

# St. Dominic's Primary School

## NEWSLETTER

January 5, 2025– Term 1 Week 2

WE SOAR LIKE THE EAGLE AND RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

# PRAYER



We give you praise, O God, for everything that is new and beautiful, for everything which holds promise and brings us joy. Bless us as we start this new year with our friends and teachers Help us to make the most of every chance we have to start afresh.

# Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to the 2025 school year. I hope all of you had an enjoyable holiday and you were able to spend some quality time with your family and friends. I would like to extend my welcome to the new Prep children and their families and also to all the other new children and families to our school. I hope that all the new children and their families find their time at St Dominic's enjoyable and rewarding.

The Prep children have settled in well and the teachers have done an amazing job making them feel at ease as they become familiar with the school. The Prep children will continue to have Friday at home during the month of February.

Our Grade 6 students attended Camp Doxa in Malmsbury this week from Monday – Wednesday. The camp staff provided a range of activities to make the camp as enjoyable as possible for our students. I was able to spend time with the campers on Monday and they were having an amazing time. Camp is an important part of our curriculum as it provides our students with opportunities to step outside their comfort zone and to work together as a team to problem solve.

The school has employed some new staff members this year to replace those that have left and also to support our students further. I would like to welcome the new staff members to our school. Victoria Mangani (Grade 4 teacher), Sarah Grimaldos (Grade 3 teacher), Melanie Vella (Grade 1 teacher) and Salvatore Melilli (Physical Education teacher). We also welcome back Lee Van Brink from Maternity Leave. I am sure that their time at St Dominic's will be rewarding and I wish them all the best of luck in 2025.

The opening mass for the beginning of the school year will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February. All parents and friends are welcome to attend. The mass will be held in the school hall.

Breakfast Club commenced this week and will be opened every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. On these mornings the volunteers from St Vincent De Paul will be serving toast with a choice of butter, vegemite or jam. The school is very lucky to have the support of St Vincent and we are very grateful for the continued work of the volunteers.

Please remember that school starts at 8:45 am and ALL children should be in their classroom ready to start their day. The school gates will open at 8:30 am. If your child is late for any reason, they must be signed in at the office by a parent or adult.

Meet and Greet Parent/teacher chats were held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January and it was great to see so many parents in attendance. The reason for these informal meetings is firstly for you to meet your child's teacher and secondly for you to let your child's teacher know any information that is needed about your child.

I am really looking forward to working with all of you in partnership, to provide the best education possible for our students and I wish all of you the very best for 2025.

God Bless!

# UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEK	DATE	TIME	EVENT
<b>2</b>	Thursday 6 February	9.15am-10.00am	Whole school Mass
	Friday 7 February	8.30am-10.00am	Whole school First Aid Program Playgroup
<b>3</b>	Friday 14 February	8.30am-10.00am 9.15am-10.00am	Playgroup Grade 6 Class Mass
	Monday 17 February Wednesday 19 February Friday 21 February	7.00pm-8.00pm 8.30am-10.00am 9.15-10.00am	Student Testing Day - <b>No School</b> Enrolment & Information session for Sacraments Playgroup Grade 4 Class Mass
<b>5</b>	Tuesday 25 February Friday 28 February	6.30pm-7.30pm 8.30am-10.00am 9.15am-10.00am	Sacrament of Penance family workshop Playgroup Grade 3 Class Mass
	Wednesday 5 March Saturday 8 March	9.15am-10.00am 6.00pm-6.30pm	Ash Wednesday Prayer Service Sacrament of Penance Vigil Mass
<b>7</b>	Thursday 13 March Friday 14 March	7.00pm-8.00pm 9.15am-10.00am	Sacrament of Penance Grade 2 Class Mass
	Friday 21 March	9.00am-3.00pm	Whole School Athletics Day
<b>9</b>	Friday 28 March	9.15-10.00am	Grade 1 Class Mass
<b>10</b>	Monday 31 March Tuesday 1 April Wednesday 2 April Friday 4 April	1.30pm	Teeth On Wheels Teeth On Wheels Teeth On Wheels Term 1 Ends- <b>1.30pm finish</b>

WE ARE A SUNSMART SCHOOL

WE WEAR HATS IN TERM 1

\*Hats can be purchased from the school office for \$10 (cash only)



# CAMP DOXA

## YEAR SIX 2025

On Monday 3rd of February, the Year Six team headed off to Camp Doxa. It was a scorching summer's day but we carried on and made the most of our camp experience. Here are some of the highlights!

## The Year Six Team



# happy FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

We are so proud of how the Preps started school on Monday and are looking forward to an exciting year together in Prep A and Prep B!



