



# From the **PRINCIPAL**



Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Term 4 has been very busy with the building project now well underway. We are extremely hopeful that the new learning spaces will be completed by mid January, so that our Year 2, 3 and 4 classes can enjoy the contemporary new learning spaces from the beginning of 2024.

It was lovely to show a large group of prospective parents through the school yesterday morning on a Principal tour. I was extremely proud of how our students showcased their learning so beautifully and articulately. The families were definitely impressed with our commitment to learning, our welcoming community and the sincere sense of care shown by our students and staff.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

I can't believe our Christmas Concert is next week. There has been an exciting buzz around the school as the students (and staff) have been practicing and perfecting their songs, dances and plays in preparation for the big event!. This will definitely be a great night of entertainment.

Families and friends are all invited to attend and share in the Christmas cheer. Families are also encouraged to bring along a picnic dinner to share on the oval before the concert begins. Ice-blocks and drinks will be available for purchase on the night.

I look forward to seeing you all next Thursday night.

**Where:** Oval and Court Area

**5pm:** Dunn Street Gate Open

**Please Note:** *Parents are responsible for the supervision of their children until they meet with their teacher at 6:00pm.*

**6:00pm:** Children meet their teacher in the MFC in preparation for the performance.

**6:30pm:** Concert Begins

**8:00pm:** Concert concludes (approximately)

**Please Note:** *All students must be signed off by their class teacher at the end of the concert. Please do not leave without doing this.*



The poster features a dark blue background with a large, glowing golden starburst graphic on the left. The text is centered and right-aligned. On the right side, there is a school crest with a shield and a banner below it that says 'VERITAS'. The main text reads 'DOMINICAN SCHOOL Christmas Concert Thursday 30 November 2023'. Below this, it says 'ALL ARE WELCOME' in large white letters, followed by 'BYO picnic dinner, picnic rug & chairs' and 'Iceblocks and Drinks available for purchase'. A list of times and activities follows: 'Where: Oval and Court Area', '5.00pm Dunn Street Gate Open', '6:00pm Children meet their teacher in the MFC', '6:30pm Concert Begins', and '8:00pm Concert concludes (approx)'. At the bottom, a disclaimer states: 'THIS IS A SCHOOL COMMUNITY EVENT - NO ALCOHOL OR SMOKING PERMITTED PLAYGROUND AREAS WILL BE OUT OF BOUNDS FOR THIS EVENT'.

**DOMINICAN SCHOOL**  
*Christmas Concert*  
Thursday 30 November 2023

**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
BYO picnic dinner, picnic rug & chairs  
Iceblocks and Drinks available for purchase

Where: Oval and Court Area  
5.00pm Dunn Street Gate Open

6:00pm Children meet their teacher in the MFC  
6:30pm Concert Begins  
8:00pm Concert concludes (approx)

THIS IS A SCHOOL COMMUNITY EVENT - NO ALCOHOL OR SMOKING PERMITTED  
PLAYGROUND AREAS WILL BE OUT OF BOUNDS FOR THIS EVENT

## LITTLE DOMINICANS TRANSITION PROGRAM

The last 3 weeks have seen our school community welcome 23 new Little Dominican students. These students will be starting in Reception in 2024, and they have all settled in so beautifully. I have no doubt that everyone has made them feel welcome and all the feedback I have received has been very positive. In fact, some of the Little Dominican students want to start school straight away. Please make sure you smile, wave, and welcome them with open arms into this wonderful school community.



## 2024 CLASS PLACEMENTS

Staff are well underway in the rigorous and thorough process of class placements. Our ultimate aim is to create a balanced learning environment within all classrooms, taking into consideration the social-emotional needs, academic capabilities and wellbeing of all students.

The class structures for 2024 are as follows:

**2x Reception Classes**

**2x Year 1 Classes**

**1x Year 2 Class**

**2x 3 /4 Classes**

**2x 5 /6 Classes**

On Monday 11 Dec (Week 9) all students will take part in a whole school transition where they will get to meet and become familiar with the other students in their class, as well as their 2024 class teacher. This is always an exciting, but nervous time for students, so please continue to be positive and reassure them.

Madhavi Nawana Parker from Positive Minds Australia has some very helpful advice about navigating the uncertainty of class placements. You can read it [here](#).



## YEAR 6 CAMP

On Monday this week, 30 excited Year 6 students embarked on their last camp as leaders of Dominican School. There was a buzz of excitement in the air as they drove off making their way to Belair for 3 days of adventurous fun.

They all represented Dominican so beautifully and after sharing in their Talent Show on Monday night, I learnt a lot more about the 'hidden' talents all our wonderful students had.

