

DARANNEWS

16 May 2025

WEBSITE

DARANET



Upcoming events

- 19 May
School Photo Day
- 20-22 May
CAT Competition
- 20-23 May
Spelling Bee
- 30 May
Enrolments Close
ASC Cross Country
- 2 June
Reconciliation Day Public Holiday
- 6 June
Sacred Heart Day Mass and Heart Photo
Daranews Published
- 9 June
Sovereign's Birthday Public Holiday



DARAMALAN COLLEGE
COWPER ST DICKSON
6245 6300
info@daramalan.act.edu.au
www.daramalan.act.edu.au

From the Principal



Dear Parents/
Carers, Staff and
Students,

A very belated welcome back to Term 2, given that we are already at the end of the third week of term. As I mentioned in my Daranews article

at the end of last term, Term 1 certainly was a whirlwind of activities and events, and if the past three weeks are any indication, I am sure that Term 2 will bring a similar level of activity around the College. We are, however, also heading back into cold and flu season especially now that the weather has started to turn. As there are many members of our extended community who are vulnerable and immunocompromised, I would urge families to keep students at home when they have been experiencing colds and flu to enable us to keep our community as healthy as possible.

Since my last Daranews article we have mourned the passing of Pope Francis, watched with anticipation the Conclave of the Cardinals as they prayed and discerned to elect his successor, and celebrated the announcement last week that Cardinal Robert Prevost had been elected as the 267th pontiff and would be known as Pope Leo XIV. As a community we have prayed and reflected upon the legacy of Pope Francis' papacy, described by Cardinal Re as "a pope among the people, with an open heart towards everyone".

Next week we will be hosting the Annual General Meeting of the four Australian MSC schools, as we do each year in May. These meetings provide an excellent opportunity for key representatives from the Provincial Office including the MSC Provincial Superior, **Fr Stephen Hackett MSC**, the MSC Education Members Council, the Chevalier Institute, and the Board Chairs, Principals, Business Managers and Assistant Principals Mission from the four schools, to come together over three days for a range of meetings.

From the Principal

ANZAC Ceremony and Sports Assembly

We have been able to gather as a community twice already this term. The focus of our opening assembly was our ANZAC commemoration service. The second occasion was to celebrate and acknowledge the achievements of our students at each of the three sports carnivals held last term. The next opportunity for us to all be together will be for Sacred Heart Day on Friday 6 June.

Through the theme of 'Service' for our ANZAC Ceremony, we were able to acknowledge the life-long service and dedication to others of Pope Francis. We were joined by Corporal Dion Caskey from the Federation Guard who shared with us the significance of ANZAC Day and the first ANZACs for current service men and women. Our students who are members of Cadet Units from the Air Force, Army and Navy, were once again key contributors to the ceremony. I would like to acknowledge and thank **Ms Cheryl Hamill** who prepared the ceremony before she departed for her new position in the NT and **Ms Angela Dunn** who stepped in at the beginning of the term to oversee proceedings. I would like to congratulate our College Leaders who facilitated and led the ceremony, Year 12 student **Lachlan Hynd** who performed a poignant and moving live rendition of the Last Post, and Year 11 student **Ruby Holden** who led the College in the National Anthem, as she had done at the Queanbeyan Dawn Service on ANZAC Day.

Last Friday, we gathered for a second time as a whole community, this time to celebrate and acknowledge the achievements of our students at the three sports carnivals held in Term 1: Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country. The assembly also provided our College Leaders the opportunity to outline the achievements, successes and activities within each of their portfolio areas and how students can become involved throughout the term and year ahead. As I mentioned when I spoke to the students, I am constantly amazed at the activities and co-curricular activities that are available to our students on a daily basis. There is certainly something for everyone, and I urged all students to check the Daily News and become involved.

At the end of the Assembly, I was able to acknowledge and present seven students, some of whom have already been mentioned previously in Daranews, with Principal's Awards for their Australian representation:

Macie Wilson (Year 7) won gold at the Australian Athletics Championships and threw an Australian record in the U17 Para Javelin Classification F34 class.

Amelia Noja (Year 8) who will be representing Australia later in the year in Futsal.

Nikos Vassiliotis (Year 8) who travelled to Europe last month as part of the squad who represented Australia at the Barca Academy World Cup in Football.

Eroni Camaivuna (Year 10) who has been selected as a member of the U17 Emerging American Football Olympic Squad and will be competing in the USA in June.

Charlie Ravouvou (Year 10) who has also been selected as a member of the U17 Emerging American Football Olympic Squad.

Lily Steinman (Year 12) who recently competed as a member of the Australian team in International Equestrian Vaulting.

Charlotte Seymour (Year 12) who will travel to Brazil in October to compete as an Australian representative at the prestigious Margot Fonteyn Ballet Competition.

Staffing Changes

At the beginning of this term we welcomed **Ms Sarah Misner** to the Student Services Officer role and she will be located at the College Reception alongside **Ms Fleur Cains**. We also welcomed back **Ms Trudi Dunn** from her leave in Term 1. At the end of last week we farewelled **Mr Kyle Steemson** and wish him much success following his appointment to a promotion position at another College. Next week we welcome **Ms Sophia Afghan** to the Mathematics department and **Mr Fred Clark** who will be teaching English.

DTC Romeo and Juliet

Congratulations to the Daramalan Theatre Company on their production of Romeo and Juliet. A culmination of months of weekend and intensive rehearsals came to fruition with performances over the final weekend of the break and the first week of this term. The majority of the performances were sold out and the reviews from external theatre critics were outstanding and extremely positive. In the final days of rehearsals, the Company were provided with a masterclass facilitated by Stephen Sewell, Playwright and former head of NIDA's writing course. Our thanks to **Mr Joe Woodward** for his vision, and to all of the staff (both current and former), students and parents who volunteered their time to bringing the production to life.

2026 Enrolments and Year 11 Transition Information

A reminder that applications for Year 7 and Year 11 2026 must be submitted by **Friday 30 May 2025** to be considered in the first round of offers for a place in 2026. This deadline



Sports Assembly



Sports Assembly

From the Principal

is the same for current families as well as new families. Enrolment forms are able to be completed online via the link on our website, <https://www.daramalan.act.edu.au/>. Enquires or questions concerning enrolments should be directed to enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au

Information for students currently enrolled in Year 10, outlining the transition to Year 11 for 2026 is now on our website. There are a range of resources including recorded Information Sessions for families to access. The Notice of Intention forms were emailed to all current Year 10 families earlier in the term. These are due to be returned by **Friday 13 June 2025** to facilitate our planning for 2026.

School Photos

A reminder that school photos will be taken next **Monday 19 May**. If a student is absent on that day, the only catch-up time the photographers will be here is **Friday 30 May** for the first lesson in the morning.

Winter Uniform

Students should be wearing their full Winter uniform to school. Can I remind families that hoodies, including Daramalan sports hoodies, and 'puffer' jackets do not form part of the Daramalan uniform and should not be worn to school, at school or from school. Thank you for your support in ensuring that our students wear their uniform, including using the College backpack in Years 7-10, with pride as ambassadors of the College.

Parking and Supporting Student Safety

I would again like to reiterate my previous messaging relating to parking and student safety around the College. Unfortunately, almost every day I witness multiple near misses where students have been dropped off and have alighted from cars in No Stopping areas or have crossed the

busy roads in between buses, cars or not at the designated pedestrian crossings when being picked up. To keep our students safe when making their way to and from school, please ensure you drive and park safely and legally around our school. Unsafe and illegal parking can reduce visibility of our students and motorists to see each other, creating a significant hazard when students cross the road. Please remember not to park across pedestrian crossings, in No Stopping zones, on corners, verges or double parking. Our priority is ensuring the safety of all members of our community on the increasingly busy roads that surround the College.

I would also like to remind our families who attend the College out of hours and on weekends, particularly for sporting and performing arts events, not to park on the nature strips or verges along Morphett and Challis Streets. I have received complaints from our neighbours outlining their concerns regarding footpath access and safety due to illegally parked vehicles. Thank you in advance for your support in ensuring the safety of our community.

Financial Assistance

Families who are experiencing changed financial circumstances are encouraged to contact the College Deputy Principal - Capacity and Strategy, **Mr James Keeley**, to make an appointment to discuss support that may be available to you. He can be contacted via email on james.keeley@daramalan.act.edu.au.

Student Achievements

In addition to the students who were presented with Principal's Awards at our Sports Assembly, I would like to congratulate the following students on their recent achievements:

Elijah Wilson (Year 12) for his results at the National Athletics Championships.



