

DARANNEWS

28 November 2025

WEBSITE

DARANET



Volunteer Cambodia Community Centre

Upcoming events

28 November

Year 10 End of Academic Classes
Year 12 Graduation Dinner

1 December

P2-3 Year 10 Mass & Awards
5:30 Year 10 Social Event

3 December

2026 Peer Support Training
5pm Year 12 Mass & Awards

5 December

Year 7 2026 Orientation Day

8 December

6:00pm Carols Evening

9 December

Years 7-9 Community Day

10 December

Years 7 - 9 Mass & Awards
End of Term 4

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

From the Principal



Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

Welcome to the final edition of Daranews for 2025! I can hardly believe that we are already at the end of another year. As we make our way through the final

weeks of the school year, I have been reflecting on the year that has past and how quickly it has slipped away! At the opening assembly for 2025, our Year of Hospitality, I challenged our students and staff to be, as Pope Francis urged us, pilgrims of hope in this a jubilee year for the wider Catholic Church. My question in February was: how can you transform our corner of the universe by being people who plant seeds of love not fear? Throughout 2025 I have witnessed day in and day out, moments of Hospitality and welcome in all aspects of our community from the recent overwhelming number of donations to the Christmas Appeal,

the lunchtime clubs and competitions filled with friendly rivalry and laughter, through to the House Spirit on display in the generous support of our eight House Charities. The opportunities to be involved have grown and thrived again this year. The number of students who have immersed themselves, alongside their peers and our staff, in the wide range of co-curricular activities and clubs, in addition to the lunchtime activities and events has been amazing. In addition to each of these, our students were also able to experience the rich learning opportunities that come through overseas, interstate and local tours, excursions and immersions. To this end, I would like to thank and acknowledge all the staff who have volunteered their time, often long after the school day has ended, to provide these opportunities for our students. 2025 has certainly been a whirlwind of activity and has disappeared in the blink of an eye. I am sure that many of our staff, students and families are looking forward to a well-earned break over summer and time spent with family and friends.

From the Principal

MSC Superior General and General Council Members Visit

On Wednesday 12 November we had the privilege of welcoming members of the MSC General Leadership team who were visiting the Australian Province from Rome. The MSC Superior General, **Fr Abzalón Tovar MSC**, the MSC Vicar General, **Fr Chris Chaplin MSC**, and the MSC Assistant General, **Br Simon Lumpini MSC**, along with **Fr Tru Nguyen MSC**, shared morning tea with our staff, toured the College, visited our Year 7 Reflection Day, the deGAFF exhibition and marvelled at the Year 12 eagle chalk drawing before meeting with our 2026 College Leaders. When Fr Abzalón spoke with our staff and our student leaders, he reflected on the important role that MSC schools, around the world, play in keeping alive the charism and ethos of Jules Chevalier and the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. Our visitors were even treated to gelato with our Year 12 students which made them feel right at home!

Year 7 Retreat Days

During Week 15, our Year 7 students from O'Brien, Goolagong, Lawson and Phillip Houses participated in their Retreat Days which were facilitated by our Year 10 Youth Ministry students. The Retreats were focussed on "Being MSC". The program drew upon the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart (MSC) charism of "Heart Spirituality" and its ethos and values. Through the activities on the day, the students had the opportunity to consider how they might live out this ethos in their own life and as members of the Daramalan community. I would like to thank **Ms Amy Thomas**, **Ms Tina Watson** and **Mr Matt Cresswell** for their organisation and oversight to bring this rich opportunity to fruition for our students. I would also like to acknowledge our Year 10 students for their facilitation of the days along with the Pastoral Care Advisors and the Year 7 Pastoral Tutors for their work with the students on the two days.

Senior Examinations and AST Familiarisation

I would like to commend our Year 11 and 12 students for the manner in which they approached and undertook their recent end of semester examinations. I would also like to

acknowledge the work of **Mr Ben Stein** and **Ms Heike Craig** to enable the examinations to occur seamlessly. Following the formal examinations, our Year 11 students participated in AST (ACT Scaling Test) familiarisation sessions. The AST is the only external examination sat by our senior students and takes place in Term 3 of Year 12 for those students studying a T package and who are seeking university entrance.

Year 10 Transition Program

This week our Year 10 students have been participating in a specifically designed transition program in preparation for their move to Senior Secondary Studies next year. The program included sessions on our College theme for 2026, Study Skills, Research and Writing Skills, Organisation and Time Management, Wellbeing and an overview of the key features of the ACT Senior Secondary system. The students also completed modules on generative AI including AI ethics, safety and academic integrity. The program concluded with those students studying a T package next year completing AST familiarisation sessions, and our Year 10 students who will be studying a non-tertiary pathway, or Accredited package, in their senior years, attended sessions specifically aligned with this pathway option facilitated by our Assistant Principal Teaching and Learning, **Mr Nic Whatman**, Careers Advisor, **Ms Annette Brady**, and Vocational Education Coordinator, **Ms Jane Waddleton**. I would like to acknowledge and thank all of the staff who facilitated the program at this very busy time of year including **Ms Lucy Cronan**, our Information Centre staff, **Ms Melinda Cashman**, **Ms Emma Cox** and **Ms Heidi Horwood**, along with our counselling staff and **Ms Amy Thomas** and the Religious Education team.

End of Year

I am delighted that we continue to be able to welcome our families and wider community onsite for our end of year events. I would, however, like to take this opportunity to remind those families looking to attend our ceremonies that parking at the College is extremely limited, especially for those events held during school hours. This has been compounded by the refurbishment works taking place in the Garratt wing with overflow parking not available in the Dempsey Quad as has been the case in previous years. Staff will be available on these mornings to direct parking through the Wasson Gates



From the Principal

which are located off Cowper Street between the Sharpe and Issoudun buildings.

This evening our Year 12 students and their parents will be gathering at the National Convention Centre to share a meal and hospitality for their Graduation Dinner. I would like to acknowledge **Ms Yvonne Turnbull** for her work behind the scenes in organising an event of this size. Our Year 12 students and their families will come together for the final time next Wednesday evening to celebrate the past six years of secondary schooling with their Year 12 Graduation Mass and Awards Ceremony here at the College. My thanks are extended to all the staff who have been involved in the preparations and organisation of these wonderful celebrations.

Today is the final day of classes for our Year 10 students for this year. We will gather on Monday morning to celebrate Mass and recognise the achievements of the students at the Year 10 Awards Ceremony. It will be followed by a social function here for students at the College in the evening.

Our Years 7-9 Mass and Award Ceremony will be held on the final day of the school year, **Wednesday 10 December**. This is such a wonderful way to celebrate the end of the school year as a community. The previous day, **Tuesday 9 December**, our Years 7-9 students will be participating in community activities at Dickson Pool. Further information about the specific format of both of these days will be disseminated in the coming days.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate each and every one of our students on what they have achieved this year. As I mentioned to students when we met for the final time as a whole school earlier this term, I continue to be amazed and delighted by the number of students who have immersed themselves in the wide-range of co-curricular activities and clubs, in addition to the lunchtime activities and

events that are offered here at the College. I feel like we need a bigger calendar to fit in all of the events, activities and opportunities that have been made possible throughout this year. I know that there have been days where I wasn't able to get to all of the events and activities as there were so many things happening! In addition to these activities are the wonderful opportunities that have been available to our students both inside and out of the classroom enabling rich learning to occur. These rich experiences are continuing to take place even though the school year is coming to an end. Over the past week a number of our Year 12 students have been in Cambodia as part of the Sustainable Futures Project, where they have built a new home, clean water bore, toilet block and solar battery system. I had the privilege of joining them online for the blessing of the home on Wednesday morning. It was a truly moving experience. I would like to thank **Mr James Keeley**, **Ms Caitlin Semmler** and **Mr Alex Hesterman** for accompanying the students on this once in a lifetime experience. You will be able to read more about their journey and see the images in the following pages of this edition of Daranews. Travelling today to Melbourne as part of the Catholic Youth Festival are **Ms Tina Watson**, **Mr Matt Creswell** and **Ms Helen Close** who will be accompanying five of our students to the festival. Once in Melbourne, they will meet up with students and staff from Monivae and Chevalier Colleges and will participate in a day of formation at the MSC Blackburn Parish as well as the activities of the festival itself over the following days. Whilst in January, our Snowsports students will be travelling to Japan for their tour. I would like to thank **Mr James Keeley** for his organisation and initial planning of the tour, and **Mr Dean Parkes**, **Mr Brendan Collis** and **Ms Sophie Peacock** who will be accompanying our students. We wish them safe travels and an amazing experience.