This camp was one that developed the skills of teamwork, resilience, perseverance, and challenge. It required students to step out of their comfort zone to try new things. What an opportunity to 'inspire hearts and minds to be the best they can be'.



## CHILDREN'S UNIVERSITY

As a Principal, I was so proud to be a part of The Children's University Graduation that took place at Bonython Hall in Adelaide University last Monday. It was such an honour to present the awards to the following students: Annabelle F, Jessica J, Angelique J, Abigail S, Emma W, Leife C, Isabelle C, Marley G, William G, Ashley H, Braxton H, Eli M, Brooklyn O, Kelsey O, Parker P, Peyton P, Beth R, Evie R, Sarah T, Isobel W, Ella Y, Maddison Y, Luisa Z, Kyan J, Lennon J, Leonardo M, Jett R, Grace B.

For children between the ages of 7 and 14, the Children's University program provides excellent extracurricular learning opportunities, and also honours their accomplishments with official certificates and a graduation. Together with providing excellent learning opportunities for you and your child, the program also supports the involvement of parents in education.

I also acknowledge Mr Nick Ryan, who has worked behind the scenes, in liaising with children, families and the Children's University. If your child would like to participate in the Children's University program for 2024, please speak with Nick – [nryan@dominican.catholic.edu.au](mailto:nryan@dominican.catholic.edu.au)



## SAND DUNES PROGRAM

During Week 4 our Year 5 upcoming leaders joined with the younger children at Largs North Kindy to work collaboratively to clean up part of our coastline. This is an ongoing project contributing to the maintenance, restoration, and enhancement of the coastal dune system and Biodiversity Park on LeFevre Peninsula. Both students, volunteers and teachers had a great day, and many new friendships were forged. Our Year 5 students will definitely be fantastic school leaders in 2024

Wishing you a lovely week ahead.

Many blessings,

**Angela Scodella**  
PRINCIPAL



## We wait in joyful HOPE for the coming of CHRIST, the Light of the World

We will soon be coming into the Church Season of **ADVENT**. The word Advent means 'to come' and during this time we prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

The duration of this season is four weeks and begins on Sunday December 3. At Dominican School, it has been our tradition to begin Advent early so that we experience the full cycle. Our theme for Advent this year is **LIGHT**, which centres on Christ as the Light of the World. During Advent, we prepare for the coming of Christ, and as followers of Jesus, we are all called to shine God's Light of Hope and Love on Earth.

We will mark the beginning of our Advent journey with community prayer as part of our whole school assembly this Friday November 24.

**Jesus said, 'You are the light of the world... let your light shine for everyone.'** Mt 5:14-16

One of the ways we can be a sign of the light of Christ in our world is by supporting those in need in our local community. Each year at Dominican, we commit to helping those less fortunate by providing donations for Christmas Hampers to support the **VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL**. This year's theme is '**Give The Best Present Ever**'.

We will have a Giving Tree in the Front Office and a Christmas box in each classroom for the collection of goods. We invite all students to contribute an item so that together we can bring some comfort and cheer to the needy this festive season. Such items might include: **packaged foods such as pasta, noodles, and biscuits; tinned foods such as vegetables, soups, baked beans, and spaghetti; Christmas items such as bonbons, decorations, puddings, and tinned hams; long life products such as tea, coffee, milo, milk, juice, jam, and honey; and small gift items such as puzzles, books, stationery, and toiletries.** We will be collecting donations until **Week 9 Monday December 11.**



**Our Dominican community is always very generous in giving at this time, and we thank you in advance for your support.**

**Alison Tanti-Clark**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS IDENTITY AND MISSION

# Sacrament Preparation



## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The next cycle of the **Sacramental Program** will commence early next year... and we are seeking expressions of interest. Our Family Faith Formation Program involves children from Dominican School, Our Lady of the Visitation School and the Lefevre Catholic Parish to prepare for and celebrate the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. The program is for Catholic children who are 8 years or over.

Please see the following link for further details

[Sacraments Brochure](#)