Romeo and Juliet, Daramalan Theatre Company Production



From the Principal

Elijah won Gold in the U20 Discus and Shot Put events. His results in the discus have placed him 3rd in the U20 World rankings for that event. He also competed in the Open Mens Shot Put and finished 5th.

Ruby Gifford and **Caden Skinner** (Year 12) who will represent the College at the Model United Nations Assembly, a two-day live-in assembly of schools from throughout Australia, in August.



Ivy Hartwig (Year 10) on her selection as one of the top 30 girls to attend the Australian Under 16 Volleyball training camp in the April holidays.



Sidney Keir (Year 10) who was a member of the NSW Polocrosse team for the Barastoc Interstate Polocrosse series.



Our **Senior Rugby Squads** on the manner in which they represented the College both on and off the field on their tour to Japan over the recent holiday break. They even managed to become minor TV celebrities during one of their school visits appearing on a local news channel.

Our **Music students** and **Choir** on an outstanding and uplifting Music Performance Evening which was held this week. We wish our musicians much success at the National Eisteddfod over the coming days and to our Choir when they perform at the 1000 Voices for Reconciliation event at Parliament House at the end of May.

Our **Hospitality students** who last night prepared and served over 80 meals of the highest standard for the Semester 1 Hospitality Parents' Dinner. The theme of 'A Touch of 007 – Casino Royale' was embraced by all who attended, and they were treated to an amazing evening which showcased the skills and talents of our Hospitality students.

Best Wishes,

Rachel Davies
Principal

TERM 2 SCHOOL FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE

If you have not already paid and are not on a payment plan, kindly ensure payment is made by **Wednesday 21 May 2025** to avoid incurring a late fee of \$15.00. If you have set up a payment plan, please check your bank account or credit card statements to ensure payments are being deducted as scheduled. If no deductions have been made, please contact the Fees Office at fees@daramalan.act.edu.au as there may be an issue with your payment plan.



DARAMALAN COLLEGE



A School with Heart

ENROLMENTS CLOSING SOON

Enrolments for Year 7 and Year 11 must be submitted by Friday 30 May

For information about enrolments in other years, visit our website or contact the Enrolments Office on the details below.
enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au or (02) 6245 6348
 Reception 6245 6300 | 121 Cowper St Dickson
www.daramalan.act.edu.au

Late applications will automatically be placed on the waiting list

The Counsellors Hub

Staying in Control of your Schooling Experience

In a world that often feels overwhelming, one of the most empowering mental health tools is understanding the Circle of Control. This concept helps separate the things we can control or influence, and those things we need to let go.

The three main areas of this idea are as follows:

Inner circle (what you can control): In this section, you have your actions, choices, words and responses. The more focus we have here, the more capacity for growth we have.

Middle circle (what you can influence): In this section we have relationships, team dynamics and group decisions. Although you cannot control them, your behaviour can impact them.

Outer circle (what you cannot control): In this section we have other people's choices, the past, the weather and global events. Worrying about this area drains our energy and almost always increases our stress levels.

Why does it matter:

During my time as one of the School Counsellors, I have seen a lot of students spend time trying to control the uncontrollable. This has resulted in them feeling helpless, anxious and frustrated. Focusing on things you can control such as our mindset, the effort we put in and our behaviour, helps us regain a sense of agency, reduces anxiety, improves resilience and promotes mental clarity.

How can we apply this in a school setting:

Naturally, being at school comes with a lot of pressure. Grades, friendships, rules and expectations. That's why understanding and applying the Circle of Control can help students feel more grounded and in control of their schooling experience. Going back to the inner, middle and outer circle examples, here are some of the things that we can control, influence, and let go of.

Control:

- Attitude towards learning
- Effort on assignments/exams
- Behaviour towards others (kindness, generosity...it is the Year of Hospitality after all!)
- Asking for help
- How to respond to challenges and feedback from teachers.

Influence:

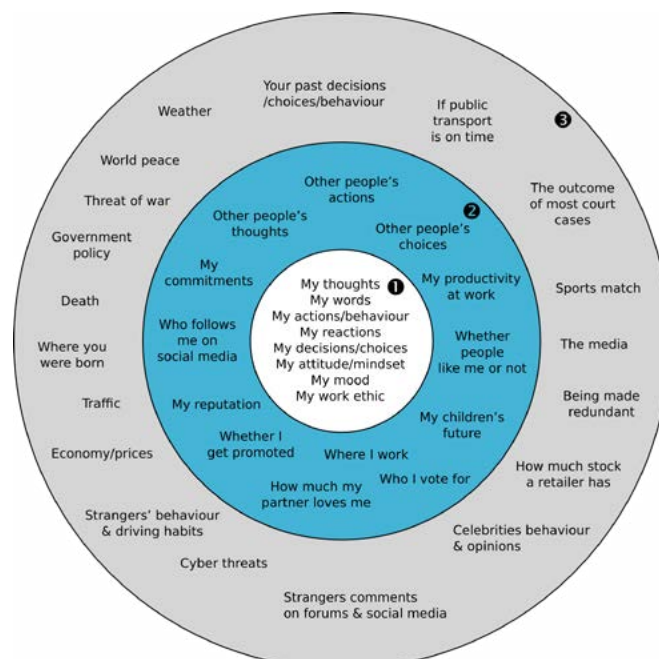
- Group assignments
- Relationships
- How you are perceived (think of consistency)
- Learning environment (How clean is your classroom? Do you put your rubbish away? Do you make use of the bins at school?)

No control:

- School rules and policy (put your phone away)
- Family dynamics
- Other students' behaviour
- Unexpected events (i.e fire alarms)
- Grading decisions made by teachers.

To build your resilience, accountability, and emotional regulation, always ask yourself "How much control do I have of this situation before deciding on how to respond to it. Remember, asking for help is never a bad idea. The Counselling Team has a weekly lunchtime drop-in every Wednesday in the Counselling Hub. Counselling referrals can also be made here: <https://daranet.daramalan.act.edu.au/homepage/3139>

Mr Promise Igba
Counsellor



Mission

Daramalan Youth Group

I'm excited to let you know that the first Daramalan Youth Group was held on Thursday 15 May! The Youth Group will run on Thursdays at lunchtime and is open to all students who are interested in exploring faith, personal growth and life's big questions in a relaxed, supportive space.

Each week, we'll dive into different topics (starting with "What is my identity?") and have open, honest conversations about how our faith can help guide us through the ups and downs of life. My goal is to create a space where students feel safe to share, ask questions and grow together... and yes, there might even be some lollies involved for those who get involved!

If you have any questions or would like more information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Andrea Rose Thomas
Youth Minister

Information Centre

New Books

Run, don't walk, to grab our latest graphic novels, including *Drive*, a multigenerational tale of trailblazers in the car racing industry, and *Inked*, a hilarious story about a talking octopus who demands freedom from the fish and chip shop. Also new in, *The World is Bigger than Love* by Australian author Davina Bell. A dystopian novel about twin sisters stranded following a mysterious event. The Library has just received a copy of *Prophecy*, the first book in the new romantacy series, the *Fractured Kingdom*, which follows Persephone's struggle against the dangerous thief, Azriel.

