Dear families,

This week, and until further notice, the car park will be unavailable both before and after school. This will affect drop off and any parents who have made arrangements to use the disabled car park. Parents using before and after care can still access the car park before 8am and after 4:30pm, however we ask that you use the designated car parks and do not park near the bins or old flagpole area. All parents who pick up their children along Bulmans Rd are asked to encourage them to wait on the footpath for you, Several children wait amongst the parked cars or on the side of Bulmans Rd and this is far too dangerous a practice for them.

A reminder that, from this week onwards, notes which are sent home will be colour coded as indicated below.

- **White** = Office letters and notices
- **Red** = Urgent office letters
- **Blue** = Classroom and curriculum notices to be returned
- **Pink** = Parents and Friends letters and notices

The newsletter will continue to be printed on white paper however there may, from time to time, be sections we ask you to complete and return to school.

A reminder also that **Friday 8th March will be a school closure day**. On this day staff will be attending offsite professional development in the area of Mathematics. The day on March 8th is an integral part of a Mathematics project we are involved in in 2013. The school office will be closed on this day.

Many children ride either their bike or scooter to school. We encourage this as it is a great way to engage children in physical activity and also alleviates some of the strain on the limited parking available. All children who ride to school should wear the appropriate safety gear such as helmets, and while children are encouraged to ride to school, once they enter the school grounds they must walk their bike/scooter to the bike rack. It is also advised that all bikes and scooters are secured with some type of bike chain and lock when left at the bike rack during school. While we will do all we can to find a lost bike, it is not always possible to recover it once taken. Friday March 22nd is **Ride2School Day** so if your child has a bike and hasn’t ridden it to school as yet, Friday 22nd might be a good day to start.

Have a great week everyone

Carmel Marantelli
PRINCIPAL

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**Lenten Reflection**

We are called to reflect the face of Christ to all. Let us pray to him, our model and guide:

- **Shed your light, O Christ, upon the pilgrim paths we travel.**
- **Be our wisdom and guide.**
- **May we help others find a way to you, that they may experience you as an answer that is convincing and accept your message, even when it is demanding.**
- **In your name we pray. Amen.**
**Canteen Volunteers**

Once again, the Canteen is asking for volunteers to help out in the Canteen during the year. As the school becomes larger in size, so too does the need for extra volunteers. Where one person’s help was enough, we now need two. Also, for any new families wanting to help out, it’s a great way to meet other parents, as well as assisting the school. If you are able to assist on either a Monday, Tuesday or Friday, your help would be greatly appreciated. Rosters are being prepared shortly, so if you are able to assist, please return this slip by this coming Friday. Thank you.

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**St Catherine’s Parents & Friends Association**

I am interested and I can attend the morning tea on Thursday 28th February.

I am interested but I am unable to attend the meeting.

Name: ____________________________ [Please Print]  Tel: ______________________

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**Canteen Volunteers**

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**EMA Application Forms**

EMA application forms are available from the School Office.

Please provide a copy of your Concession Card.

Closing date is Thursday, February 28

Late applications will not be accepted by the Department of Education.

This is the Final opportunity to apply for EMA.

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**Parents and Friends Association**

The PFA is an important association, not only because of the funds it raises to support school programs but also because of the opportunities these occasions provide for socialising and developing relationships with others within the school community. We are always looking for new members and welcome anyone who would like to contribute to this association. At 9am on Thursday 28th February we will have a cup of tea and a chat to discuss the activities this committee engages in throughout the year and to meet and welcome new members. We invite you to come along and see if this is a committee you would be able to contribute to. To show your interest please fill in the slip below and return to school.

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**Education Maintenance Allowance — 2013**

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

~ be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; 

~ be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*

or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (January 29, 2013) and Term 3 (15 July, 2013).

EMA application forms are available from the School Office.

Please provide a copy of your Concession Card.

Closing date is Thursday, February 28.

Late applications will not be accepted by the Department of Education.

This is the Final opportunity to apply for EMA.
St Dominic’s Parish Office
10 Unitt Street, Melton
Tel: 9743 6515, Fax: 9747 8603
Email: stdoms@bigpond.net.au
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday between 10am - 4pm

Mass Times
Saturday Evenings: 6.00pm
Sunday Mornings: 9.00am & 11.00am
Tuesday Evening: 7.00pm at St Dominic’s
Wednesday: 9.15am at CRC Chapel
Thurs - Friday : 9.15am at St Dominic’s

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FIND

A Gold Plated Costume bangle was found in the school yard and handed in to the School Office.
It was found last Thursday February 21st.

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FAMILY SUMMARY REPORTS

Family Summary Reports were sent home to each family. Just a reminder that all forms are now overdue.

Please return these forms as soon as possible.
It is important that all your contact details are up to date.

We appreciate your prompt return of these forms.

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Interschool Sports

Interschool sports will begin this Friday for Summer Sports: Cricket, Volley Ball, Bat Tennis. Payment of $4.00 is required on the day your child competes.

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OSHClub

Welcome back to school for 2013, and hello to our returning and brand new families at the service. We have some exciting activities planned for Term 1 including a Footy Tipping Competition, St Patrick’s Day, Easter activities and much more!

If anyone has any questions about the program, feel free to come in and speak to one of the staff. Program hours are Before School Care: 6.50am – 8.50am and After School Care: 3.15pm – 6.30pm.

Thank you, and we will strive to ensure that your child has a great time at our OSHClub

OSH program phone: 0402 669 652.
Coordinator: Prue Baker.
Assistants: Renae Chapman and Chris Thomas.
OSHClub Head Office: 03 85649000

All families must be enrolled to attend the program, remember this is Free!! Please create an account online at www.oshclub.com.au All bookings and cancellations can also be managed via your online account.

For on the day bookings please contact the Coordinator direct at the program.

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SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY FRIDAY MARCH 8TH
**FEBRUARY / MARCH CALENDAR**

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<td>SCHOOL CLOSURE DAY</td>
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<td>Fourth Sunday of Lent</td>
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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

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<th>Friday 1st March</th>
<th>Monday 4th March</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mandi Millington</td>
<td>HELP NEEDED</td>
<td>Leanne Broadway</td>
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<td>Carly Tong</td>
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<td>Julie Hall</td>
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<td>Andre Short</td>
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<td>Veronica Milburn</td>
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<td>Tammy</td>
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**CDF STUDENT BANKING**

Thursday is our banking day. Deposit books are to be handed in to class or the Office by 9.00am on banking day. Encourage your child to save by opening up a CDF Banking account.

*Application forms are available from the Office*

**Uniform News**

New stock has arrived at the uniform shop

*Now Available:*

- Size 6, 8 & 10 polo shirts
- Medium Bucket hats

*The Uniform Shop is open every Monday & Wednesday from 8.30am—9.00 am*

**SECOND HAND UNIFORM FOR SALE**

Windcheaters, Polo Tops, Shorts, School Jacket all available. If interested please call Susan on 0421 372 246

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**Djerriwarrh Health Services operates a public school dental service, which is currently located at Melton Health, 195-209 Barries Rd, Melton West.**

Children from pre-school age to Grade 6 are eligible for the service. The service is **FREE** for children who are eligible for concession, or a CO-payment fee of $30 is payable for those who are not eligible.

Bookings can be made on the Referral and Appointment Hotline number - 9747 7609

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**Yellow = Classroom and Curriculum notices**  **Blue = Classroom and curriculum notices to be returned**  **Pink = Parents and Friends letters and notices**