2016 FIRE Carriers
Commissioning Ceremony
PLEASE NOTE:
SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS IS BETWEEN 8.30am TO 3.30pm ON SCHOOL DAYS.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Staff Commissioning Mass and welcome to all our new families
Last Sunday at the Parish Mass all the staff were commissioned to mark the beginning of the school year. We also had four new Prep students, Amelia R, Alannah P, Christiana L and Claire B, receive a blessing from Fr Vincent. It was wonderful to have these newest members of our community join the staff on the altar. We look forward to a great year of learning for all in our school community.

Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences
Next week, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the parent/child/teacher conferences will be held. All families would have received information related to how to book for these. This year, our specialist teachers – Miss Nolan (visual arts), Miss Scott (Music), Mrs Lorkin (drama) and Mrs Micomonaco (Italian) will also be available to speak with parents. Please book in a time with these teachers if you wish to meet with them. We hope to meet with all parents and children over these two days.

School Education Board
I would like to thank the parents who have indicated their interest in joining the School Education Board this year. This willingness to support our school in this way indicates a real interest in the education of the children. I will inform the community of the complete board membership once we finalise the Year Six representative. The Board will meet on Tuesday March 15 at 7.30pm.

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. Enrolments are now open for 2017. We urge all our families who have children starting school next year to please enroll them as soon as possible so that we have a better idea of how many places we are able to offer in 2017.

Parents' Committee
Just a reminder that a meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow, Friday March 4 at 9.00am to discuss the reforming of the P&F. Everyone is very warmly welcome to join us. We would love to see some ‘new faces’ with new ideas to contribute so we can work together to ensure that this important aspect of school life is not lost. Come along and meet some new parents, this is a great way to develop a feeling of being connected to our school community.

Parent Class Representatives
Over the past few weeks much work has been done to get this new initiative off the ground. Four co-ordinators have been assigned to the various year levels to support the class representatives. I sincerely thank all the parents who have volunteered to take up a class rep position to be a liaison and support for their class teacher and the parents within the class. A huge thank you to the four co-ordinators for their efforts in supporting this initiative and to Deb Braidwood for the many hours of work and enthusiasm dedicated to providing our community with this opportunity. Thank you Ladies, we appreciate everything you do for the students and the community.

We are still looking for some parents to be class reps in the following classes: Prep C, Prep S, 1/2T, 1/2MM, 3/4B and 3/4G. All other classes have reps. If you are interested in taking up this role, please speak with your class teacher or contact the school office. It would be very sad if these classes missed out on this opportunity.

50th JUBILEE
This is a very special time for our community year marks as we celebrate the 50 years of the establishment of both Parish and School. There are four main celebrations marked for the year in which we focus on four aspects of our school/parish life. The first main event is coming up very soon. The Reunion Day will take place on Sunday April 17, 2016, and is focused on the establishment of the school. We will mark the day with Mass at 10.00am, followed by memorabilia displays in the hall and tours of the school. Light refreshments will be served in the hall. The event will conclude at 3.00pm. We hope to see many past families, students and staff at this event, as well as our present families, students and parishioners. Much work has gone on behind the scenes to ensure a successful day. Please mark this day in your diaries. If intending to attend please use the online booking facility to assist us with catering:

http://www.trybooking.com/KMZR
http://trybooking.com/184539
or contact the Parish Office on: 9467 2797 by April 7, 2016.

Sponsorship from businesses is very welcome to assist us with meeting some of the costs of the events. If you know of anyone who would be interested in being a sponsor please let us know so we can get in touch.

Prayer
Loving God, you have loved us from our first moments, and your love has enriched our lives each day. Bless us and help us to gain the understanding of how to live your word, and how to take it out into the world. Through our words and actions, may others come to know your love, and the whole world begin to sing your praises. Amen.

Have a great week,
Rosanna
FAITH NEWS

Reconciliation Presentation Masses
Reconciliation Presentation Masses will take place this weekend, March 5 at 5:30pm and March 6 at 10:00am. Please choose whichever Mass suits your family best. The students will be invited on to the altar during Mass and the parishioners will pray for them. A copy of the Prayer of Sorrow will be given to each student. Father Vincent is very much looking forward to welcoming all of the students and their families.

Confirmation
Please note sashes and orders for new sashes are due back by the end of Term One. Bookings for each Confirmation ceremony are almost full so if you have yet to decide on which time you would like it may be best to choose a time soon so that you do not miss out on your preferred ceremony.

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.

Project Compassion
Thank you to the many students and families who have been continually donating to Project Compassion during Lent. We will continue to collect money until the end of term, hopefully we will gather enough donations to make a lasting difference to those in need. Visit www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion for more information about the life changing work that Caritas undertakes in Australia and around the world.