Thursday Craft

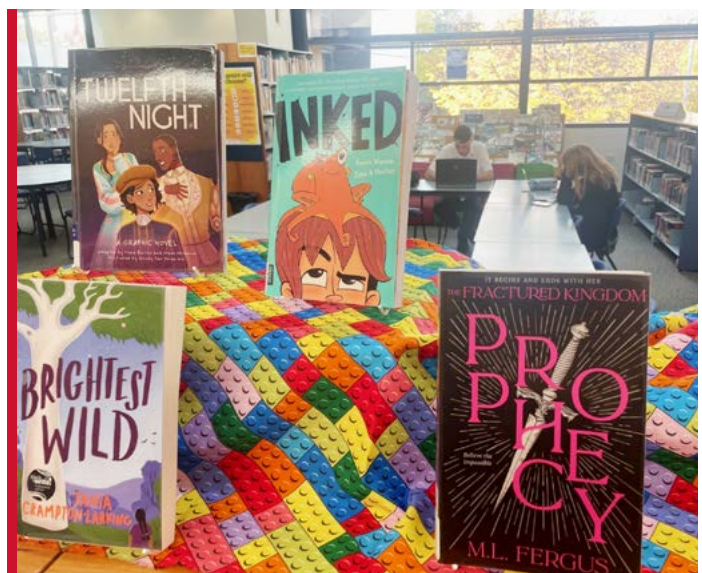
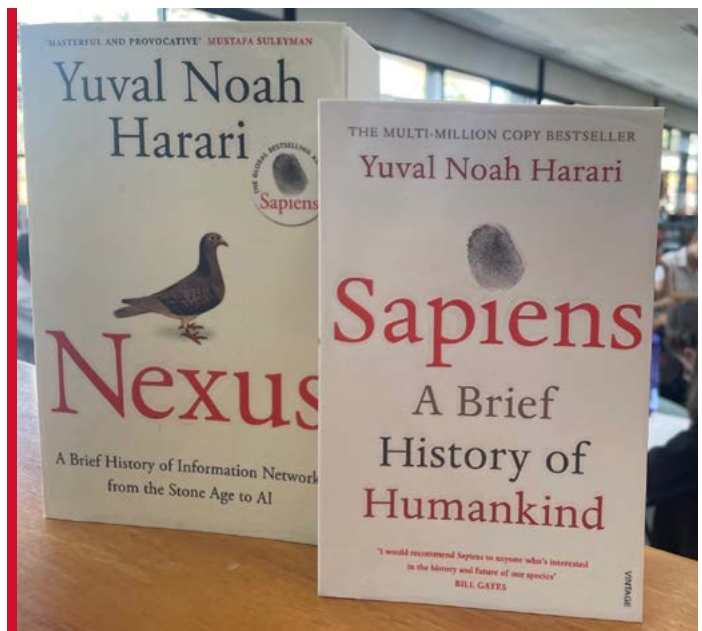
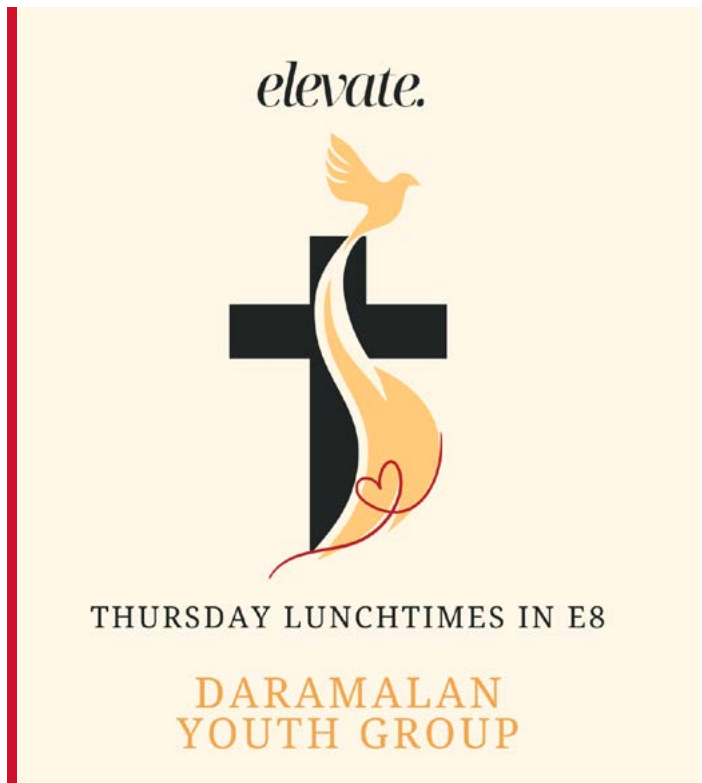
Ms Heidi Horwood is hosting craft in the Library on Thursdays during lunch. Come along this week and learn how to make some beautiful cards. Future craft projects will include beading and jewellery making.

Featured Author Yuval Noah Harari

Harari became a global phenomenon following the success of his first book, *Sapiens: A brief history of humankind*. In *Sapiens*, Harari unravels the story of our species, blending history, science and philosophy to reveal how shared myths and revolutionary ideas have shaped civilisation. In his most recent book, *Nexus: A brief history of information networks from the Stone Age to AI*, Harari explores the profound impact of information and its flow on society, from primitive communication to the dynamic digital age. In his work, Harari challenges readers taking them on a journey to understand our past and imagine future possibilities.

Sapiens: A brief history of humankind and *Nexus: A brief history of information networks from the Stone Age to AI* are available for loan now and we have the graphic editions on order!

Happy reading!
Uhr Information Centre Staff



Business and Government



Legal Studies Incursion: Judge Elizabeth Morris

On Tuesday 29 April, students from **Ms Eve Fitzpatrick's** Year 11 and 12 Legal Studies classes and **Ms Bianca Ross'** Year 10 Law, Politics and Society class were fortunate to hear from Judge Elizabeth Morris, Chief Judge of the Northern Territory Local Court.

Judge Morris spent an hour with students, sharing insights from her extensive legal career. She spoke candidly about the challenges and rewards of her role, and offered valuable perspectives on how the justice system operates differently in regional and remote areas of Australia. Her discussion highlighted the significance of initiatives like circle sentencing in supporting crime reduction in rural communities.

Student engagement was evident through the range of thoughtful questions during the Q&A session, with many students staying afterwards to speak with Judge Morris and ask questions one-on-one.

We sincerely thank Judge Morris for making time to visit Daramalan during her brief stay in Canberra, as well as Ms Ross and Ms Fitzpatrick for organising this opportunity.

MUNA Qualification



Daramalan College students **Ruby Gifford** and **Caden Skinner** (Year 12) represented the school at the qualifications for the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) hosted by the Rotary Club of Canberra Sundowners. Daramalan students speaking for Israel, debated an actual United Nations General Assembly resolution regarding the hostilities throughout the Gaza strip. MUNA is a national event hosted by Rotary to give students a sense of international understanding, increase world peace and goodwill.

The feedback from the adjudicators commended both Daramalan College (Israel) and Merici College (Germany) students for their research and presentations on the resolution. Daramalan College students were highly commended with Merici College announced as one-point winners.

Another positive from the evening was that Ruby and Caden will represent Daramalan College at MUNA in August, which is a two-day, live-in assembly of schools from throughout Australia. A surprise visitor from the Rotary Club of Aurora Gungahlin was in the audience and invited the Daramalan students to represent this club at MUNA.



Languages

Tag der deutschen Sprache – Willkommen in Österreich!

Matt Henderson (Year 12): On Tuesday 13 May, Years 10-12 German Language students had the privilege of attending the Austrian Embassy for the Tag der deutschen Sprache (Day of German Language). This day is an annual event and each year the students visit either the German, Swiss or Austrian embassy. Upon arrival we were warmly welcomed by Her Excellency Ms Elisabeth Kögler (Austrian Ambassador), Ms Natasha Fröjd (Deputy Ambassador of Switzerland) and Mr Clemens Stolzenberg (Head of Culture Section, German Embassy). We then split off into three groups and participated in different German related games such as charades, categories and even planned a 5-day trip to Austria.

During this time, we got to speak to other organisations such as Das Zentrum which organises cultural events

such as German week, and other diplomats living in Australia. We also got to talk to ANU students who currently run a German club or are studying the language. They were helpful and kind to all of us, sharing their experiences in learning the German language and the numerous opportunities that presents. The embassies provided us with a traditional Austrian lunch, consisting of Beef Goulash, Apple Strudel, and other sweet treats. We got to enjoy our lunch on the embassy lawns before gathering for the group photo and saying goodbye before heading back to school.

Anton Lettfuss (Year 11): As part of a school excursion, we had the unique opportunity to visit the Austrian Embassy, learning new words and games granting us a deeper understanding and appreciation for the German language and culture. One of the key highlights of the day was the food, each bite offered a taste of rich heritage and new flavours. Overall, the day was amazing. We learnt so much and it was great to share it with friends and connect with a different culture in a meaningful and memorable way.



Languages Cont...

Year 7 Languages Zoo Excursion

On Wednesday 14 and Friday 16 May, the Year 7 Languages classes went on an excursion to the National Zoo and Aquarium. After a short bus ride, we arrived at the zoo and were split up into groups and our adventure began. During our visit, students had a booklet to learn about animal habitats, where they are from and their life expectancy in the wild and captivity. Some students were lucky enough to see a snow leopard that usually hides very well. We had a lovely sunny day, enjoying a fun and exciting day out at the zoo.