A number of special awards will be presented at each of the ceremonies for academic, co-curricular and community achievements and I would like to congratulate all of the recipients of these awards. The list of award recipients will be published in the 2025 Yearbook.



Caden being blessed by a Monk in Cambodia



Georgina handing over the keys to the house in Cambodia

From the Principal

As a staff we will gather and celebrate 2025 with our Staff Advent Mass, celebrated by our Chaplain, **Fr Tru Nguyen MSC** and followed by a shared lunch, on **Friday 12 December**. The College Office will be closed on this day to enable all our staff to participate in this special day.

Many staff are involved in the planning and running of these events with much of their work occurring behind the scenes, so I thank each of them for their contributions. I would like to especially acknowledge **Ms Amy Thomas, Ms Angela Dunn, Mr Ben Stein, Ms Lucy Cronan, Mr Steve Carroll, Ms Hilda Visser-Scott**, the House Coordinators, Pastoral Care Advisors and Pastoral Tutors, and **Ms Sonja Tajmer, Ms Yvonne Turnbull, Ms Arina Yakovtseva, Ms Heather Chapman**, the student tech team, and the College Maintenance Team for their tireless work behind the scenes. I would also like to thank Fr Tru for celebrating each of our end of year Masses with us. We are truly blessed to have an MSC Chaplain who can share these liturgical celebrations with our community.

Holiday and End of Year Arrangements

Families are asked to please be aware of the following dates as the school year comes to a close:

- **Wednesday 10 December** - Years 7-9 students finish school at approximately 12.30pm after their Awards Ceremony.
- **Thursday 11 December** - Reception will close at 4.00pm.
- **Friday 12 December** – Reception will be closed all day.
- **Monday 16 December - Friday 19 December** – Reception hours are from 9.00am – 4.00pm.
- The College Reception will reopen on **Monday 19 January 2026** at 9.00am.

Teaching staff and many Support Staff finish work for the year at 12 noon **Friday 12 December** so emails and phone calls after this date may not receive a response until school resumes for 2026. Full-time staff return to work on **Wednesday 28 January 2026**.

Families needing to access the Uniform Shop over the holiday period are advised to check the College website for opening hours.

Term Dates for 2026

Families are reminded that Year 7 and new students (Years 8-12) return to school on Monday 2 February. All students, including Year 11 students, return to school on Tuesday 3 February.

The Term dates for 2026 are:

Term 1

Monday 2 February- First Day for Year 7 and new students
Tuesday 3 February- All students return
Thursday 2 April - Last day of term

Term 2

Tuesday 21 April- Friday 26 June
Monday 20 April is a pupil free day for all students

Term 3

Tuesday 21 July – Friday 25 September
Year 12 students will return Monday 20 July to attend their Reflection/Retreat camp at Stanwell Tops
Monday 20 July is a pupil free day for Years 7-11 students

Term 4

Monday 12 October- Wednesday 9 December

Return of Books

We ask all students to ensure that textbooks and Information Centre resources are returned by **Tuesday 9 December**, please. It is important that books are returned so that they can be processed and organised for the start of 2026. Thank you for your assistance with this.

All students should ensure their locker is cleared before **Tuesday 9 December** with only limited items being required for the events and activities held on the following day.

Semester 2 Academic Reports

Families will be able to access and download their student's Semester 2 Academic Report through Daranet from **Monday 15 December**.

Families who are departing the College at the end of 2025 are reminded to download copies of their student's Academic Reports from Daranet prior to **Wednesday 24 December** as access to the platform will not be available after this date.

2025 Yearbook

The 2025 Yearbook will be distributed to students in Years 7-9 on **Wednesday 10 December**. Students in Year 12 will be given the Yearbook on **Wednesday 17 December** from 10.00am - 3.00pm when they come to the College to collect their Senior Secondary Certificate, Tertiary Entrance Statements and Vocational Certificates, as long as all textbooks and other resources they have out on loan have been returned.

Students in Years 10 and 11 may collect their Yearbooks from



From the Principal

Reception on **Wednesday 10 December** from 12noon until 4.00pm or when the Year 12 Senior Secondary Certificates are being issued on **Wednesday 17 December** from 10.00am – 3.00pm.

Yearbooks will also be available in PT classes at the start of 2026 for returning students.

Please note: It is essential that students have returned all textbooks, library books and other school resources before they are issued with a Yearbook.

2026 Enrolments

We have a significant number of families seeking places in each of our year groups for 2026 where there are currently no vacancies. If your child is currently in Years 7-11, and will not be returning to Daramalan next year, we ask that you let us know as soon as possible so we can assist other families. Please do this by notifying the Registrar, **Ms Damaris Brown**, via the email enrolments@daramalan.act.edu.au.

Social Media Age Restrictions

From **Wednesday 10 December** Australian young people under 16 will not be allowed to create or hold accounts on certain social media platforms. Whilst the legislation does not come into effect until 10 December, a number of platforms have already begun the process of disabling accounts where they believe that the owner is below the age of 16. Whilst the legislation is not a ban, it is a delay to having accounts. Being logged into an account increases the exposure under-16s have to design features that encourage them to spend more time on screens, while serving up content that can harm their health and wellbeing. The delay is an opportunity for them to build their digital literacy skills and resilience. The restrictions are likely to apply to Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, X (formerly Twitter) and YouTube, among other platforms. In order to help families to continue to navigate these changes, the College has created a resource area on Daranet for families to access reliable information and resources in the lead up to the changes. We will continue to update this area of Daranet as we receive resources from experts such as the eSafety Commissioner. [Daranet Social Media Age Restriction resources](#).

Second Hand Uniform Donations

As the 2025 school year draws to a close, I would urge any families with uniform items which are in good condition that no longer fit or if your child is finishing either Year 10 or Year 12, to please consider donating them to be recycled and sold as part of our second-hand uniform stock. All proceeds from the sale of second-hand uniforms are donated to the College

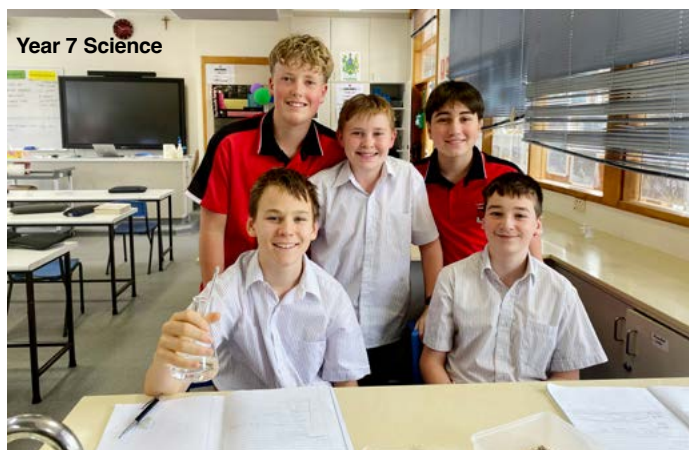
Scholarship Fund. Donating items not only helps families within our community who may be struggling financially but is also an excellent way to fulfil our mission of caring for creation and the environment by limiting the number of clothing items that end up in land fill. Donations can be dropped off at the College Reception at any time between now and the end of the school year once items are no longer required to be worn. We would just ask that items are clean and that only Daramalan academic and sports uniform items are donated. Details of the Second-Hand Uniform Sale held prior to the start of the 2026 school year will be disseminated closer to the time. Thank you in advance for your support with this very important initiative.

College Board

I would like to thank all the members of the College Board led by **Mr Michael Munro-Mobbs** and **Mr Nathan Spillane**, who give generously of their time and expertise and are very supportive of the College. I would also like to acknowledge the support and expertise of Directors in enabling our two refurbishment projects, the Sharpe Wing refurbishment and the significant works refurbishing the Garratt Sports Centre changerooms and office spaces, to come to life. Their diligence and discernment in overseeing the College's Strategic Priorities which guide our work through the School Improvement Plan on a day-to-day basis has also been invaluable. I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Ms Sandra Fisher** for her work over many years as a seconded member of the Building, Facilities, Resources and IT Board subcommittee following her decision to step down from the committee earlier in the year.

