



School Bulletin No. 1

February 17th, 2022

St Dominic's Catholic Primary School is committed to the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as a central and fundamental responsibility of Catholic education.

St Dominic's School acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of this land.



IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY

Mon-Thurs. 21 -24 February Parent/Teacher Chats
Wed. 23 February Foundation- at home day
Sat 26/Sun 27 February
Reconciliation Commitment Masses (6pm/9.30am)

MARCH

Tues. 1 March Parent Information Sessions (7-8pm)
Wed. 2 March Ash Wednesday
Thurs. 3 March Enrolment Tours (bookings required)
Mon. 7 March Enrolment Tours (bookings required)
Tues. 8 March School Photos
Thurs. 10 March Enrolment Tours (bookings required)
Mon. 14 March Public Holiday
Tues. 15 March Student Free Day/ Staff PL day
Wed. 16 March Enrolment Tours (bookings required)
Fri. 18 March Enrolment Tours (bookings required)

**A fresh face for our
Newsletter & Bulletin**

We hope that you have found our recently updated Newsletters both informative and engaging. This week, we share our first 2022 'Bulletin'- a brief and condensed form of communication, with immediate reminders and messages.



Once we launch our new website in Term 2, we will also be developing a school iNewsletter. We hope to have this ready to launch to our school community next term also. In the meantime, we have some changes to our communication for Term 1:

- Every 'even week' (Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10) we have our comprehensive **School Newsletter**.
- Every 'odd' week' (Weeks 3, 5, 7, 9) we prepare a condensed version- a **School Bulletin**. Our School Bulletin includes Important Dates, COVID Updates and any brief or urgent communication.

Later in Term 1, we will invite your feedback on this communication.

Thank you, Natalie Kenny

CONGRATULATIONS & THANK YOU!

We are so proud of those students who represented St. Dominic's at yesterday's District Swimming Carnival. This was held at Harold Holt Swim Centre. Congratulations to all competitors, especially for the way that you competed and represented St. Dominic's with pride. Several parents and spectators commented on their excellent behaviour, respect and sportsmanship throughout the day. Well done! A special thank you to Mrs Mitchell who organised this day, and to Staff and parents who assisted on the day. Next week we will feature some photos of this event in our Newsletter.



**We are SunSmart -
Hats On!
Remember....
no hat, no play!**



Slip



Slop



Slap



Seek



Slide

From Little things Big things grow!

Environment and Sustainability



This term we are beginning our school Sustainability focus by conducting an audit of the playgrounds and garden facilities of St Dominics, with a view to creating a greener and more attractive, productive and sustainable educational environment within the whole footprint of our school.

All external aspects of our school are included in this review - playgrounds, play equipment, garden structures, appropriate plants for particular precincts and unused space that can be better used, so as to more clearly demonstrate our commitment to a safer and more sustainable school environment going forward.

There is much to do and already many creative and exciting ideas have been floated by invested staff members who are keen to further improve the facilities, programs and our school environment, for our current and future students.

We are looking for input and assistance from interested and enthusiastic parents, as well as ideas and advice from those in our community who may have landscaping skills, plant knowledge and other such expertise.

If you would like to be involved or can recommend a local contact, please contact either Natalie Kenny or myself. Every idea will be gratefully accepted!

Tom Gorman

COVID UPDATES & REMINDERS

Updated information will be communicated to all families immediately, as received from MACS. This is expected late Week 4-early Week 5.

Note: the following information has also been shared with all families via Operoo, and it is expected that Parents/Carers have read this. Please contact our office if there are any concerns or questions.

Our school is responsible for ensuring the safety of our community, and all COVID Safe measures are in accordance with current health directives and advice from MACS (Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools).

Parents/Carers,

The Catholic Education Commission of Victoria continues to actively monitor developments, and is working closely with the Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET) and Victorian Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to ensure school practices reflect current advice and support the needs of their school communities.

In order for St. Dominic's School to remain safe and open, this information outlines our Back-To-School plan and ensures all risk assessment and necessary safety measures are adhered to. All staff, families and students are expected to operate in accordance with COVID Safe measures.

REMINDERS:

NOTE- the following information is relevant for Weeks 1-4, with updates pending any changes.

Rapid Antigen Test kits-

- Rapid antigen testing (RAT) is voluntary for all school students and staff. It is highly recommended that all Primary school staff and students use a RAT twice weekly (on school days: suggested either Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday)
- It is NO LONGER a requirement to report all Rapid Antigen test results, UNLESS it is a POSITIVE result and your child has COVID-19.
- Parents MUST not send a child with a positive COVID result to school, and immediately advise DHHS as well as email me immediately nkenny@sdcamberwelleast.catholic.edu.au
- All positive cases AND all household contacts must complete 7 days of isolation.

Student attendance/absence-

- Students who are required to isolate or quarantine will be supported in the same way as students with an extended absence due to illness or injury. Learning materials (St Dom's COVID Support Learning Grid) will be provided to support continued learning. Teachers will contact you if/when this is required.
- Schools are not expected to provide a full remote learning program in these circumstances.

Managing positive COVID cases-

- Parents/Carers MUST contact DHHS if their child tests positive to COVID-19 (via a PCR or rapid antigen test).
- Parents/Carers must immediately inform the school, either by phone during school hours (9836 8300) or written notification: nkenny@sdcamberwelleast.catholic.edu.au or office@sdcamberwelleast.catholic.edu.au
- Your child must stay home and isolate for 7 days and not attend school during that period.

- *If isolating due to a positive result, your child must ONLY return to school if NEGATIVE and there are no symptoms after the 7 days of isolation. In this case, everyone in your household is a close contact and must be isolated for 7 days.*
- *Siblings of a positive household COVID case MUST isolate at home for the 7 day period and not attend school.*
- *In the event of positive case/s, parents of relevant class/cohort will be notified and asked to monitor their own child/ren for any symptoms in the following days.*

Vaccination & Physical Distancing-

- *All visitors attending St Dominic's, including for drop-off and pick-up, must adhere to physical distancing, density limit and face mask requirements, and practise respiratory etiquette and good hand hygiene.*
- *All visitors who enter school buildings (eg. needing to attend the school office) must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have a valid medical exemption.*

Pick Up and Drop Off-

- *Parents/carers must adhere to physical distancing when picking up and dropping off their children. No congregating is allowed.*
- *Please ensure a quick drop off in the morning (ie. 'kiss and drop')*
- *Parents are to make use of entry points of our school- Prep students via the front P1 gate, Years 1-6 via the back gate and the main driveway.*
- *At this stage, no parents are allowed into classrooms and we will advise if/when this changes.*

Ventilation-

- *There is increased fresh airflow into all indoor spaces (including shared spaces, staff areas and thoroughfares) whenever possible and to maximise the use of outdoor learning areas or environments.*

Air purifiers-

- *Air purifiers have been installed and prioritised for higher risk areas, including where there are high levels of mixing of people and less ventilation.*

QR check in-

- *Visitors are required to check in with a QR code when entering school buildings (eg. school office area), but not when entering the school grounds.*

Community Events-

- *Until advised, school events in the first 4 weeks of Term 1 will be rescheduled. Further details will be shared ASAP.*

If you have any questions, please call our office.

Yours in partnership,
Natalie Kenny (Principal)