Our class went to Jamala National Zoo and Aquarium with the French and German classes to learn about the animals from each of our chosen languages as well as looking at others from around the world. We were given booklets to fill out about the different animals at the zoo. Some questions in our booklet were asking us what features animals had and how does this help them survive and if we could write as many fun facts as possible about our favourite animal in the language we were learning. We walked past the lions, penguins, otters, bears, monkeys and the extremely cute

meerkats. We all stopped for a recess break at the tables near the rhino enclosure before circling back to visit the aquarium. Everyone took their time walking around the aquarium digging up fossils in the dino room, marvelling at the massive snakes and dipping their hands in the touch pool. My favourite part of the day was definitely seeing the jellyfish in their colour changing tank, it was so pretty. Overall we had an amazing, fun and educational time enjoying looking at the cute animals.

by Caitlyn Hornby



Science

Year 7 – Forces

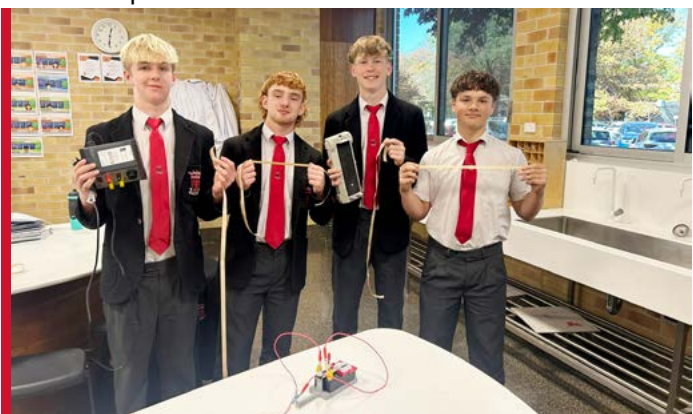
Our Year 7s have been exploring how these simple machines make our lives easier by changing the magnitude of forces. One of the key concepts they've learned is how a lever, with its fulcrum and lever arm, can amplify a small force to lift a heavier load.

To put their knowledge into action, our budding engineers took on the challenge of building their very own catapults. Using their understanding of forces and levers, they designed and constructed these ancient machines to launch projectiles.



Year 10 – Motion

In Year 10 Science, students use ticker timers to analyse motion. By examining the dots left on the tape, they can interpret the object's movement over time. The spacing of the dots tells a story: evenly spaced dots indicate constant speed, while increasing or decreasing distances between dots suggest acceleration or deceleration. When it comes to learning about motion, our students aren't afraid to "speed" ahead!



Biology - Exploring Bass Point: A Hands-On Science Adventure

Last term, our students embarked on an exciting field trip to Bass Point, NSW, where they conducted a quadrat study to gather both abiotic and biotic data. This hands-on experience allowed them to delve into the fascinating world of intertidal zones, examining the intricate relationships between environmental factors and the distribution and abundance of various organisms.

Throughout the day, students meticulously recorded data on abiotic factors such as temperature and salinity. They also observed and catalogued the diverse range of biotic components, including sea slugs, anemones, and even an octopus! By analysing this data, students aim to uncover patterns and correlations that will deepen their understanding of how abiotic factors influence the ecosystems within intertidal zones.

The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the exploration of the rock pools. Students eagerly searched for marine animals, experiencing the thrill of discovering sea slugs and anemones up close. This hands-on collection not only enriched their scientific knowledge but also fostered a greater appreciation for marine life and the delicate balance of these ecosystems.

I'm "shore" we all had a great day at the beach!

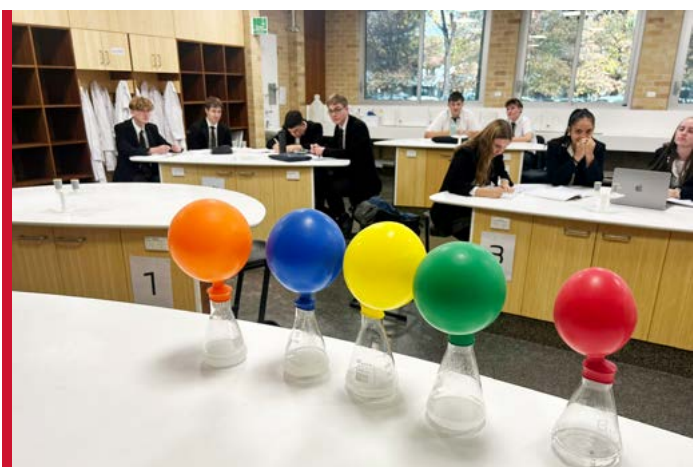


Science Cont...

Chemistry

Our Year 11 chemists are learning about chemical reactions and reacting quantities. This experiment demonstrated the concept of limiting reagents with an all-time classic combination of bicarb soda and vinegar. The carbon dioxide gas was collected in balloons, and the students compared the sizes of the balloons to determine the limiting reagent.

Our Year 12 chemists are completing individual investigations using the volumetric analysis technique of titrations. Students chose their own topic, and these ranged from ocean acidification levels, Vitamin C and acid content in fruit juices, supplements and wine and the effectiveness of antacid treatments.



complete all sections of the competition. As always, we ended the evening by sharing some pizza and celebrating the excellent results from all students!



Questacon Program

Congratulations to **Samantha Crispe** and **Sebastian Abbondante** – both have been accepted into the Questacon Student Training Program. The Program offers College students a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience in science communication and customer service. Participants develop valuable skills in public speaking and engaging with diverse audiences, which can enhance their future academic and career prospects.

Science Club

We are off to a flying start in Term 2 by investigating different paper airplane designs! Students made planes that zigged and zagged, twisted and turned, and fired through the air like a bullet. This built off the fun students had in Term 1 making lava lamps, performing party tricks with balloons, and creating elephant toothpaste. For more fun like this, come along to **D4 every Wednesday**, see you there!



RACI Titration Competition

The annual RACI Titration Competition involves senior Chemistry students from across ACT competing against each other to accurately conduct titrations and calculate concentrations of unknown solutions. This year, the competition occurred after school on Tuesday 6 May at the Australian National University. We had one team of Chemistry students represent Daramalan College. These students were **Sebastian Abbondante**, **Samantha Crispe** (Year 12) and **Tristian Tierney** (Year 11).

Through participating in this challenging competition, these students demonstrated high levels of Chemistry knowledge and practical skills. They also demonstrated great teamwork and managed their time effectively to

Writers Club

WRITE A BOOK IN A DAY

**Write and illustrate a novel in
12 hours to raise vital funds for
kids' cancer research.**

Write A Book in a Day Competition

For the first time ever, Daramalan is entering the nationwide competition at: <https://writeabookinaday.com/> as part of the Kids' Cancer Project.

We are now seeking expressions of interest from students from Years 7-12, who love to write and/or create graphic art. Working in a team environment, each student will contribute their ideas and talent to create the final book.

We would like to enter two teams of ten if we can raise enough interest. It's such a worthwhile cause and the students' experience will be a memorable one. We already have ten students who have expressed an interest, so now we are putting it out there to the rest of the Daramalan community, to seek those who love to write and those who love to draw to come along and join us.

We plan on running the full day to create our books on **Tuesday 29 July**.

If students are interested, they need to collect permission notes from either the Information Centre or the English staffroom.

Further information can be found on the competition website at: <https://writeabookinaday.com/> or by contacting Suzanne.Kiraly@daramalan.act.edu.au or Melinda.Cashman@daramalan.act.edu.au



DARAMALAN COLLEGE HOMEWORK CLUB

3:30pm-4:30pm
Monday - Friday

INFORMATION CENTRE

Please take the opportunity to try, join or visit
Daramalan College's Homework Club!!!!