Parents and Friends

The final P&F meeting for 2025 was held on Wednesday 5 November. The P&F's continuation of their support of the Charity Walk enabled us to continue our support of charities, MacKillop House and the St Nick's St Vincent de Paul Young Carers' program which was much appreciated. The fourth College bus purchased by the P&F at the end of 2023 has been greatly valued and has been in demand throughout the year. The recent addition of the College branding wrap has made the bus an excellent source of advertising for the College. I wish to thank **Mr Guy Dimmock** in his role as P&F President and also the other Committee members including **Ms Georgie Ovin**, **Ms Jada Abbey**, **Ms Felicity Toohey**, **Ms Natalie Pooley** and **Mr Nick Watson**. I would also like to acknowledge the parents and carers who volunteered their time this year. Your support is always invaluable. The AGM for the Parents and Friends will be held on **Wednesday 18 March 2026** at 6.30pm.



From the Principal

Student Achievements

As the year comes to a close, I am continually amazed and in awe of the achievements of our students.

Congratulations to the Daramalan Theatre Company on receiving seven nominations for the Canberra Area Theatre (CAT) Awards:

Best youth actress in a featured role in a play: **Isabella Fraser** (Year 11) (as Nurse in Romeo and Juliet)



Best youth actress in a featured role in a musical: **Isabella Fraser** (as Madame Bellington in MIDNIGHT the Cinderella Musical)



Best youth actress in a leading role in a play: **Evie Nicholls** (Year 10) (as Juliet in Romeo and Juliet)



Best youth actor in a leading role in a musical: **Archie Edwards** (Year 11) (as Prince Charming in MIDNIGHT the Cinderella Musical)



Best youth actress in a leading role in a musical: **Tessa Pocock** (Year 9) (as Cinderella in MIDNIGHT the Cinderella Musical)



Best direction of a school or youth play: **Mr Joe Woodward** (Romeo and Juliet)



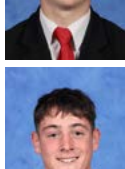
Best production of a school or youth play: Romeo and Juliet

Our congratulations are also extended to:

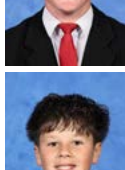
Ivy Hartwig (Year 10) on her selection as a member of the Australian Women's Volleyball team.



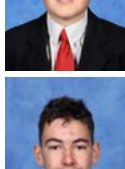
Hayden Armstrong (Year 9) on his selection as part of the Brumbies 7s squad to tour NZ.



Cooper Leslie (Year 10) who was the U16 Brumbies Captain for the recent Super Rugby competition.



Nick Spasenoski (Year 7) who has been selected to trial with CD Leganes Madrid Football Club early next year.



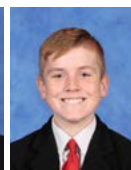
Mitchell Power (Year 8) who has been selected as a member of the ACT U15 Cricket squad and will compete in WA next year.



Addison Cicchini (Year 8) recently competed at the National Cheer Championships in Melbourne.



Bridie Iglewski and **William O'Rourke** (Year 7) who will be competing at the All-Schools Athletics Championships.



Ruby Holden and **Aria Wallace** (Year 11) who recently competed at the Australian National Busking Championships in Cooma. Congratulations to Ruby on winning the Secondary Division and to Aria who received the People's Choice and Unique Performance award at the championships.



Congratulations to our Japanese students who achieved success at the ACT High School Japanese Speech contest earlier this month: Year 7 Division: **Josie Willmore** (First place); **Alexandra Linardakis** (Second place)



Year 8 Division: **Jessica Bolton** (Third place)



Year 9 Division: **Tom McAlary** (First place)



Staff Changes

At the end of this year, we will be farewelling a number of staff, both long-term members of our community and those who have been with us for a short period time. I would like to thank each of these staff for the contributions they have made to our College.

Retiring at the end of 2025 is **Ms Dale Seaman** after 40 years as the College Inclusive Education (IET) Coordinator bringing to a close 50 years as an educator. On behalf of the countless students and their families who Dale supported in their transition to High School and throughout their Daramalan journey, we extend our sincere thanks for your patience, humour and, at times, persistence and perseverance, and our very best wishes for your well-earned retirement. Also retiring at the end of the 2025 school year is **Ms Mandy Peacock**. As the Executive Assistant to the Principal since 2013, Mandy has been an integral member of our College community and a guiding hand to two Principals, firstly Rita Daniels and subsequently me, and also to the many iterations of the Executive team throughout this time and the College Board. On behalf of all of us who have worked alongside you Mandy, I extend immense gratitude and thanks.

Following her leave in 2025, **Ms Melissa O'Brien** has made the decision to resign from her position at the College to pursue further study and opportunities outside of teaching. We extend our thanks to Mel for her 20 years of service to the College as a Teacher Librarian and teacher of History and HASS. We wish Mel much success in her new career. Taking up positions at other ACT Colleges in 2026 are **Ms Annie**

From the Principal

Anderson, Mr Andrew Digan and Ms Natalie Anderson. We wish Annie, Andrew and Natalie much success in their new roles and thank them for their respective contributions to Daramalan over many years of service. Relocating to Queensland following his leave in 2025 is **Mr David Kerr.** We wish David and his family all the best for their move closer to family. Also relocating interstate to be closer to her family is **Ms Michelle Chambers.** We thank Michelle for her contributions to our community especially in the Textiles and Design area since rejoining our community. We also wish **Ms Emma Durant** all the best for the future and extend our thanks for her contributions to our College beyond her role as Visual Arts Assistant, as she and her family relocate interstate in the new year.

Taking leave for the entirety of 2026 is **Ms Tarni Magyar.** Also on leave for 2026 are **Ms Megan Kelly, Ms Alison Baker, Ms Kavita Jogia and Ms Gianna Gaspari,** all of whom are expecting their first child in the new year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge the Executive team who have stepped seamlessly into different portfolios and roles during 2025 and to **Ms Lucy Cronan** who joined the Executive team for her work as Acting Assistant Principal Curriculum and Assessment (Years 7-10) this year. Lucy will return to her role as Performing Arts Coordinator in 2026.

As the year comes to a close, I would like to finish by thanking all of our families for your support again this year. To those who are leaving Daramalan, may you take with you many good memories of your time with us. My hope is that you continue to be people of heart wherever you may be.

I look forward to welcoming our Year 7 and new students on **Monday 2 February** and the remainder of the College on **Tuesday 3 February** as we begin our Year of Forgiveness.

My best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a peaceful and relaxing holiday filled with opportunities to spend time with family and friends. I hope to see many of our families at our end of year events including our Carols evening on **Monday 8 December** at 6pm in the Issoudun Performing Arts Centre.

Best wishes,



Rachel Davies

Principal

House Ceremony Certificates in Cambodia



A gentle reminder that all outstanding school fees for 2025 are due in full by 12 December 2025. Late fees may be applied if your account is not settled by this day.

If you would like to begin paying now for 2026 school fees, please email fees@daramalan.act.edu.au and a member of our team will contact you to help set up a payment plan.

Sustainable Futures Project: Cambodia Trip

Sustainable Futures: A Journey of Service, Culture and Connection

From the excitement of departing Canberra to the final blessing in Siem Reap, the Sustainable Futures Project was more than a trip, it was a transformative experience. Over six days, Daramalan students and staff partnered with Volunteer Building Cambodia (VBC) to construct a new home, clean water bore, toilet block and solar battery system for Seng, Kaorm and their two children. People from the local streets also joined in, creating a powerful sense of community and solidarity.

The journey began with wonder at Angkor Wat's sunrise, the mystery of Bayon's carved faces, and the jungle reclaiming Ta Prohm. Students explored bustling markets, tasted local delicacies, and reflected on the fragility and resilience of human achievement. But the heart of the trip was the build: lifting frames into place under the Cambodian sun, painting cladding, and sharing laughter with local children who turned offcuts into toys.

Daily reflections revealed profound insights:

- "This is what it's all about—the whole point of life. Helping others, living simply, and focusing on what really matters."
- "Even with barriers, we found moments of genuine connection. That's what makes this experience so special."
- "The family isn't just the mum, dad, and kids, it's the whole community. Everyone came together to build this house, and that was beautiful to see."