Preps will wear their sports uniform each **Tuesday** and **Thursday** in Term One.

Preps will borrow from the library each Monday. Please send along the Preps library bag and return the books each Monday morning.



Our school playgroup began last Friday morning. It was lovely to see lots of families with preschool aged children attend in our school library.

We enjoyed exploring the school sandpit, listening to stories, constructing with blocks, cooking delicious food at the mini kitchen, completing puzzles and playing with the playdough.

We would love to see some new families at our upcoming playgroup sessions.



### Upcoming Playgroup Dates

Friday February 7 <sup>th</sup> 2024	8:30am – 10am
Friday February 14 <sup>th</sup> 2024	8:30am – 10am
Friday February 21 <sup>st</sup> 2024	8:30am – 10am
Friday February 28 <sup>th</sup> 2024	8:30am – 10am

# School Fee Schedule 2025

## Charge per family:

Family Fee	\$1,540
Capital Levy	\$ 50
<b>Charge per family</b>	<b><u>\$1,590</u></b>

## Charge per student

Book list	\$ 80
Curriculum	\$ 250
Sacrament program	\$ 20
Technology	\$ 25
Excursions	\$ 100
Swimming*	<u>\$ 45</u>
<b>Charge per student</b>	<b><u>\$ 520</u></b>

Graduation fee per Grade 6 student                      \$ 75

Camp\* fee per Grade 5 & 6 student:                      \$ TBA

\*Swimming is part of the Victorian Curriculum and each student is required to participate in the safety swim program. The Government in 2025 will provided a subsidiary of \$30 per student for the cost of the swimming program. As a result, our swimming charge has been reduced from \$75 in 2024 to \$45 in 2025.

\*Camp is held in Grade 5 and Grade 6. In recent years we have successfully applied for camp subsidies to keep the camp costs down. Subsidised camps have again been applied for in 2025 and we now wait to see if the school will be successful or not. This will be advised to parents together with the fee in 2025.

## **2025 Parish of Melton Stewardship**

The stewardship program is \$520 per year and is payable directly to the Parish of Melton.

All queries can be directed to the Parish on (03) 9743 6515. The Parish is open 9am to 3pm Tuesday to Friday.

## 2025 Payment schedule

Fees can be paid via cash or card (no surcharges apply) at the office.

Direct debit or centrepay arrangements can be put in place with the finance manager.

Internet payments can be made using the details at the bottom of your school statement.

	1 student	2 students	3 students	4 students
Family Fees	\$1,590.00	\$1,590.00	\$1,590.00	\$1,590.00
Student Fees	\$520.00	\$1,040.00	\$1,560.00	\$2,080.00
<b>Total 2025 Fees</b>	<b>\$2,110.00</b>	<b>\$2,630.00</b>	<b>\$3,150.00</b>	<b>\$3,670.00</b>

### 4 payments by

	1 student	2 students	3 students	4 students
24th March 2025	\$527.50	\$657.50	\$787.50	\$917.50
2nd June 2025	\$527.50	\$657.50	\$787.50	\$917.50
4th August 2025	\$527.50	\$657.50	\$787.50	\$917.50
31st October 2025	\$527.50	\$657.50	\$787.50	\$917.50

10 monthly payments	1 student	2 students	3 students	4 students
	\$211.00	\$263.00	\$315.00	\$367.00

must start by 12th February 2025

and finish by 12th December 2025

20 fortnightly payments	1 student	2 students	3 students	4 students
	\$105.50	\$131.50	\$157.50	\$183.50

must start by 10th February 2025

and finish by 5th December 2025

### School Fee Concessions:

Families holding a health care card, pensioner concession card or veterans gold card need to present the card to the office each year asap to receive the concession. You will need to complete a payment plan to receive the concession. **Concession applications must be in at the office by 18th June 2025** . Please see the office staff if you have any questions.

Families who are of indigeous descent or hold an immicard will need to speak to the finance manager by **15th March 2025** .

### Camp Fees:

Will need to be finalised by families 2 weeks before camp attendance.

### Graduating Students:

We request all fees for students graduating in 2025 to please finalised no later than **31st October 2025** .

### Bounced Payment Fee:

A bounced payment fee may apply if there are more than 4 bounced payments.

We understand this may happen at times and ask where possible to make a catchup payment.