Aoife Mc Carthy
Religious Education Leader

Commissioning of 2016 FIRE Carrier leaders
Last Monday we held our second whole school assembly. It was a lovely gathering of our school community to witness a special ceremony in which our 2016 FIRE Carriers were commissioned. Madeline, Gabriel, George and Tiara in Year Five, along with Mrs Canatelli our Prep teacher, were commissioned by 2015 FIRE carrier leaders. We were joined by two special guests, Mr Colin Brooks MP and Ms Sherry Balcombe, Coordinator of the FIRE Carriers initiative at Aboriginal Catholic Ministry. We kindly thank them for joining us and supporting our school.

The ceremony involved the FIRE Carrier students from 2015, placing their hands beside the flames of the fire and touching the cheeks of the new leaders. This symbolic gesture signified the passing on of the flame and igniting the passion and desire to foster the spirit of reconciliation in our school. The new FIRE Carriers pledged their commitment to grow in their knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait culture and spirituality and participate in actions that promote and support reconciliation.

Mattie Dragonetti
FIRE Carrier leader

ST DAMIAN’S CATHOLIC PARISH - 2016 LENTEN TIMETABLE

LENTEN PRAYER MEETINGS: With Pastorelle Sisters

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:
Friday Evenings: 7.30-8.00pm
(11th, 18th, & 25th March – with Legion of Mary)

INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION (1st Rite):
Saturday evenings 5.00pm – 5.30pm
(Before Vigil Mass)
Friday 4th March during Holy Hour

WEEKDAY MASS TIME:
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 9.15am
**Student Wellbeing**

This term the students have been learning about what our three school behavioural expectations of ‘do your best’, ‘help others succeed’ and ‘respect your environment’ look, feel and sound like, both in and outside the classroom. They have also been developing their self awareness and social awareness through being exposed to engaging picture story books which help illustrate these skills in everyday life. Please encourage your child to discuss these expectations and social emotional skills with you at home and how they can transfer these positive behaviours and skills outside of school.

I am looking for four Year Six Student Wellbeing leaders to help me with various initiatives and projects around the school for the remainder of the year. Please see the advertisement below for more information about these positions. Please also encourage your child to apply if they feel they would be interested in holding such a position.

**Student Wellbeing – Student leaders - Year Six**

**Qualities needed:**

- Enthusiastic
- Committed
- Organised
- Clear communicator
- Reliable
- Responsible
- Friendly
- Positive
- Open minded

**Possible tasks/responsibilities:**

working with Miss Stella to organise:

- Promoting the three expectations at assemblies (role plays, speeches etc).
- Being friendship ambassadors to the younger students out on the yard.
- Helping to facilitate mini peer support group sessions on a Thursday during class time - this could focus on building relationship skills (SEL)
- Mindfulness and meditation techniques to share with other classes - eg. deep breathing
- Promoting respectful behaviours on the playground.
- Promoting wellbeing related events for example, Harmony Day

Email Miss Stella at: kstella@sdbundoora.catholic.edu.au

Applications close: Friday March 11.

Please see the attached information from the Victorian Government regarding school attendance. It has important messages relating to learning and the significance of ‘every day counts’.

A worthwhile website to visit is [http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/](http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/). This website focuses on different types of bullying and has many useful resources to explore with or without your child.

Kellyann Stella.
Student Wellbeing Leader

---

**PARISH NEWS**

**St Damian’s 50th Jubilee—Memorabilia**

The memorabilia Committee are wanting class photos from the following years, which we haven't been able to locate. If you have such photos from 1984, 1987, 1988 and 1989 we would like to borrow them for the reunion in April. Every care will be taken of such photos. Please put your details on the back of each photo and bring them to the Parish Office (Tues-Fri between 10.00am to 3:00pm). Any other photo related to Parish/School groups would also be appreciated.

M. Carter 9216 1734 (on behalf of the Memorabilia Committee).

**St Damian’s 50th Jubilee—Sponsorship Opportunities**

The Jubilee Committee are seeking support from suppliers, local businesses, parents and friends involved with St Damian’s Parish and School. If you are interested or know anyone who would like to sponsor the Jubilee please pick up a Sponsorship letter in the School or contact the Parish Office.
In primary school, some students miss on average 3 weeks of school per year. That’s half a year of school by the end of year 6.

Going to school every day is the single most important part of your child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important
We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

If students miss school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early
Attendance patterns are established early – a child regularly missing days in kindergarten or in the early years of school will often continue to miss classes in the later years, and receive lower test scores than their classmates. It’s vital that students go to school every day – even in the early years of primary school.

What we can do
The main reasons for absence are:
Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

It’s vital that holidays are planned during school holidays where possible, and not during the term if it can be avoided.