- "I got on the bus feeling exhausted, but it was a different kind of tired, real and simple. It made me think about how much I stress over things that don't matter back home."

Students also experienced the floating village of Kampong Phluk, sunset over Tonle Sap, and a cooking class that deepened their appreciation for Cambodian culture. The final blessing ceremony was emotional. Hugs, wristbands, and tears of gratitude underscored the impact of this shared journey.

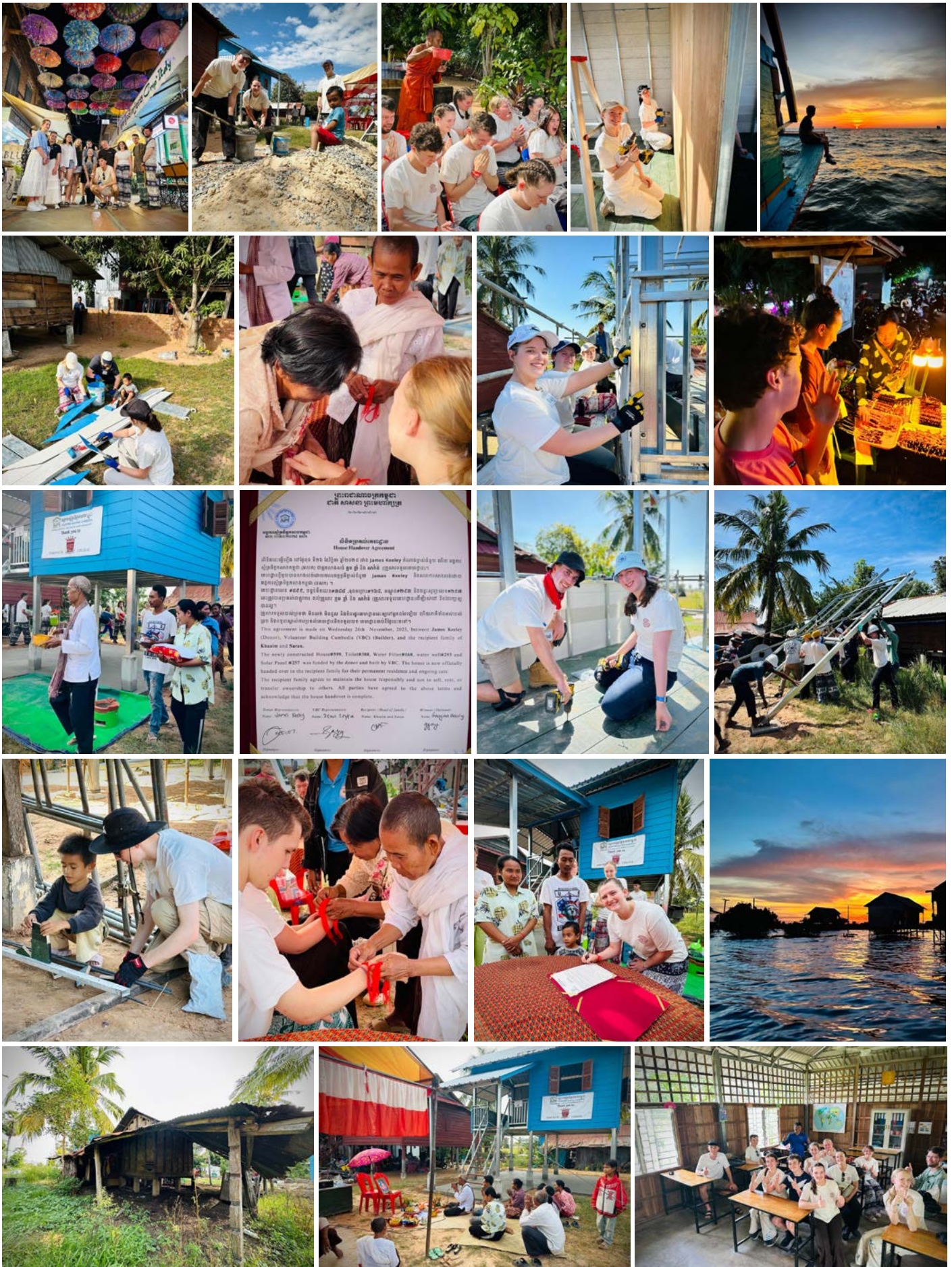
As one member of the group reflected, "We didn't just build a house, we built a home, hope and a future. We changed lives, including our own." This project reminds us that service is not theory at Daramalan, it is a call to action. It is love made tangible. And it is something we will continue to pursue as a community committed to making a difference.

Special thanks to **Georgina Geary**, our 2025 Environment Captain, whose motivation and leadership brought this project to life. Supported through a P&F grant, we also extend our gratitude to every member of the Daramalan community who contributed, whether through Earth Day donations, recycling cans, one off donation's or by supporting the market stalls.

Your small acts of generosity have created a profound and lasting impact for a family in need and are a great way to finish off the Year of Hospitality.



Sustainable Futures Project: Cambodia Trip Cont...



Counsellors Hub

Preparing for the End of the School Year: How to Access Mental Health Supports and Counselling Services

As we are nearing the end of the school year, the Counselling Team would like to take this opportunity to provide students and their families with important information about accessing external mental health support beyond school counselling. Due to the nature of our counselling services, we will not be available to provide counselling outside of term time. Therefore, no counsellors will be available between **Wednesday 10 December 2025** until **Monday 2 February 2026**. Referrals will also not be available during this time.

We recommend that students and their families access the various mental health and wellbeing resources on the [Daranet Counsellors page](#) - [Click here for a list of External Mental Health and Crisis services](#).

Each year all current counselling students are discharged as clients, and this will occur at the end of Term 4 2025. A new referral form can then be completed at the start of the next school year, which will also provide the Counselling Team with important and updated information

about concerns should the student wish to recommence counselling in Term 1 2026.

We also recommend accessing the following external services – particularly over the Summer holiday but earlier if required - should a student and/or their parents/ carers require crisis or mental health support:

How to Talk to your Children about Mental Health

I'm supporting a young person - <https://headspace.org.au/explore-topics/supporting-a-young-person/wellbeing/>
<https://headspace.org.au/parents/>



Library

Summer Borrowing

Students and staff are welcome to borrow books and magazines to read over the Summer break. We have a range of biographies amongst our new books, come up to the Library and check them out. If you are stuck for ideas, we hope you will find some inspiration in the recommendations below.

Currently reading:

Erin Gabbitas (Year 10) – Babel by R.F Kuang

Ms Melinda Cashman – The Salt Path by Raynor Winn

Kobe Petrovic (Year 8) – The Pale Horseman by Bernard Cornwell

Ms Emma Cox – A Gentleman in Moscow

Ms Heidi Horwood – The Eighth Life by Nino Haratischwili

Mr Jono Hall – France on Trial: The case of Marshal Petain

Summer Reading Suggestions:

Erin Gabbitas (Year 10) – The Naturals by Jennifer Lynn Arnes

Ms Melinda Cashman – Boleyn Traitor by Philippa Gregory

Ms Emma Cox – Nevermoor: The Trials of Morrigan Crow

Lachlan Huby (Year 10) – The Skin I'm In

Mr Jono Hall – Ghost Cities by Siang Lu



Social Justice

2025 Year in Review

World's Greatest Shave – A Phenomenal Success

The Daramalan community once again rallied behind an important cause, making this year's World's Greatest Shave a truly outstanding event. With the incredible support of Pura Holistic Hair, who generously donated their time and expertise, the event raised just under \$12,000 for the Leukaemia Foundation. Their contribution ensured the day ran smoothly and created an uplifting, celebratory atmosphere for all involved.

A huge congratulations to our brave participants: **Tahlia Parkinson** (Year 7), **Jake Harmer** (Year 9), **Rory Arneman**, **Roy Halliday**, **Kiran Isbister**, **Sonal Perera**, **James Clarke**, **Harry Hynd** (Year 11), **George Covey**, **Tom Walsh**, **Millar Walters**, **Hamish Beardsley** (Year 12), **Mr Dean Parkes** and **Ms Jacqueline Dimmock** (Staff).

Your courage and commitment have made a tangible difference to families impacted by blood cancer.