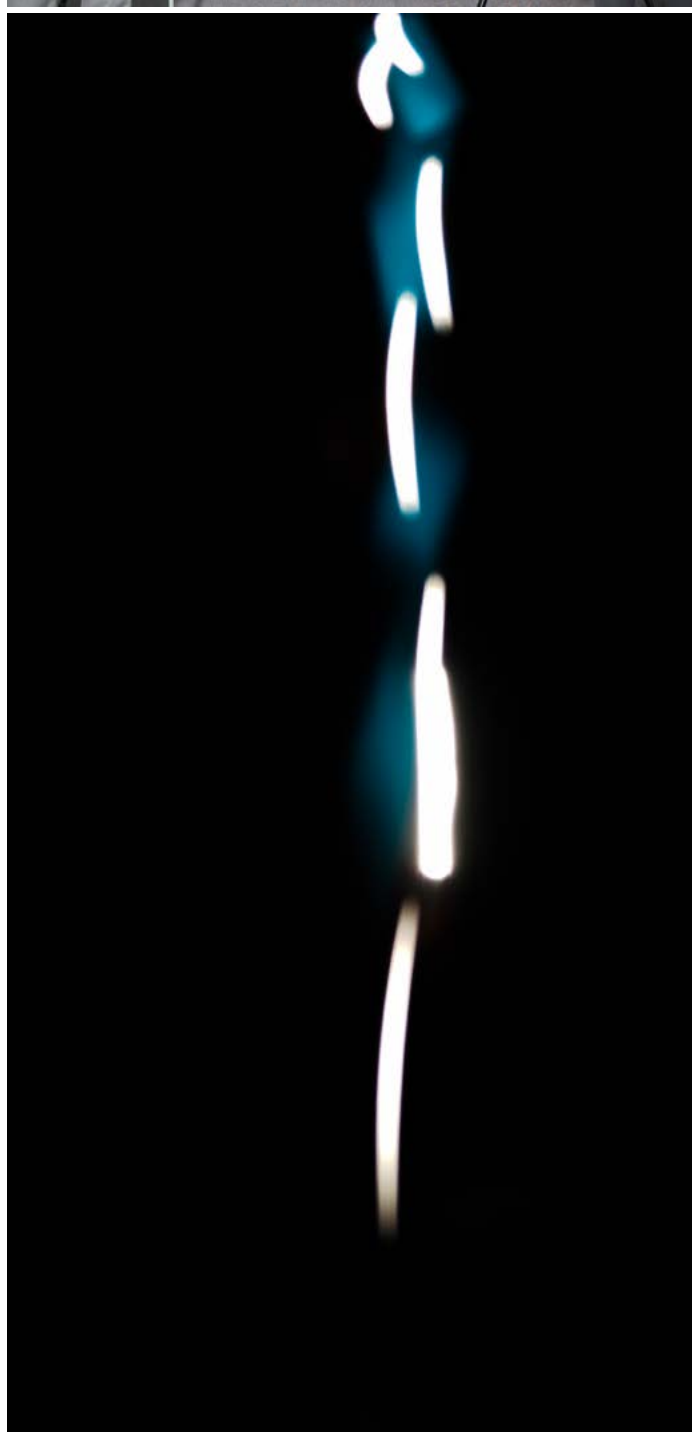
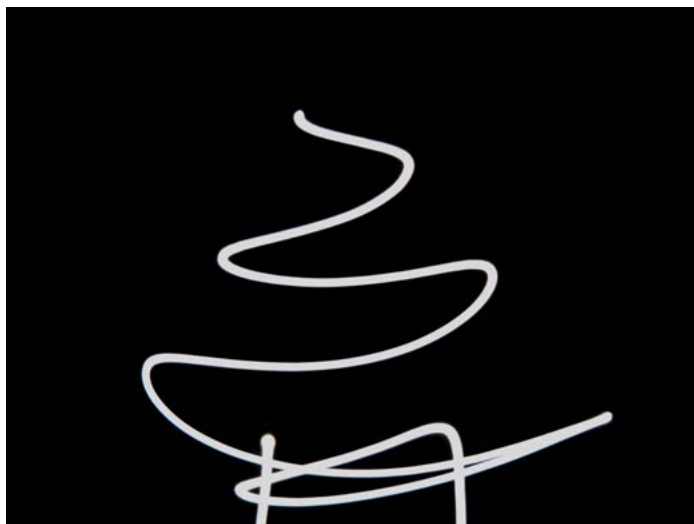
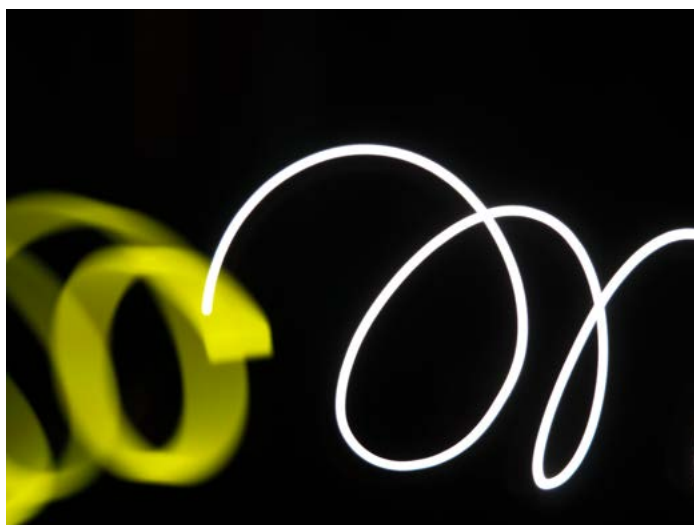
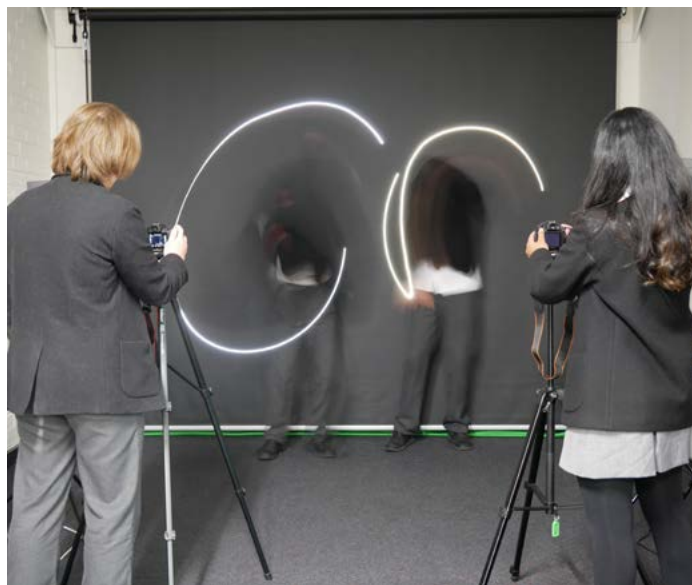
Visual Arts

Year 11 Photography - Light Painting

Year 11 Photography have been experimenting with long exposure 'light painting'.

Light painting is a creative photography technique that involves using a light source to illuminate a scene or create patterns while the camera's shutter is open for an extended period. This technique is particularly effective with a DSLR camera due to its manual settings and ability to capture long exposures.

Photos by **Catherine Rose Babu**, **Crystal Neou** and **Jayden Bird** (Year 11)



Performing Arts

A Night of Music at the Joe Woodward Theatre

On Monday 12 May, the Joe Woodward Theatre came alive with the sound of music as students from across the school took to the stage for a memorable Music Performance Evening. The event featured a showcase of talent and dedication from the Junior Band, Choir, String Ensemble, Senior Band and Jazz Band. This was a great opportunity to perform before the National Eisteddfod which is on from **Thursday 15 May – Sunday 18 May**.

The concert was a celebration of the students' hard work and musical growth, and a testament to the strength of the school's Performing Arts program. Congratulations to all performers and staff involved!



MIDNIGHT, the Cinderella Musical

Announcing MIDNIGHT, the CINDERELLA MUSICAL. A collaboration between Daramalan Theatre Company and Daramalan Dance Company:

Auditions will be announced shortly for our musical presented in October of this year.

Singers, Dancers, Actors and Production Crew are needed. Register your interest by completing the form here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/X04JXQfJga>

MIDNIGHT is not just a tale about true love; it is the story of a girl who is destined for so much more than what the world has given her and features a funny, intelligent and strong-willed Cinderella who is determined to make her mark.

We particularly need dancers, and dancers who can sing, and singers who can dance!

Mr Joe Woodward
Artistic Director



Performing Arts Cont...