“Day off” – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – This is when students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy. The best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

• Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
# TERM ONE, DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## MARCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Year 6 Interschool Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Reconciliation Presentation Mass, 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Reconciliation Presentation Mass, 10:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>School Assembly, Celebration of Learning, 5/6M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences, 2:00pm—8:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences, 3:30pm—5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Parent helper Training (Senior), 9:00am—10:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Year 6 Interschool Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Preps commence full time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>16th</td>
<td>St Damian’s Open Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>17th</td>
<td>Parent helper Training (Junior), 9:00am—10:00am in the Library (session 2).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>18th</td>
<td>Year 6 Interschool Sports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>21st</td>
<td>School Assembly, Celebration of Learning, 5/6KW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>Sacrament of Reconciliation, 7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>24th</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1, students dismissed at 1:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## APRIL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Students return for Term 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Happy Birthday**

_to the following students who will celebrate their birthday:*

### March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Christine</td>
<td>5/6M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Ivana</td>
<td>5/6SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Adon</td>
<td>3/4L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ipsita</td>
<td>PrepS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zachary</td>
<td>3/4B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Megan</td>
<td>1/2MO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Johnson</td>
<td>5/6KW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**UNIFORM SHOP**

The uniform shop will also be closed tomorrow, 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 11.** 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.

---

**Book School Interviews Online**

Dear Parents

Parent/Child/Teacher Conferences will be held on the following times:

**Tuesday March 8 between 2.00 – 8.00pm and**

**Wednesday March 9 between 3.30 – 5.30pm**

You can now book interviews at times that suit you. Go to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) and follow these simple instructions.

**BOOKINGS OPEN:** Wednesday March 2, 9:00am

**BOOKINGS CLOSE:** Monday March 7, 11:00am

---

**9b369**


Enter the school event code. Then follow the 3 simple steps.

---

When you click *finish*, your interview timetable will be emailed to you automatically - *check your junk mail folder* if you do not receive your email immediately.

You can return to [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) at any time, and change your interviews - until bookings close.

---

For parents that don’t have access to the internet at home, at work, at a friend’s house or on their phones, you may send a note to school with the approximate times they require, or phone the school on 9467 8506. Interviews are strictly 15 mins and spaces are limited. If you require more time, please contact your teacher directly to make alternative arrangements.

Parents can change their interview bookings, any time prior to the closing date, by re-visiting the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and using the event code. Remember to use the same name and email address, you used when you made your original booking. Parents wishing to change their interview times after the closing date, should contact the school directly on: 9467 8506

We would love to hear what you think about online booking. If you get time, click on the “contact us” button on the [www.schoolinterviews.com.au](http://www.schoolinterviews.com.au) website, and leave some feedback - anonymously if you wish, but please include the school’s name and suburb.
REUNION DAY

Sunday 17th April 2016

10am : Reunion Mass at St Damian’s Church
5 Settlement Road, Bundoora.

Followed by St Damian’s school tours and memorabilia displays.

Light refreshments at the School/Parish Hall concluding at 3pm.

For catering purposes, please book online at:
http://www.trybooking.com/KMZR
http://www.trybooking.com/184539
or contact the Parish Office on 9467 2797
by 7th April 2016
Change of Date

Certificate III in Education Support

This qualification will give you the skills and knowledge to provide assistance and support to teachers and students in a range of educational settings. This includes early childhood education, as well as Primary, Secondary and Special schools.

Whittlesea Community House
92A Church Street
Whittlesea 3757
www.wohl.com.au
0418 338 1

In partnership with
PRACE
Northlands Community Centre
33 Stanley Street
Reservoir 3073
9462 6877
www.prace.com.au

Discover Bundoora Secondary College

We warmly invite you to attend our...

INFORMATION EVENING

Wednesday 23rd March
Activities held between 5pm – 7pm

EXPLORE: the College between 5pm and 7pm
SEE: presentations and displays from all subject areas
DISCOVER: a wealth of resources and facilities
SHARE: the Bundoora experience with our Principal, Teachers and student leaders.

Balmoral Avenue, Bundoora 3083
Telephone 9467 1511 Facsimile 9467 7370
Email bundoora.sce@edu.vic.gov.au
www.bundooasc.vic.edu.au

Dance Street

DANCE, HIP HOP, ACRO, LYRICAL TAP & SINGING
ALL AGES - Toddlers - Adults

ENROL NOW!

Visit www.dancestreet.com.au for NEW timetable

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

0432 949 499

Come and join the Dance Street Performers

Preston (Darebin) Blue Light Dance Party
MARCH 4TH
6.30 - 8PM | AGES 8 TO 14 | $7
PRESTON TOWN HALL
234 POWER ST, PRESTON
CONTACT: Jolin Main 0406 100 043
www.bluelight.vic