2025 St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal

Our Vinnies Christmas Appeal has been running over the past few weeks, and once again the Daramalan community has shown its generosity and compassion. The Christmas Appeal is one of the cornerstones of our Social Justice calendar because it reminds us that dignity, support and kindness are gifts every family deserves, especially during the holiday season.

Through donations of food, essential items and festive treats, our community directly supports families across Canberra who may otherwise struggle at this time of year. Every contribution helps ease financial pressure, brings joy to children, and strengthens the connection between our school and the wider community. Thank you to all students, families and staff who have given so generously.

Vinnies Night Patrol – Celebrating Our Unsung Hero

A special mention must be made of **Ms Libbi Wilson**, whose dedication to the Vinnies Night Patrol has been nothing short of extraordinary. Libbi's selflessness, unwavering commitment and quiet determination have made a profound impact on both staff and students involved. Her passion for service work sets a powerful example of what it means to live out the values at the heart of the Daramalan community. We thank her sincerely for the countless hours she has devoted this year.

Thank You and Farewell – Social Justice Captain, Sophie Neighbour

As the year comes to a close, we extend a heartfelt thank you to **Sophie Neighbour**, our 2025 Social Justice Captain, who graduates this year. Sophie has been an outstanding leader, passionate, reliable, creative and deeply committed to supporting others. Her impact stretches far beyond what she will ever truly know.

Sophie has worked alongside a remarkable team of student volunteers, and together they have achieved significant milestones across all areas of community support this year. Sophie leaves behind a legacy of compassion, leadership and service that will inspire Social Justice teams for years to come.

Looking Ahead to 2026 – New Leadership

We are excited to announce that in 2026, **Ms Carlie Dwyer** will step into the role of Social Justice Facilitator, bringing her energy, experience and heart for service to the position. Additionally, **James Clarke** will take on the role of Social Justice Captain, continuing his strong involvement and leadership within our community.

We wish them both every success and have no doubt they will guide the program with enthusiasm, compassion and dedication.

Thank You, Daramalan

2025 has been a remarkable year of giving, service and community spirit. Thank you to every student, staff member and family who contributed in any way. Together.



Ikale Pasifika

2025 marked an exciting milestone as a newly formed cultural group, Ikale (Eagle) Pasifika began its inspiring journey at Daramalan College of sharing heritage, fostering unity, and strengthening school spirit through the power of culture, song and dance.

Ikale Pasifika's purpose is to create a space where students can express their cultural values and traditions while forming meaningful connections with one another and with the college community. Through weekly rehearsals filled with lively atmosphere, shared knowledge and collaborative creativity, our students have embraced both their individual backgrounds and their collective voice. Their focus on cultural pride and community connection has already begun to shape a more inclusive and welcoming environment.

Their recent performance at the Mana Pasifika Show Case was nothing short of amazing. With red and black handmade costumes, powerful harmonies and energetic

choreography, the group brought the audience to its feet. Each song and movement told a story - a celebration of faith, resilience and unity. A crowd of over 700 people were captivated not only by the artistry but also by the passion and conviction behind the performance.

A huge thank you to our wonderful staff **Ms Heather Chapman, Ms Helen Steel, Ms Carina Merritt, Ms Vivienne Thurgar, Ms Toni Purdy and Ms Dale Seaman** for making our costumes. Your time and contribution to this group have made a tremendous impact.

The success of the showcase highlighted the group's dedication and the impact they are making in such a short time. More than just performers, they have become ambassadors of Daramalan College reminding us of the richness that diversity brings to our college community.

As Ikale Pasifika continue to grow, the group remains committed to their mission: fostering a deeper connection to Daramalan College through culture, creativity and shared experience. Their journey has only just begun and we cannot wait to see where their journey takes them next.

Ms Sepiuta Hawke and Ms Millie Henry



Business and Government

Year 11 Legal and Global Studies Excursion to Parliament House

On Tuesday 29 October, **Ms Eve Fitzpatrick's** Year 11 Legal and Global Studies students participated in an exciting excursion to Parliament House. This visit provided a valuable opportunity for the students to experience the workings of the legislative system firsthand.

The day began with the students engaging in a simulated Senate Committee Inquiry, a process they had prepared for diligently in teams over the preceding week. The subject under discussion was the potential role of nuclear energy in Australia. Students took on various roles: some acted as Senators from the Standing Committee on Economics Legislation, while others represented a range of interest groups such as environmental groups, First Nations advocacy organisations, nuclear scientists and international agencies, offering different perspectives and information to the committee. The students approached this simulation with focus and professionalism, demonstrating a strong understanding of policy debate and committee procedures, and enjoying the opportunity to put their debating skills into action.

Later, the students had a chance to meet with several political and media figures, asking their key elected representatives questions about the issues most important to them and about their working lives. They spoke with **Minister Katy Gallagher** (ACT Senator), directing questions around her roles as the Minister for Finance and Minister for Women, such as the gender pay gap and taxation of mining companies. They also met with **Senator David Pocock** to discuss important issues such as political integrity, lobbying reform, and the challenges of maintaining a personal identity within politics. Additionally, **Millie Muroi**, a journalist with The Sydney Morning Herald, shared her insights as an early career journalist into managing bias in reporting and the evolving use of AI in modern journalism.

To conclude the excursion, the group observed the ever-exciting Question Time in the House of Representatives. This session, which was particularly dynamic due to the recent release of new inflation data, gave the students a direct view of the opposition and crossbench MPs questioning the Government. The students represented the College incredibly well throughout the day, a testament to their ongoing hard work.

Thank you to **Ms Eve Fitzpatrick** and **Ms Bianca Ross** for accompanying our students on the day.



Science

Year 7

Year 7 have been doing lots of hands-on experiments as they explore techniques like filtration, evaporation and chromatography to separate substances. These activities help students understand how everyday processes - like purifying water or extracting salt - are grounded in scientific principles.



Year 8

Year 8 students have been learning about layers of the Earth and how the rocks around us can tell a story that could be millions of years old. They constructed scaled models of the Earth's layers to highlight the relative size and composition of each.



Year 10

As the school year draws to a close, our Year 10 students are wrapping up what, for some, will be their final Science unit - and what a way to finish! They've been diving into the mysteries of the universe, asking big questions about space, time, and the forces that shape our cosmos.

Students used balloons and foil to model the dramatic collapse of a massive star into a neutron star. This simulation helped bring to life the immense pressures and forces at play in the universe's most extreme environments.



Year 11

Year 11 students have been exploring the respiratory systems of different animals. As part of their practical work, they dissected an insect to investigate how structures relate to function. Students examined a pluck – a highlight was inflating the lungs to test how much the tissue can expand.



Year 12 Excursion to the Canberra Hospital

Our Year 12 Biology students had the unique opportunity to visit Canberra Hospital for an excursion focused on disease and infection control. During the visit, students examined diseased specimens up close, deepening their understanding of pathology and the biological impacts of various illnesses. The excursion also highlighted the hospital's rigorous infection prevention protocols. We had a guest speaker from the Pathology Department who shared his education journal from university to his current position. He spoke about how his pathway was not straightforward and the need to make some brave choices about your future when you realise that the course you're in might not be what you want to be doing.

A big thank you to the staff at Canberra Hospital for hosting our students and inspiring the next generation of health professionals!



ICAS

We are proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students in the ICAS Science Competition. This challenging exam tests scientific knowledge and critical thinking skills, and our students have demonstrated exceptional dedication and talent.

Congratulations to the following students:

Credit: **Nate Keeley, James Stein, Josie Willsmore** (Year 7), **Joe Komoroth** and **Harry Harvey** (Year 8)

Distinction: **Sam Norfor** (Year 7) and **Josh Thomson** (Year 8)

Languages

Last Language Class for Year 12 Students

On Tuesday 11 November, it was the last Language class for Year 12 Japanese, French and German students. Most of these students have been studying Languages for six years at Daramalan, since Year 7. Students were treated to some traditional Japanese, French and German pastries and food. Here is one student's impression of her language journey:

My language journey at Daramalan began in 2020, and I've loved the wide range of experiences offered by the French program. During Covid-19 in Year 8, **Mme Visser-Scott** shared French recipes for us to try at home - croissants, pain au chocolat, chocolat chaud, croque monsieur, croque madame and crêpes - and we documented our baking and presented it in our next online Teams lesson. It was a great way to bring something practical into remote learning during the pandemic. Another major highlight was visiting the French Embassy, where I learned how a diplomatic mission operates after winning their "Fake News" competition. I also took part in many Alliance Française workshops, the French Film Festival and ANU excursions. Over the past six years, thanks to the support of **Mme Visser-Scott** and **Mme Merritt**, my French has improved significantly, and I hope to continue building my skills in the future.