COME ALIVE

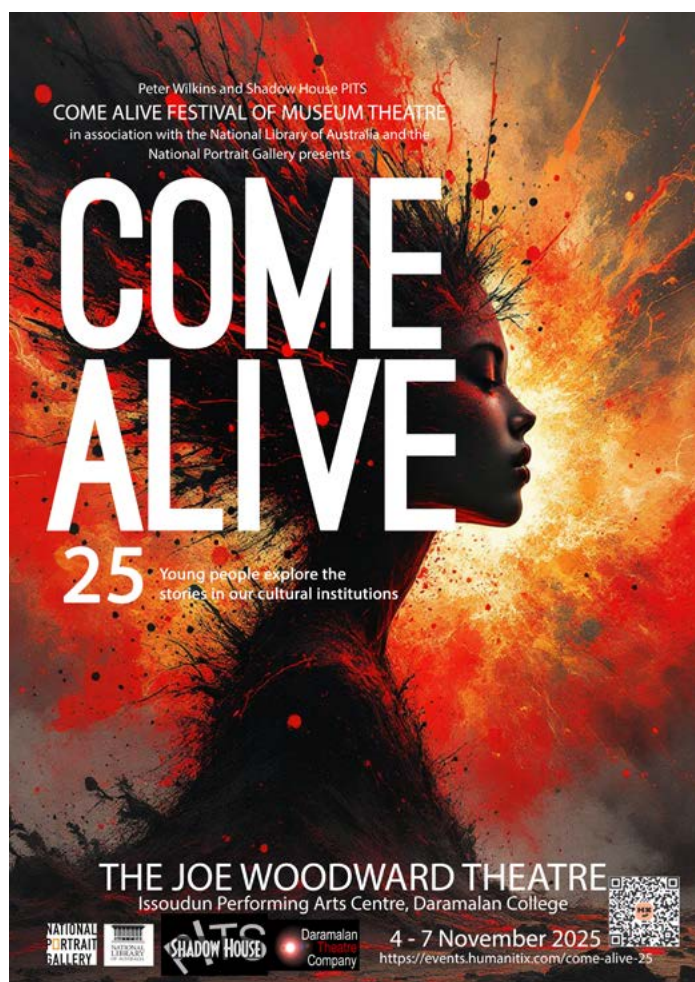
For the first time, the COME ALIVE festival of Museum Theatre will be hosted at Daramalan in the Joe Woodward Theatre. Schools from Southern New South Wales and Canberra will be presenting short works based on items found in the National Portrait Gallery and the National Library of Australia. Daramalan Theatre Company is honoured to provide the facilitation for the Festival which will also feature a guest presentation on video from a sister school theatre group in Greece.

This year, we are opening up potential for students from Years 10, 11 and 12 to participate and create something truly amazing. We aim to provide an extension for cast members from Romeo and Juliet to further their theatrical knowledge, skills and potential. We invite students who are looking for intellectual, emotional and creative involvement and a platform for new experiences.

COME ALIVE is aiming to provide international and national connections for young people with a passion for the arts and theatre.

WHEN: 4, 5, 6, 7 November 2025.

Email **Mr Joe Woodward** at joe.woodward@daramalan.act.edu.au for information and to make an expression of interest.



The Daramalan Theatre Company Junior Ensemble
Presents:

Hope

The DTC Junior Drama Ensemble will be putting on a show in The Joe Woodward Theatre in Week 9 of Term 3 with the title and theme of "HOPE".

Ms Maddie Ward is the Project Director with **Alex Best** (Year 12) as Supervising Director.

The show will be a series of short pieces or vignettes performed by our junior members (Years 7 and 8) and directed and supported by our Year 9 Theatre Company leaders.

Here's what you need to know for now:

- **Performance Groups:** Students will work in groups of 3–5 to create a short performance piece lasting 5–10 minutes based around the theme of HOPE.
- **Backstage Roles:** There will also be opportunities for students interested in lighting and sound to get involved behind the scenes.
- **Auditions:** Auditions will be held later this term in Week 18 - Sunday 15 June at 1.00pm.
- **Student Leadership:** Our Year 9 student leaders will be assigned to each group to act as Directors.
- **Director:** Year 12 student Alex Best will be our Supervising Director for the project.
- **Rehearsals:** In the lead-up to the performance, there will be some after-school rehearsals to help students prepare.
- **Performance Details:** There will be two performances taking place on **Friday 19** and **Saturday 20 September** in the Joe Woodward Theatre and will be open to families, friends and the public. Drinks and snacks will be available for purchase on the night.

We will have more details for you all soon, and we're looking forward to seeing what everyone creates – it's going to be a fantastic show!

... And don't we all feel the need of "hope"?

Students in Years 7 and 8 are invited to audition and volunteer for the production.

Email: madeleine.ward@daramalan.act.edu.au or joe.woodward@daramalan.act.edu.au to make an expression of interest.

Performing Arts Cont...

Romeo and Juliet

After more than five months of intensive rehearsal and preparations, Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet had its final performance on Saturday 3 May. Being the first production of an established play, Romeo and Juliet, in the new theatre, set a benchmark for production values and quality performance.

Leading theatre critic, Peter Wilkins, had this to say of the work:

"The challenge of a large stage for young players is to draw an audience in and the use of audience at tables and entrances and exits within the audience helps the involvement. This is a Romeo and Juliet that is as fresh and as illuminating as it is moving. It is a production that reveals with great clarity the story of woes but also Shakespeare's universal lesson of human relationship."

Many staff, industry professionals and community workers provided their time and skills over the holidays and in the first week of school to make this production happen. They included:

Annette Brady
Angela Dunn
Gabrielle Adamow (community volunteer and parent of former student)
David Kurthi
Libbi Wilson
Jennifer Wright (former teacher at Daramalan, now a theatre professional)
Hilda Visser-Scott
Maggie Wilson (former student)
Tony Allan (adapter of the script)
Stephen Sewell (Playwright, Theatre and Film Director, former Head of Writing at NIDA)
Amy Thomas
Steve Colbert
Heather Chapman
Jacqueline Dimmock
Janette Kline
Kavita Jogia
Ian Lambie
Wes Adie
Peter Kilby

We had an excellent team of production staff each show in **Angela Dunn, Annette Brady, Hilda Visser-Scott, Kavita Jogia, Amy Thomas** and **Maggie Wilson**. The production boasted an innovative Bar and Cafe service run by **Libbi Wilson** with great food provided by **Janette Kline** and **Libbi Wilson**. We had the most consistent cast I have worked with at Daramalan, showing improvements with each performance. I trust they all benefited and gained from the experience, along with our supportive audiences.

Romeo and Juliet achieved:

- Three nights with a full house.
- An overall 81% of seats for the whole season.
- 545 tickets sold.
- Three really good reviews.
- Great engagement with industry professionals Jennifer Wright (Lighting Designer and Mentor), Henry King (Sound Mentor) and Stephen Sewell (former head of NIDA's writing course).

And there is much more to come for the Daramalan Theatre Company ...

Mr Joe Woodward
 Artistic Director



Romeo And Juliet viewed from above the stage showing the relationship with the audience



Stephen Sewell with cast of Romeo and Juliet in Pre-Production Week

Regional Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country

Daramalan students have been busy competing in the 'Big Three' carnivals (Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country) at regional and national levels in the past month. The annual Associated Southern Colleges (ASC) is an association which acts as Daramalan student's pathway to the ACT carnivals as well as an interschools competition steeped in tradition that sees schools compete for shields in three categories: Combined, Boys and Girls. Final placings showcase the combined efforts of all students that contribute by competing to the best of their ability within each of their events. Here are the schools results, age champions and new records set at ASC Athletics and ASC Swimming carnivals:

ASC Swimming

Combined	1st
Boys	3rd
Girls	2nd

ASC Swimming Carnival Age Champions

13 Years Girls - 2nd Runner Up - Aoife O'Keefe (Year 7)
 14 Years Girls - 2nd Runner Up - Riley Brandson (Year 9)
 15 Years Girls - 2nd Runner Up - Eliza Lawton (Year 10)
 Open Boys - Runner Up - Hunter Harrison (Year 10)

ASC Athletics

Combined	3rd
Boys	8th
Girls	3rd

ASC Athletics Carnival Age Champions

15 Years Girls - Runner Up - Gabriella Iglewski (Year 9)
 16 Years Boys - 2nd Runner Up - Lucas Korab (Year 11)
 Open Girls - 2nd Runner Up - Jasmine Reid (Year 12)
 Open Boys - Runner Up - Elijah Wilson (Year 12)

At the Athletics Carnival there were four records broken by two of our students.

Open M Javelin - Elijah Wilson - 47.08m
 Open M Discus - Elijah Wilson - 51.82m
 Open Shot Put - Elijah Wilson - 16.56m
 Open F Shot Put - Sophie Neighbour (Year 12) - 11.18m

Australian Athletics Championships

In the Term 1 school holidays, five students competed at the Australian Athletics Championships showcasing their talent against the best in the country. These included:

Elijah Wilson, **Macie Wilson** (Year 7), **Sebastian Ryan** (Year 8), **Jillian Ryan** (Year 10) and **Gabriella Iglewski**. Competing in the field events, **Macie** and **Elijah Wilson** achieved outstanding results and medals.

Macie won

- Gold in the U15 Para Discus (PB).
- Bronze in U17 Para Javelin (PB and Australian Record for her Classification F34).
- Bronze in U17 Shot Put.