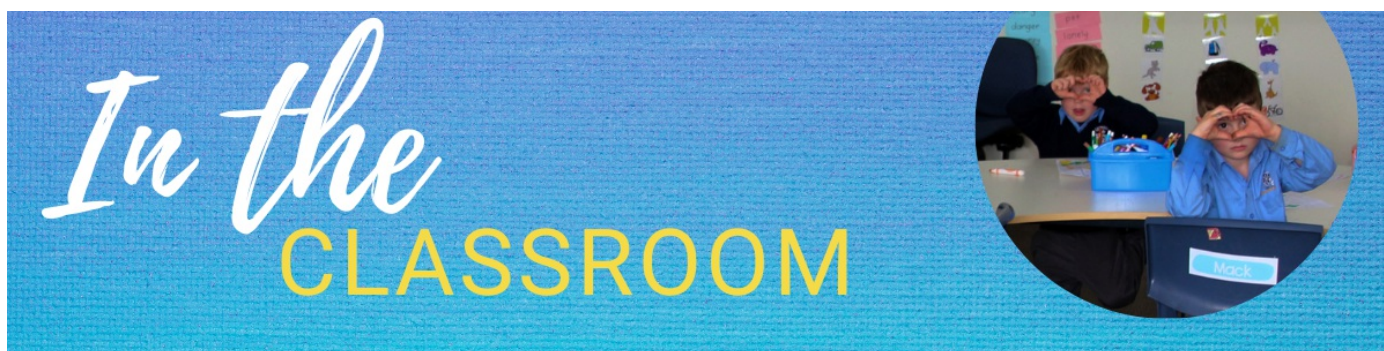
We invite and welcome all children who would like to be a part of this program to support them on their faith journey.

To register your child in the program, please contact:

**Bernadette Smith** at [familyfaith@catholicparishes.com.au](mailto:familyfaith@catholicparishes.com.au) or **8449 6378**

**Alison Tanti-Clark**  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL RELIGIOUS IDENTITY & MISSION

## IN THE CLASSROOM



## ROTATIONAL SYMMETRY WITH 3/4S

In Mathematics our 3/4 classes have been learning and exploring line and rotational symmetry of shapes and patterns. We have used Minecraft to create examples of symmetry and explored works by artists such as Escher, who utilised repeated patterns and created tessellations. To demonstrate their learning and understanding of rotational symmetry students created their own monochrome Mandalas. They carefully created their patterns to ensure they repeated accurately.

**Genevieve Spencer**  
3/4S CLASSROOM TEACHER



## PHYSICAL EDUCATION WEEK

### Celebrating the importance of Health & Physical Education

In week 5 we celebrated Physical Education Week. Health & PE is an essential area of the curriculum that provides real opportunities for children to learn how to lead active & healthy lives – now and in the future. It recognises and actively promotes the importance of health and physical education and physical activity for physical, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing.

We celebrated this important event by participating in various health and fitness activities throughout the week. We kicked off the week with a whole school health hustle led by Ash Brown, Dominican parent and owner/trainer of ABFit Society. The whole school morning health hustle continued for the remainder of the week and was led by Year 6 students, McKinley, Harrison and Grace. During lunch time each day, our Year 6 leaders ran various fitness and wellbeing activities focused on our theme days: Move it Monday, Target Tuesday, Wellbeing Wednesday, Team Thursday and Feel Good Friday. We were pleased to see so many students get involved and participate in each day's activities.

Many thanks to Ash Brown, our Year 6 leaders and all Dominican staff for their support in making this a fabulous week for our school community.

**Martina Kovacev**  
PE COORDINATOR





## YEAR 6 CAMP

This week the Year 6 students attended camp at Nunyara, Belair. The students took part in three days of activities run by Beyond Limits. All of the activities promoted participation, communication, teamwork, leadership and initiative. We were impressed by the consistent efforts displayed by all students throughout their time at camp. They continuously modelled the Dominican pillars and have come back to school with memories to last a lifetime. We thank our parent volunteers, Lauren Ratsch and Jack Fawcner, for actively supporting our students to be the best they can be.

Here are a few favourite moments from our Year 6's:

*"My favourite moment at camp was climbing all the way to the top of the 13m tree. I was a bit nervous but really enjoyed it. When you reached the top of the tree you could see an amazing birds eye view of the airport. Camp was really fun and a great way to make the last few memories at primary school."* – Grace H

*"At camp I enjoyed climbing the tree which was 13m tall, I climbed to the top of the tree which was a bit daunting but once I did it, I was really proud. I also enjoyed the water activities, though the teachers and staff poured water all over me with buckets of water and the hose. This activity involved lots of teamwork and communication. Overall, I loved all the activities and tribal games."* – Emily

*"My favourite activity was the water activities. We had to throw buckets of water to our team and fill up a bigger bucket. I also liked the talent show, Grace and I dressed up as Port players and sung 'Never Tear Us Apart'. It was super funny and it got a lot of laughs. Camp was so fun and it will be a moment I will cherish. I am very grateful for the experience."* – Tahlia

*"At camp I enjoyed doing the fun activities. My favourite was climbing the 13m tall tree. I also really liked the food that they made us. I really enjoyed the first day at camp because the activities were super fun."* – Jessica

**Martina Kovacev, Matt Kosta and Lisa Osborne  
YEAR 6 TEACHERS**



## TERM 4 FINANCE NEWS

All families with outstanding fees would have recently received Statements via post.