Ruby Jones (Year 12)



Year 10 French Excursion

Our Year 10 French students enjoyed a wonderful cultural outing to Lilette Café in Dickson on Thursday 20 November. The excursion marked the end of a busy and productive year of language learning. It also gave students a chance to step outside the classroom and put their skills into practice.

Students ordered their food entirely in French, using the vocabulary and expressions they have been learning over the years. The café staff were welcoming and patient. The atmosphere was calm and inviting. Many students commented on how proud they felt speaking French in a real setting.

The café experience helped students build confidence in listening and speaking, while giving them a taste of authentic French café culture.

Ms Carina Merritt



Languages Cont...

Year 10 Takoyaki Cooking Lesson

In Garratt Wing, the Year 10 Japanese students got to experience making Takoyaki. Takoyaki is a popular Japanese snack, in the shape of a ball traditionally filled with octopus, though for this time, other ingredients such as cheese, bacon and spring onions were also used. We made three different types of Takoyaki. One with octopus and pickled radish, one with cheese and bacon, and the other with cheese and spring onion.

These snacks were cooked on a special Takoyaki pan and involved using skewers to spin them around for thorough cooking until they were golden brown. This resulted in a gooey consistency on the inside and a crispy cake-like texture on the outside. With limited ingredients, these savoury snacks were very easy and quick to make. Students worked together as a team to create the perfect Takoyaki snack.

Student **Reese Tunney** experienced making Takoyaki previously with her host sister in Kochi, Japan. She said, "Cooking Takoyaki with my classmates was fun, enjoyable and quite delicious. This reminded me of the Takoyaki party I had with my host sister, **Niko**, during the Japan study tour last month. We got to flip the Takoyaki balls and got to eat extra meats. That party was quite an unforgettable experience!"

Reese Tunney and Hannah Chi (Year 10)



Japanese senior lunch Our senior Japanese class celebrated our academic year and farewell our lovely Year 12 senpai at Kagawa Japanese restaurant. We all sat

down and enjoyed lunch together, talking about the last 6 years of great memories in our Japanese class. 卒業おめでとう (Happy Graduations!)

Languages Cont...

A Taste of Deutschland

In the last few weeks, our Years 8, 9 and 10 German classes have been fortunate to visit the Harmonie German Club in Narrabundah and enjoy a traditional German lunch together. This was a great opportunity for all students to practice ordering food in German. For our Year 8 students, this was the culmination of their mini-unit on Food. For our Year 9 and 10 students, a chance to enjoy each other's company in a restaurant setting and celebrate a successful semester of language learning.

As always, the club's Chicken Schnitzel was a favourite with our students, but this year saw our Year 10s branching out and overwhelmingly ordered the Käsespätzle (Cheese Spaetzle) with speck, which is similar to a delicious Macaroni and Cheese with Bacon.

Students had a lovely time and were grateful to experience some authentic German culture in Canberra.

Herzlichen Glückwunsch - Celebrating Excellence in German

We are excited to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students learning German! Their dedication and enthusiasm has earned them special recognition: book prizes generously provided by the German Embassy.

This award is not only a testament to their hard work but also to their passion for German language and culture. Learning a new language opens doors to global opportunities, and these students have shown what commitment and curiosity can achieve.

We would also like to acknowledge every single student who demonstrated remarkable commitment to improving their German language skills. Their perseverance and willingness to embrace the challenge of learning a new language is truly commendable.

Herzlichen Glückwunsch an unsere Preisträgerinnen und Preisträger!

Year 7: **Maggie Ferndale** and **Estelle Wynac**

Year 8: **Sienna Muller** and **Nel Baraniecki**

Year 9: **Christian Abbondante**

Year 10: **Erica Murphy**

Year 11: **Calen Gould**

Year 12: **Ruby Gifford**



Guten Appetit - German Cuisine to Finish the Year

For our senior German students, the culinary adventure went a step further. They rolled up their sleeves and prepared three iconic dishes themselves: Spätzle, a traditional egg noodle; Currywurst, a beloved street food; and Apfelstrudel, the famous apple dessert. Cooking together was not only fun but also a great way to spend time together outside the normal classroom. Sitting down to enjoy the meal they had created was a wonderful way to finish the year and brought back fond memories of our time travelling in Germany together.

Auf Wiedersehen und viel Glück für die Zukunft

I would like to extend my best wishes to our Year 12 German students for the future. Congratulations on your commitment to studying German over the past six years - it's a fantastic achievement! I hope you will have the chance to continue your language journey, whether at university or perhaps even in Germany itself. Viel Erfolg und alles Gute!

EU Prize of Excellence

Congratulations to **Ruby Gifford** and **Ruby Jones** (Year 12) for receiving the prestigious EU Prize of Excellence from the EU Delegation to Australia. This award honours students excelling in European languages or studies. Their dedication and exceptional achievements in German (Ruby Gifford) and in French (Ruby Jones) have made them standout students. Ausgezeichnet und très bien!



Visual Arts

Year 7 Hermannsburg Inspired Ceramics

Our Year 7 students recently completed a Hermannsburg pottery inspired project that asked a simple but powerful question. In twenty years when your family sees your ceramic narrative on the mantelpiece, what story would you want to share with them.

Students explored personal memories and small moments from everyday life before translating those ideas into sculptural lids and painted surfaces. The results are thoughtful, funny and beautifully individual.

The pots have now been fired and not a single one exploded in the kiln which is a victory worth celebrating. Each piece has come out with rich colour and character, and a few families may have an unexpectedly heavy Christmas present heading their way.

This project has reminded students that artworks can outlast trends and assessments. They carry stories, identity and a sense of place. Our hope is that these pieces will stay with them long after Year 7, not just as clay and glaze but as a memory of what mattered to them right now.



Performing Arts

Performing Arts Excursion to WICKED!

On Thursday 27 November, the Year 8 Drama and Dance students and the Year 10 Dance students had the opportunity to watch WICKED: For Good, part two of a musical fantasy film inspired by the beloved Broadway hit musical.

The excitement began before the performance, as students were greeted on the bus by none other than the Wicked Witch of the West, Elphaba, Glinda the Good Witch and the Wizard of Oz himself! What a fun experience for our Daramalan students!

This excursion was a fantastic way to wrap up the semester, celebrating their passion for the performing arts!

Thank you to **Ms Maddie Ward**, **Ms Jessica Haynes** and **Mr Matthew Maggs** for accompanying the performing arts students.



Vocational Education

Year 10 Students

IMPORTANT – Unique Student Identifier (USI) and ASBA

ALL students require a Unique Student Identifier (USI) for school, university, work and qualifications. Please set one up if you don't already have one by going to <https://www.usi.gov.au/>. You will need an official document in front of you such as:

- Medicare Card
- Drivers Licence
- Birth Certificate
- Passport

Please email me jane.waddleton@daramalan.act.edu.au with the following information so that I can verify the number and add it to the school system (this includes students who already have a USI):

- the 10-digit number
- Your official name(s) that you applied for the USI in (not your preferred name)
- Your Date of Birth

Here is a very short YouTube clip on why and how <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QD8eXcYvINk>

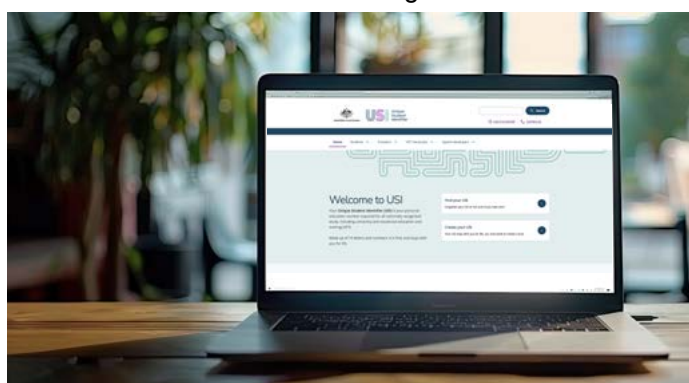
Points to note: I suggest you use your personal email address if you have one as this number will be used for external courses and stay with you beyond school.