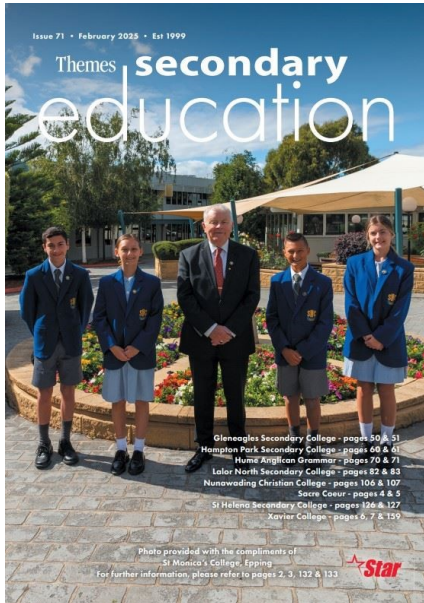
### Late Fee Payment:

A late fee payment may apply where fees are not paid by cut - off date.

**Fees can quickly become difficult to manage. If you are having any difficulties with fees please see the school finance manager as soon as possible.**



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION for parents



In 2026 many parents will still need to make decisions regarding their child's education for 2027 and beyond.

To assist in their decision making and as we are environmentally conscious we have provided below a direct link to the Feb 2025 Digital Edition of the Secondary Education Guide which we would request that you include in your next newsletter to parents, encouraging them to use this link which is a useful digital resource tool to aid in their decision.

To assist your decision making in relation to your child's education for 2026 and beyond, please find below a link to the 2025 edition of the Enrolments Guide.

CLICK HERE:

<https://victoriaschoolguides.starcommunity.com.au/secondary-education-february/>

## **St Vinnies Breakfast Club**

Breakfast will be available to students on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8.30am -8.45am

## **Mobile Phones/Smart Watches**

Children should only bring a mobile phone to school if it is necessary. Please turn them off and hand them in to the office where they will be locked away until the end of the school day.

## **Birthday Lolly Bags**

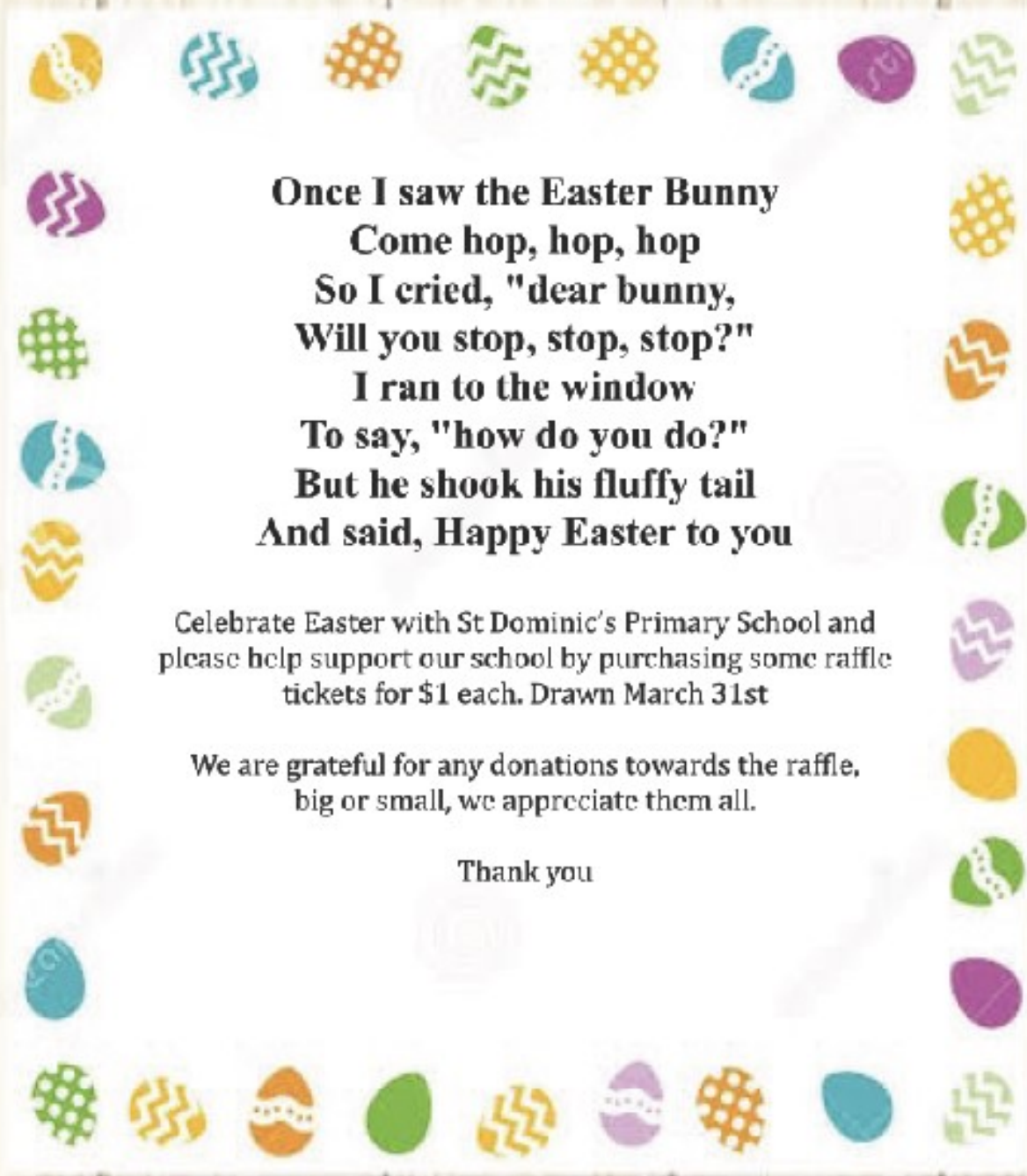
For birthday celebrations, wrapped lollies may be provided, as long as they are store-bought and come with a complete list of ingredients. This ensures the safety of all children, especially those with food allergies. It is also asked parents check with the class Teacher for any allergies.