Please ensure all fees are paid in full as per your payment plan.

Dominican School continues its commitment to support any family through difficult times. If you are at all concerned about your ability to pay your school fees by the end of the school year, 15 December 2023.

I strongly encourage you to have a confidential discussion with myself or our Principal, Angela Scodella. If you have not communicated

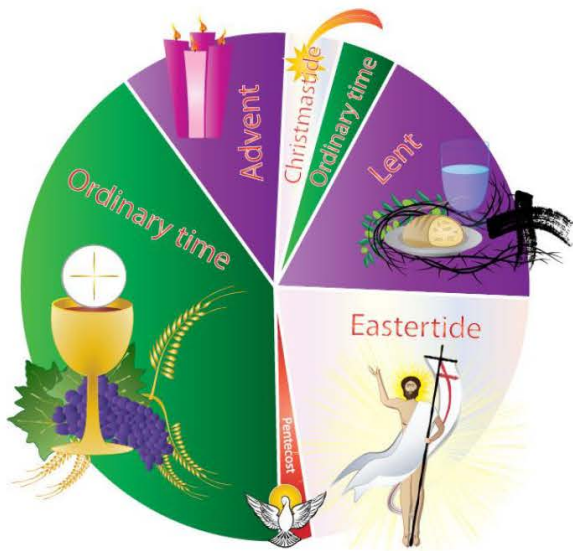
with us, we have no option but to follow the South Australian Commission for Catholic School (SACCS) Debt Collection procedures.

**Jo Freer**  
**FINANCE OFFICER**



# Our Liturgical Year

Sunday, 26 November 2023, from 4:00 – 5.00 PM  
at the Lefevre Catholic Community Meeting Rooms,  
253 Military Road, Semaphore.



As our current Church Year draws to a close and we look forward to beginning the new Liturgical Year, this presentation will explore aspects of the historical development and theological structure of the Church's Liturgical Year.

It will touch on some of the key liturgical documents of the Second Vatican Council that guide the way the Church celebrates its major feasts and seasons, as well as provide some insights into the historical developments of some of the prayer, devotional practices and celebrations that give life to our Church, and our faith.

## Presenter:

Gareth Watson has been the Assistant Principal of Religious Identity and Mission at Xavier College, Gawler, for over 20 years.

This presentation is based on the program of study recently completed in Theological Studies, with a focus on Liturgy, through the School of Theology at Australian Catholic University, Melbourne.



**ENQUIRIES Father Roderick O'Brien 8449 6378**

A Certificate of Attendance is available for professional development: please register with Fr Roderick before the event, and on the day.

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today.  
Approved by Kurna Elder Uncle Lewis O'Brian 2004

## TERM 4

# IMPORTANT DATES



**MON 27 NOV**  
School Board, 6.30pm

**THU 30 NOV**  
Little Dominicans Transition Program, 9am  
**CHRISTMAS CONCERT, 6.00pm**

**W8**

**FRI 8 DEC**  
**END OF YEAR MASS, 9.15am**  
Student Reports go home

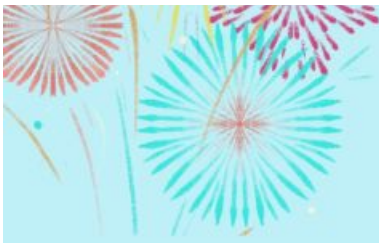


**W9**

**MON 11 DEC**  
Whole School Transition  
**TUE 12 DEC**  
**COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING, 8.15am**  
Year 6 Graduation, 6.30pm  
**WED 13 DEC**  
End of Year Assembly, 9.00am



[View Full](#)



**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR 2023**

**THU 14 DEC**

**PUPIL FREE DAY**

**FRI 15 DEC**

**SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY**



**2024 TERM DATES**



**TERM 1**

MON 29 JAN - FRI 12 APR

**TERM 2**

TUE 30 APR - FRI 5 JUL

**TERM 3**

TUE 23 JUL - FRI 27 SEP

**TERM 4**

MON 14 OCT - THU 12 DEC

Term 4 Calendar

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# SAVE THE DATE

Harcourts Smith

# semaphore street fair

Presented by the

Semaphore Mainstreet Association

**SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

SEMAPHORE ROAD | SEMAPHORE 10AM-5PM

**FREE ENTRY**

**A DAY OF FUN & ENTERTAINMENT FOR EVERYONE!**

MARKET STALLS | LIVE MUSIC | MOBIL HOBBY HUB | YELLOW BRICK ROAD

# COME & SEE US

**DRUM CORP & CHOIR PERFORMANCE**

**CHARITY GIFT STALL**

**SHOWBAGS**