Elijah won

- Gold in U20 Discus (throwing 60.68m, 5m further than 2nd), a Personal Best that placed him 3rd in U20 World ranking.
- Gold in U20 Shot Put (throwing 18.00m, an ACT Record, 2m further than 2nd) and a Personal Best.
- He also competed in the Open Mens Shot Put finishing 5th (PB, 15.83m and ACT Record).



Basketball

Daramalan Basketball Pre-Season Carnival

On Sunday 4 May, the Daramalan College Basketball community came together for our annual Basketball Pre-Season Carnival.

The carnival saw all of our teams take to the courts in a series of friendly yet competitive matches against other Daramalan teams. The day offered a valuable opportunity for players to test their skills, build team chemistry and get a feel for the season ahead.

A big thank you goes to everyone involved, especially **Ms Heather Chapman, Mr James Keeley, Mrs Sarah Barnes, Mrs Stef Petrovic, James Inwood** (Year 7), **Ollie Boland, Dom Slatter, Ashton Stanhope** (Year 9), **Tom Foote, Zach Hampton, Ellie Barnes** (Year 10), **David Thurgar** (Year 12), and all our other volunteers for the day.

Best of luck to all our teams for the season ahead.



SSACT Touch Football

After a successful ASC Touch Football competition in Term 1, Daramalan teams in Years 7-8 and 9-10 Girls as well as Years 9-10 Boys qualified for the ACT Finals Day. These teams performed strongly against the Northside and Southside qualifiers going undefeated across all three competitions and proving Daramalan as the champion Touch Football school in the ACT.

Years 7-8 Girls

G1 v Merici College	3 – 0	W
G2 v Mt Stromlo High	5 – 0	W
G3 v Canberra High	5 – 1	W
SF v Merici College	3 – 0	W
GF v Mackillop College	4 – 2	W

Years 9-10 Girls

G1 v Mt Stromlo High	5 – 0	W
G2 v Lanyon High	8 – 1	W
G3 v Canberra High	5 – 1	W
SF v Lanyon High	6 – 1	W
GF v Canberra High	7 – 1	W

Years 9-10 Boys

G1 v Mt Stromlo High	W
G2 v Alfred Deakin High	W
G3 v Belconnen High	D
G4 v Melba High	W
SF v Belconnen High	5 – 0 W
GF v Melba High	W



Tennis

Tennis Anyone?

After-school and weekend tennis lessons for teenagers, young kids and adults – Term 2, 2025

Looking for a fun and active way to learn or improve your tennis skills? Tennis lessons are available for children and adults at the Daramalan Tennis Courts, just a 5-minute walk from Daramalan College (18 Hope Street, Dickson).

Though our Term 2 program has started, running for 10 weeks, it is not too late to join in. Lessons are suitable for beginners to intermediate players (unless otherwise stated), and are designed to build skills in a fun, supportive environment.

Cost: \$235 for 10 lessons

Bookings: www.ActiveTennisCoaching.com.au/book-online

Timetable: www.ActiveTennisCoaching.com.au/dicksontenniscourts



Careers News

DARAMALAN CAREERS WEBSITE

Please contact **Annette Brady** on 6245 6394 or careers@daramalan.act.edu.au

Book an Appointment with the Careers Advisor

Students can now book a meeting time online through the [Daramalan Careers website](https://daramalan.act.edu.au/careers). If parents or guardians would like to attend for appointments before or after school, please email careers@daramalan.act.edu.au

2025 National Careers Week

This week is National Careers Week with the theme "Future Frontiers: Navigating New Career Pathways". Students have been able to take in the colourful display of 155 different job spotlights near the Canteen. This display has sparked conversations, eg. "What do a Principal and a Skydive Instructor have in common?" encouraged questions and hopefully prompted students to consider options beyond what they see and know. The job spotlights are grouped into Career Clusters.

Students and parents can take the Career Clusters quiz and explore more [HERE](#). Or find out more about the [JOB](#)

SPOTLIGHTS here. Which cluster do you identify with?

Upcoming Events

Monday 19 May UC Early Offer applications open

Tuesday 20 May UC Explore Day

Monday 26 May ANU supporting documentation deadline

Monday 16 June UOW Early Entry opens

Wednesday 25 June NSW Police Academy excursion to Goulburn (full)

Construction Course (White Card)

A reminder for those students who have recently completed the Induction to the Construction Industry course (White Card) - Students **MUST** apply for their White Card through Access Canberra within 60 days of the issuing of their transcript. They will need to apply online via the [Access Canberra](https://access.canberra.gov.au) website. If a student fails to apply within 60 days, they will need to re-enrol and pay for the course again. Note: this is an Access Canberra requirement.

Charles Sturt Advantage (Early Offer) Applications Now Open

Round 1 - Early bird applications close **Thursday 31 July** and offers will be made from **Monday 1 September**. [Students Apply Here](#)

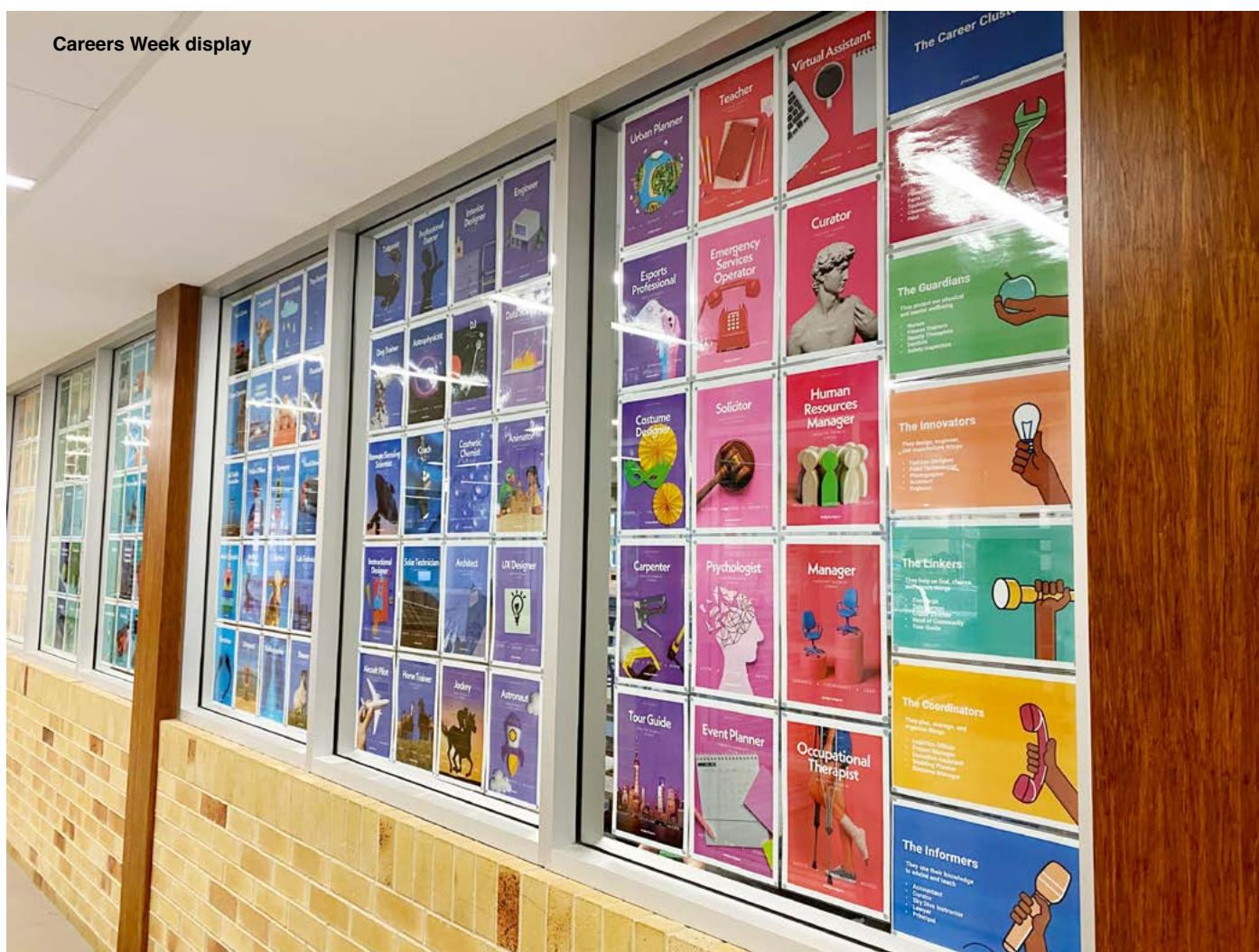
Southern Cross University

The SCU [Early Offer](#) program applications are open for 2026. This program allows students to gain entry into a Southern Cross University degree before their final Year 12 results are released.