Ensure you make note of your number for future reference – you will need it.

If you are considering doing an Australian School Based Apprenticeship (ASBA) next year as part of your Senior package, please email me for a suitable time to come and have an informal chat.

Ms Jane Waddleton

Vocational Education and Training Co-ordinator



Basketball

Basketball

On Monday 24 November, Daramalan College had the pleasure of hosting one of our fellow MSC schools, Chevalier College, for a friendly day of basketball competition.

Two games were played across the afternoon, with both schools displaying determination and pride in their colours. The Boys' match opened the event, with Daramalan controlling the pace early and maintaining their momentum throughout. Our team combined disciplined defence with smart ball movement to secure a well-deserved win.

The Girls' game followed and proved to be a much tighter contest. Both teams traded baskets in a thrilling back-and-forth encounter. Despite a strong final push from Daramalan, Chevalier held on for a narrow victory in what was an impressive display from both squads.

The afternoon served as a great opportunity for our students to connect with peers from another MSC school, celebrate shared values, and enjoy high-quality basketball in a supportive environment. We thank Chevalier College for making the trip to Canberra and look forward to many more positive sporting exchanges in the future.



Rugby Union

2026 Rugby Season Is Coming!

The excitement is already building as we prepare for a massive 2026 Daramalan Rugby season. With new opportunities, program growth, and the launch of our biggest digital initiative yet, next year is shaping up to be one of our most exciting seasons on record.

Coaches and Managers Wanted for 2026

Do you want to get involved in grassroots rugby at Daramalan College?

We are looking for positive, enthusiastic and motivated people to join our coaching and managing teams across all age groups. Whether you're an experienced coach or someone keen to get involved for the first time, we'd love to hear from you.

General Volunteering Opportunities

Clubs are built on the strength and generosity of their volunteers, and Daramalan Rugby is no exception. In 2026 we will have a range of volunteering opportunities - big and small - and we're calling on our amazing community to get involved. If you are interested in helping in any capacity, please reach out.

Your support truly makes a difference.

Introducing the Daramalan Rugby Clubland App – Launching 2026

One of the most exciting developments for next season is

the launch of the Daramalan Rugby Clubland App.

This new platform will allow our community to:

- Celebrate athletes and weekly achievements
- Track player milestones
- Access all news, events and announcements
- Explore the rich 63-year history of Daramalan Rugby
- Learn about sponsors and community partners
- And so much more.

The App will connect our current players and families with generations of Daramalan Rugby history - bringing the whole community together in one place.

Registrations for the 2026 season will officially open in January.

If you're new to Daramalan Rugby or wanting more information about the program, please get in touch with Mr Ben McGee - we'd love to welcome you to the club.

Sponsorship Opportunities Now Available

Daramalan Rugby is built on decades of community connections, spanning generations of families. If you or your business would like to join our club as a valued sponsor for the 2026 season, sponsorship packages are now available. For all sponsorship enquiries, please contact **Mr Ben McGee**.

CALLING FOR COACHES



DARAMALAN RUGBY CLUB

2026 SEASON

2026

DARAMALAN RUGBY UNION CLUB

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY



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

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

Sunday 30 November ANU deadline for submitting all supporting documents.

Thursday 11 December UAC SRS December Round 1 (3rd round SRS) offers released.

Sunday 14 December ANU change of preference window closes for December ATAR round (some courses have earlier deadlines – please check [here](#)).

Thursday 18 December UAC Undergraduate (Year 12 applicants): Change of preference closes for December Round 2 offers. (Change your preferences by 11.59pm. All undergraduate applicants will then be unable to change preferences for future rounds until 7.30am on Tuesday 23 December.)

Tuesday 23 December UAC Undergraduate December Round 2 (ATAR) offers released.

2026

Monday 16 February White card training

Tuesday 17 February Asbestos Awareness/Silica Exposure Prevention training

Friday 20 February UOW Discovery Day (students should have already registered with UOW to attend)

Year 12 Students Encouraged to Apply for CIT Now for Semester 1, 2026

CIT have a variety of ACT government subsidised courses,

as well as [Fee-Free TAFE](#) and [Fee-Free Construction](#) courses. Year 12 students considering their school leaver options for 2026 are encouraged to apply now! Check out the [2026 Course Guide](#).

Are you interested in theatre, large scale productions and live entertainment?

Michael Cassel Group's Work Experience Program is now open for applications from school students. Learn from MCG's expertise as producers and presenters of world-class theatrical productions and live entertainment. Please see available dates within the [program](#). Please read the information as there are set dates that you will need to be available. [See more here](#).

Have you received 2 offers for the same UC course – one through Early Offer and one through SRS?

Please see below – you will need to contact UC directly to have one offer withdrawn. If a duplicate offer for a same course is issued, our Admissions team can arrange for one of them to be withdrawn. Students will need to provide their name and application number - email admissions@canberra.edu.au directly with the details, and the team will assist them further.

AgCareerStart Program

Applications Open: **Monday 24 November**

Applications Close: **Friday 9 January**

2026 Program Information:

- Age Restrictions: 18-25 (at the time of placement commencement)
- License Restrictions: Minimum of a Provisional Drivers License (at the time of placement commencement)

Placements to commence from mid January 2026

[See here for more information](#).

EducationUSA – Information about Studying in the US

For students looking to study in the US in the upcoming years, please review the EducationUSA Australia resources over the holidays. There are several webinars and a podcast series Graduate in the USA on the [EducationUSA Australia YouTube](#) website.

Engage with EducationUSA Australia advisers during the virtual office hours. These office hours are for students and families.

Virtual office hours:

Tuesday 2 December Time: 11am – 1pm [Register here](#)

Tuesday 9 December Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm [Register here](#)



On Wednesday 29 October, interested Year 11 and 12 students attended the CIT Taste event at the new CIT Woden campus. Students got a taste of life at CIT through hands-on workshops and demonstrations in state-of-the-art facilities. Areas covered included bakery, patisserie, hospitality, commercial cookery, tourism, hairdressing, barbering and beauty therapy. Thank you to **Mr Dean Parkes** for accompanying the students on this excursion.

Careers News Cont...

Early Offers

Students are reminded to read carefully the instructions and conditions set out in their offer letters from individual universities. There are often different dates and requirements for each institution.

Year 12 2026 – ANU Applications

Current Year 11 students who are interested in applying to the ANU are encouraged to have a look at the ANU website and course offerings. Applications for the ANU open in March 2026.

Construction Induction Course Set

The first Construction Skill Set courses will run on **Monday 16 February** and **Tuesday 17 February**. Enrolment information will be sent to families in Week 1, 2026.

LETZ LIVE UK Gap Year Applications for 2027 are Open

This is your chance to live, work and explore abroad — creating unforgettable memories while gaining real-world experience. [Find out more here.](#)

News and Resources from Work Study Grow

[What is casual loading?](#)

If you're working as a casual employee then you should be receiving casual loading - find out what it is and how to check if you should get it.

[11 companies doing seriously impressive things you've probably never heard of](#)

Want to do something different with your career? Check out these innovative companies doing things you'll want to be involved in.

[What is a resume?](#)

Not sure what a resume is or how to write one? Check out this article for all the details.

[Five things you can do to help you recover from exams](#)

Just finished your exams and not quite sure what to do with yourself? Check out these tips for getting back to normal.

[Free and low-cost TAFE micro-credentials you can do while you're still at school](#)

Check out these great FREE microcreds from TAFE and start learning about the things you care about.

Job Spotlight

[How to become a Horticulturist](#)

If you're drawn to the science of plant biology or the hands-on work of growing plants, a career in horticulture could be right for you.

Free Money

[Are you thinking about a teaching career?](#)

The Commonwealth Teaching Scholarships Program provides up to \$40,000 to new undergraduate teacher education students. In return for a scholarship, recipients need to teach in government schools or government-run early learning settings after finishing their degree.

[Charles Sturt Foundation Paramedics Scholarship](#)

The Charles Sturt University Foundation Trust distributes more than 300 student scholarships every year. These scholarships are funded by individuals and organisations who strongly believe in supporting Charles Sturt University and its students.

[How to find a scholarship to fund your study](#)

Find out how to search for and secure a scholarship, bursary or financial support for your study.