## **School Pick Up**

Children are expected to arrive at school by 8.45am and collected by 3.25pm.

If your child is a late arrival, it is expected you walk the chil/ren into the school and sign them in.

If you are experiencing difficulty arriving by 3.25pm it is also expected, you make contact with the school office to arrange alternate arrangements.



**Once I saw the Easter Bunny  
Come hop, hop, hop  
So I cried, "dear bunny,  
Will you stop, stop, stop?"  
I ran to the window  
To say, "how do you do?"  
But he shook his fluffy tail  
And said, Happy Easter to you**

Celebrate Easter with St Dominic's Primary School and please help support our school by purchasing some raffle tickets for \$1 each. Drawn March 31st

We are grateful for any donations towards the raffle, big or small, we appreciate them all.

Thank you





## Free Health, Wellbeing and Development Checks for Prep Students

Dear Foundation Parents/Carers,

The Primary School Nursing Program is a free service offered by the Department of Education to all prep/foundation students and their families during their child's first year of school.

The program aims to assist in the early identification of children with potential health, wellbeing or development concerns which may impact on their education and offers screening (such as hearing, vision, speech, dental and motor skills) as well as advice, information and referrals to other health and support services.

Parents / carers can support their child's participation in the program by completing an online School Entrant Health Questionnaire.

You can access and complete the online questionnaire on a mobile phone, computer or tablet. A paper version of the questionnaire is available from your child's school if you prefer.

Once the questionnaire has been submitted, the Primary School Nurse will visit your child's school to conduct further health screenings for students that require it. The nurse may contact you to further discuss any concerns raised in the questionnaire, using the details you provided.

Soon, information about the Primary School Nursing Program, including how to access and complete the School Entrant Health Questionnaire, will be sent home. Participation in the program is not mandatory and parent/carer consent is required for the Primary School Nurse to see your child.

**If you do not wish to participate, you are encouraged to register and select 'No I do not consent' in the online questionnaire so that your response is recorded.**



## Melton Night Market

Looking for great local family entertainment? Ignite your senses at the vibrant Melton Night Market!

Across three unforgettable nights, immerse yourself in flavours, rhythms and traditions inspired by Asia, Europe and Oceania. Each evening offers a unique journey, celebrating our cultural diversity and the shared joy of community.

### **Dates:**

Asian market: Friday 7 February

European market: Friday 7 March

Oceania market: Friday 4 April

**Time:** 5pm - 9pm

**Location:** Melton Town Amphitheatre

**For more information:**

Visit the [Melton City Council Website](#)

## Winni Wizard and The Ditzzy Dizzard

The Wacky Wizard of the West is back again

Join Winni and her friend Ditzzy for a brand new show for ages 4 – 400, smooched with more magical mayhem than ever.



A show for the whole family filled with songs, dances and jokes funnier than your Dad's.

**Show video:** [Winni Wizard Live](#)

Where: Kindred Studios, 3 Harris Street, Footscray

Dates: Sat 12th April - Thu 17th April (No Monday)

Times: All shows 2pm

Ages: 4 - 400 year olds

**Use code WIZARDY20 for 20% off**

**Booking Link:** <https://www.comedyfestival.com.au/browse-shows/winni-wizard-and-the-ditzzy-dizzard/>