UAC 2026 Applications

Domestic UAC applications for 2026 are now open.

Careers Week display



Careers News Cont...

International student applications opened Wednesday 16 April.

Just a reminder that institutions are still finalising the details of courses they will offer in 2026. Over the next few months, courses will continue to be added to the UAC website and the application. Institutions will complete their course updates by August.

[Download application key dates](#)

Educational Access Scheme

The Educational Access Scheme (EAS) helps UAC applicants who have encountered significant educational challenges. It gives them the opportunity to have their circumstances taken into account when institutions select applicants for courses. For assistance with EAS applications, please contact **Ms Annette Brady**.

Schools Recommendation Scheme

Information on the Schools Recommendation Scheme will be provided in Term 3.

CSU Career Discovery Series

When: Sessions run from **Tuesday 20 May – Thursday 22 May**, 6.00–7.30pm

Up next: Agriculture and Environmental Sciences

Where: Online via Zoom

- Hear from industry experts, academics, current students and graduates.
- Discover everything you need to know about the right course for you – including how to apply.
- Get your questions answered so you can kickstart your career with confidence.

[Register here](#)

Monash University - Webinar

[Discover Radiation Sciences, Medical Imaging and Radiography](#)

Date: **Wednesday 21 May**

Time: 5.30 – 6.30pm

Sydney Music Careers Expo – Tuesday 26 August

The Music Careers Expo is a free, one-day event for young people that provides you with insights and information on how to get a start in the Australian music industry.

Find out more information [HERE](#).

ADF Careers – Engineering Career Information Session

ADF Careers would like to invite students to an Australia Defence Force (ADF) Engineering Career Information Session happening at 6:00pm, on **Thursday 12 June**, in-person at Sydney ADF Careers Centre, Level 11/6 Hassall Street, Parramatta NSW 2150 or virtual via Microsoft Teams (select which method when registering). [REGISTER HERE](#).

SFC Pilot Academy Open Day, Tamworth Sunday 25 May

Experience the rare opportunity of free flights, simulator sessions, facility tours and chat with student pilots to hear about their experiences firsthand. Contact **Ms Brady** for more information.

Work Experience

Students in Years 10 to 12 can undertake work experience placements with the approval of the College. Finding an employer is the responsibility of the student and there

must be a meeting with Ms Brady to discuss the timing, legal requirements and documentation. Students may only attend work experience for one week during the semester. The completed 4-Way Agreement must be received by the College at least 7 days prior to the placement commencing. Contact careers@daramalan.act.edu.au for more information.

News from Work Study Grow

[Early Entry: Quick Facts](#)

Here are some interesting facts about early entry over the last year, and what you might be able to expect this year.

[High School Subject Selection – A guide for parents](#)

A subject selection guide for parents, with simple tips to help you support your teens while they make a decision.

[5 work experience ideas for students who love music](#)

Find out where your passion for music might take you by exploring your options through work experience - there's more than you might think.

[3 tips to find life balance as a student](#)

If you're feeling like you don't have enough hours in the week to get things done, we have some tips to help you find life balance.

[Open Days: Your ultimate guide to campus visits](#)

Wondering how to make the most of university open days? This blog covers everything you need to know, from what questions to ask, to how to prepare.



2026 SCHOLARSHIPS



AUSTRALIAN VETERANS' CHILDREN ASSISTANCE TRUST

HOW TO APPLY	ELIGIBILITY
Check your eligibility	Child or grandchild of ex-serving Australian veteran
Prep your paperwork	Full-time tertiary student at university, TAFE or RTO in 2026
Fill out the online form	Eligible for government means-tested educational payment in 2026
Upload required documents	Australian citizen or permanent resident
Submit by 31.10.2025	
AVCAT.ORG.AU	APPLICATIONS OPEN 18.08.2025



COMMUNITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The College invites members of the Daramalan family to use this Business Directory to locate businesses and services provided by the Daramalan College Community, including former students, Alumni, former staff and other supporters.

If you are in business, and would like to advertise in our Directory, please contact arina.yakovtseva@daramalan.act.edu.au or phone 6163 6523 for more information. Your small fee will go a long way to supporting our Scholarship Fund and your business will be promoted to the wider Daramalan College Community.

This week we are delighted to present the following businesses. [To search all advertisers, please use this link.](#)

Thank you for supporting our community!



ACT Cabs

ACT Cabs is the local and largest taxi service in Canberra. There are three options to book your Canberra taxi. You can book a taxi online, call the 24 hours ACT Cabs call centre or book and track your taxi using the ACT Cabs mobile app.

T: 02 6280 0077

E: info@actcabs.com.au

W: www.actcabs.com.au

F: [Facebook](#)



Ray White Rural Canberra/ Yass/ Murrumbateman

Residential and rural property sales and property management - Canberra, Hall, Murrumbateman and Yass.

151 Comur St Yass NSW 2582
Level 1, 18 National Cct, Barton ACT 2600

E: enquiries.ruralyass@raywhite.com

W: www.raywhiteruralyasscanberra.com.au

F: [Facebook](#)

I: [Instagram](#)



Australian National Character Check

ANCC enables individuals and approved legal entities to apply for a nationally coordinated criminal history check, which is commonly referred to as a national police check. The nationally coordinated criminal history check is valid all over Australia and can be used when applying for Employment, Probity, Licencing or Commonwealth check purposes.

PO Box 237, Fyshwick ACT 2609

T: Refer to Live Chat Service

E: support@ancc.com.au

W: www.australiannationalcharactercheck.com.au

COMMUNITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY CONT...

ACT Cabs	Hamza	www.actcabs.com.au
All IT Solution	Anthony Cataldo	www.allit.au
AllClass Carpet & Upholstery Care	Peter Nassar	www.allclasscarpetcare.com.au
Australian National Character Check	Hamza	www.australiannationalcharactercheck.com.au
CBR Recruitment	Adam Kowalski	www.cbrrecruitment.com.au
Cedar Husk Café	Nathan	https://www.instagram.com/cedarhusk/
Corver and Co Chartered Accountants	Trevor Corver	www.corverandco.com.au
Element Building Projects	Dennis and Aldona Stravopodis	www.elementbuildingprojects.com.au
Feisty Fox Security	Anna	www.feistyfoxsecurity.com
Griffin Legal	Claire Carton	www.griffinlegal.com.au
Holly Komorowski – home.byholly	Holly Komorowski	www.homebyholly.com.au
Kevin's Auto Repairs	Liesl Hussey	Phone: 6280 6994
Live Better Nutrition	Jeanette Ryan	www.livebetternutrition.com.au
OAUM Securities	Obieze (Obi) Moneke	www.oaum.com.au
Orthodontics Canberra	Vicki Boyd	www.ortho.net.au
Pacific Facilities Maintenance	Justin Hyland	www.pacificfm.com.au
Pinnacle Driving School	Lisa Murphy	www.Pinnacledrivingschool.com.au
Q1 Dental Care	Dr Susan Leonera-Salazar	www.q1dentalcare.com.au
Ray White Canberra		www.raywhitecanberra.com.au
Ray White Rural Canberra-Yass	Simon or George Southwell	www.raywhiteruralyasscanberra.com.au
Red Shed	Sonja Balic	www.redshed.org.au
Sentinel Security & Technology Group	Ellena	www.sstg.com.au
Snowdrop Social Media	Genevieve	www.snowdropsocialmedia.com.au
The Athlete's Foot	Ashleigh Hogan	www.theathletesfoot.com.au
The Energy People	Alex Morrison	www.energypeople.com.au

Do you own a business and want to support the local community?

Consider advertising your services to the larger Daramalan community.

We are excited to announce our Term 1 Special! For just \$70, your business will be featured on the school and Alumni website until the end of the financial year. Additionally, your business will be highlighted in Daranews, the school's monthly newsletter, and on our Alumni social media platforms, which have over 5,000 followers.

All funds raised from annual subscriptions will be donated to the Daramalan College Scholarship Fund to support eligible families whose situation would exclude them from giving their child an MSC education.

Contact **Ms Arina Yakovtseva** for more information arina.yakovtseva@daramalan.act.edu.au and our website <https://www.daramalan.act.edu.au/our-school/community/community-business-directory/>