[Women of STEM scholarship programme Applications](#)

Open – Thursday 18 December

To help provide opportunities for young women, in 2023 the ACS Foundation launched the Women of STEM Scholarships for women aged 18-20 who are entering their first year of a relevant* STEM degree (*please check eligibility criteria on the website) at an Australian University. The Women of STEM Scholarship is a national program and provides women with financial grants of \$5,000 per year for the life of their degree (maximum of 5 years).

[Sports Excellence Scholarship Fund for Emerging Athletes Aged 10-18](#)

The Sports Excellence Scholarship Fund (SESF) empowers talented young athletes facing financial hardship by providing \$1000 scholarships to athletes aged 10-18 years old, selected to represent their state, territory or country. SESF scholarships are open during the whole school year. However, scholarships are only awarded prior to attendance of the sporting event.

[C.A.S Hawker Scholarships](#)

These privately funded scholarships are available to undergraduate students in Australia. Each residential scholarship is valued at up to \$75,000 over three years. The 2026 C.A.S Hawker Scholarships online application form opens on Monday 3 November and closes on **Tuesday 2 December**.

Jobs Board for Year 12 School-Leavers

Trainee Accountant roles – GLR Accounting

See attached flyer for more information.

Do you need a casual Hospitality job?

A new café is opening in Campbell and they are looking for kitchen staff starting in a few weeks' time. Contact **Ms Annette Brady** for the details.

Are you planning on a career in Business, Accounting or Commerce?

Daramalan students are invited to apply for EY casual work opportunities to complement their studies in Accounting, Commerce or Business. Applications close COB **Monday 5 January** with the plan for roles to commence in either March/April next year. Please contact **Ms Brady** for the role and application information package.

Surveying Cadetship – Ellipse Surveying

Ellipse provide financial support for studies through TAFE or university, offer flexible working hours and give students a mix of practical office and fieldwork experience. They also offer wages above standard apprentice rates, making this a highly competitive opportunity. For more information, see the attached information sheet and check out the website - [Ellipse Surveying – Cadetship](#).

Infinite Joinery are looking for a 1st Year Apprentice

Successful candidate will complete a Certificate 3 in Cabinet Making and Timber Technology. CIT is one day a week which is paid as a normal working day and fees are paid for by Infinite. Based in Mitchell. To apply, contact:

Luke Connors, Director

Mobile: 0418 183 590 or Email: luke@infinitejoinery.com.au

7 Canberra – Broadcast Scheduler

7 Canberra are currently recruiting for entry level positions which offer a unique opportunity to start your career in the media industry / office administration. Please see attached information flyer with the details of the available position for those who are interested.

To apply, a current CV along with a cover letter should be emailed to traffic.managers@seven.com.au with the subject Job Opportunity for 2025 Graduates. Contact **Ms Annette Brady** for the details.



SURVEYOR cadetship



WHAT IS SURVEYING?

A surveyor measures and maps land, property boundaries, and other physical features for various purposes.

FIELD WORK + OFFICE WORK

Surveying offers a balance of outdoor and indoor work

You can decide whether you want to complete your surveying education at

TAFE or **university**

70%



We conduct about 70% of our work out in the field

SURVEYING ALLOWS YOU TO CHOOSE



30%

We conduct about 30% of our work on the computer



\$\$\$

we can offer wages that surpass the typical apprentice rates

**FIND
OUT
MORE:**





INTERESTED IN ACCOUNTING?

TRAINEE ACCOUNTANT ROLES

GLR is a Chartered Accounting firm specialising in taxation and business services, located in Weston.

Twice each year we have a trainee position available for someone who is eager to learn, and wanting to take the first steps towards pursuing a career in Accounting.

As it is a trainee role, no experience is necessary, however the ability to work effectively in a team environment, great attention to detail and good communication skills are essential.

The position is best suited to someone planning to enrol in an Accounting or Finance degree at University. You would need to be available a minimum of 3 days per week (Mon-Fri), but work schedules can be adjusted to suit your uni timetable each semester. Eligibility to obtain a 'Standard' strength MyID is also required.

This is a great opportunity to gain practical accounting experience, to *earn while you learn*, and kick start your career. We offer our team ongoing opportunities to learn and develop, to enable growth and progression within the firm.

If you are interested in a role like this, keep an eye on our Facebook page and LinkedIn to find out about our next vacancy.

Alternatively, you can send a brief email telling us a bit about yourself and your work/study goals, along with your CV to: employment@glraccountants.com.au

Alumni

Buy your Christmas Cards at Daramalan!

Daramalan College students have created beautiful Christmas cards - perfect for the holiday season. When you buy a set, 100% of the profit goes directly towards the Daramalan College Scholarship Fund, helping students access the education they deserve. Get ahead on your Christmas preparation while making a meaningful impact.

The set includes 5 different Christmas cards in colourful envelopes. (Greeting cards are also available).

The cards can be purchased at Daramalan Reception or [HERE](#)



CLASS OF 2025

Hey 2025 students, sign up and follow your Alumni to stay connected and see what's happening at your former school!



WEBSITE

INSTAGRAM

FACEBOOK

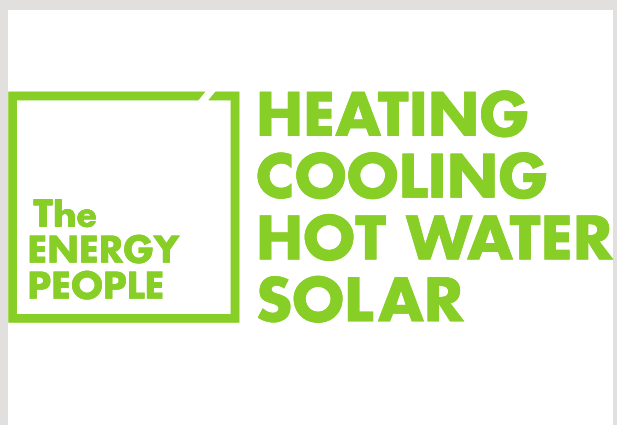
COMMUNITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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!



The Energy People

Whether you're looking to go green with your energy supply or switch to a more energy-efficient solution, The Energy People is here to help. The Energy People has been serving Canberra homes for 25 years, and we offer energy-efficient heating, cooling, hot water and solar systems in Canberra.

100 Gladstone St, Fyshwick, ACT 2609

T: 62800994

E: esales@energypeople.com.au

W: www.energypeople.com.au

F: [Facebook](#)

I: [Instagram](#)

C: Alex Morrison



Sentinel Security and Technology Group

SSTG, Canberra's local security professionals, are renowned for delivering exceptional security solutions. Offering a range of services, including Crimsafe, alarms, CCTV (service, upgrades and monitoring) and premium Roller Shutters.

PO Box 97, Fyshwick ACT, 2609

T: 02 6179 7290

E: hello@sstg.com.au

W: www.sstg.com.au

F: [Facebook](#)

I: [Instagram](#)

C: Aaron



Pinnacle Driving School

"Start a lifetime of safe driving with Pinnacle."

PO Box 223, Hall ACT 2618

T: (02) 6242 8687

E: info@pinnacledrivingsschool.com.au

W: www.Pinnacledrivingsschool.com.au

F: [Facebook](#)

C: Lisa Murphy

COMMUNITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY CONT...

ACT Cabs	Hamza	www.actcabs.com.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
Corver and Co Chartered Accountants	Trevor Corver	www.corverandco.com.au
Eat Cookies	Lisa Jansen	www.eatcookies.com.au
Element Building Projects	Dennis and Aldona Stravopodis	www.elementbuildingprojects.com.au
The Energy People	Alex Morrison	www.energypeople.com.au
Griffin Legal	Claire Carton	www.griffinlegal.com.au
Holly Komorowski – home.byholly	Holly Komorowski	www.homebyholly.com.au
Leader Security	Troy Cassell	www.leadersecurity.com.au
Pacific Facilities Maintenance	Justin Hyland	www.pacificfm.com.au
Pinnacle Driving School	Lisa Murphy	www.Pinnacledriving school.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	Monique Gassan	www.redshed.org.au
Riteway Cleaning Services	Alan	www.ritewaycleaningcanberra.com.au
Sentinel Security & Technology Group	Ellena	www.sstg.com.au
The Athlete's Foot	Ashleigh Hogan	www.theathletesfoot.com.au
The Corner Market	Katherine Olmos	