Friday 4th  Year 6 Interschool Sports
Saturday 5th  Reconciliation Presentation Mass, 5:30pm
Sunday 6th  Reconciliation Presentation Mass, 10:00am
Monday 7th  School Assembly, Celebration of Learning, 5/6M
Tuesday 8th  Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences, 2:00pm—8:00pm
Wednesday 9th  Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences, 3:30pm—5:30pm
Parent helper Trainer (Senior), 9:00am—10:30am
Thursday 10th  Parent helper Training (Junior), 9:00am—10:30am in the Library
Friday 11th  Year 6 Interschool Sports
Monday 14th  Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 15th  Preps commence full time
Parent helper Trainer (Senior), 9:00am—10:30am
Wednesday 16th  St Damian’s Open Day
Thursday 17th  Parent helper Training (Junior), 9:00am—10:00am in the Library
Friday 18th  Year 6 Interschool Sports
Monday 21st  School Assembly, Celebration of Learning, 5/6KW
Tuesday 22nd  Sacrament of Reconciliation, 7:30pm
Thursday 24th  Last Day of Term 1, students dismissed at 1:30pm

APRIL
Monday 11th  Students return for Term 2