

# DARANNEWS

20 February 2026

WEBSITE

DARANET



Swimming Carnival

## Upcoming events

### 23 - 25 February

Year 7 Camp for Lyons, Merrick, O'Brien and Phillip

### 25 - 27 February

Year 7 Camp for Cuthbert, Farrer, Goolagong and Lawson, Year 9 Camp

### 26 - 27 February

Year 10 Immunisations

### 2 March

Year 11 2025 Awards Ceremony

### 3 March

Moderation Day  
No classes Years 7 - 10  
Years 11 - 12 AST Trial

### 6 March

House Athletics Carnival

### 9 March

Canberra Day Public Holiday

### 11-19 March

NAPLAN Year 7 & 9

### 20 March

House Cross Country Carnival

## From the Principal



Dear Parents/  
Carers, Staff and  
Students,

The 2026 school year, our Year of Forgiveness, is well underway and we have certainly all hit the ground running with a number of whole-school and year-level events already taking place.

It has been great to see the students back and settling well into school over the past three weeks. Along with our Year 7 students and new students in Years 8-12, we welcomed a number of staff who are new to the College this year. It was wonderful to be able to welcome each of them into our community when we gathered for the first formal occasion of the year at our Opening Assembly and launched our Year of Forgiveness. As an MSC school, acts of kindness, compassion and forgiveness are central to our

ethos and how we go about each and every day. Fr Jules Chevalier wrote often of mutual forgiveness, and it forms part of the MSC Constitution #34. In his Meditations II, Fr Chevalier wrote "the love of the heart of Jesus is essentially merciful. His role on earth was not to condemn but to forgive, not to shun those who suffer but to comfort them". When I spoke to the staff and students at our assembly, I outlined my hope for this year is that each of us opens our hearts to the light of forgiveness, and that we release the weight of the hurts we carry, so that we can feel lighter and be filled with love. My challenge to the students was for them to offer second chances, release the weight of the hurts, and to follow the path that is in their own hearts enabling each of them to be the best person, friend, class and teammate that they can be.

This week we commenced the Holy Season of Lent marking Ash Wednesday with a liturgy in House groups. Pope Leo in his Lenten message last week offered a simple definition of Lent as a time when the Church, "invited us to



## From the Principal

place the mystery of God back in the centre of our lives, in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distractions of daily life". In his message, Pope Leo also proposed a practical and specific form of fasting that we can all adopt not just throughout the Lenten season, but always, that of "refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbour." He goes on to write, "Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities. In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace".

At our liturgies on Wednesday, we also launched the annual Caritas Lenten Project Compassion appeal, which seeks to support people experiencing poverty and injustice, both here in Australia and around the world. This is compassion in action - something that sits at the very heart of our MSC identity. There are more details later in this edition of Daranews as well as in the Daily Notices of how our students and families can support the activities and fundraising events over the 40 days of Lent. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the families who supported our second-hand uniform sale which took place prior to school returning, either through their generous donations of uniforms, or through their purchases. This one event raised over \$5600 for the College Scholarship Fund.

### Staffing Changes

**Mr James Keeley**, College Deputy will be on leave from Monday 23 February until the end of Term 1. For the remainder of the term, the College Executive will be:

**Rachel Davies** - Principal

**Ben Stein** - Deputy Principal

**Ian Garrity** - Chief Operating Officer

**Nathan Greatz** - Assistant Principal Operations

**Angela Dunn** - Assistant Principal Pastoral Care

**Amy Thomas** - Assistant Principal Faith and Mission

**Nic Whatman** - Assistant Principal Teaching and Learning

**Lucy Cronan** - Assistant Principal Curriculum Years 7-10

**Steven Carroll** - Assistant Principal Curriculum Years 11-12

**Ms Jess Haynes** will be replacing Ms Lucy Cronan as Performing Arts Coordinator during this period.

### School Events

We have had several major events already this year including our House Swimming Carnival, which was held last Thursday. Despite a soggy start to the day the weather turned out to be perfect, enabling Dickson pool to be filled with colour and chants as the races and novelty events took place. The carnival was a wonderful showcase of both Daramalan and House spirit through the enthusiastic participation of students and staff alike. Congratulations to our House Captains for their efforts in their first major House event- the bar has certainly been set very high this year! Congratulations to Lawson House on winning the Spirit Plate and to Cuthbert House on securing the House Cup. I am sure that this will inspire some healthy competition in the lead up to the Athletics Carnival in Week 5.

On Tuesday 10 February, we were fortunate to have our College Chaplain **Fr Tru Nguyen MSC** celebrate our Opening Mass and Commissioning of our 2026 Student Leaders. We were also joined once again this year by **Fr Mick MacAndrew**, from the North Belconnen Parish, who concelebrated Mass with Fr Tru. We were privileged to have **Selina Walker**, Ngunnawal woman and respected emerging elder and First Nations leader deliver the Welcome to Country to commence our Mass. We were joined by representatives from other ACT Catholic Secondary Colleges, the wider MSC community including former College Principals, **Mr David Garratt** and **Ms Rita Daniels**, former staff, College Board Directors including the Chair, **Mr Michael Munro-Mobbs**, and Deputy Chair, **Mr Nathan Spillane**, the Vicar for Education and Chair of the Board of the Catholic Archdioceses of Canberra and Goulburn Education Ltd, **Dr Patrick McArdle**, and the Executive Director of the Association of Independent Schools ACT, **Ms Tracey Taylor**. We were also very pleased to share this very special occasion with the parents of our Year 12 Student Leaders. It was a wonderful celebration to mark the liturgical start of our Year of Forgiveness. At the end of our Mass, the 2026 Year 12 Student Leaders and Year 10 Peer Support Leaders were commissioned and received their badges which was very special for them. The 2026 Captains are:



# From the Principal

School Captains – **Ruby Holden** and **Rory Arneman**

Portfolio Captains:

Arts and Culture – **Laura Green**

Community and Connection – **Allegra Pangallo**

Environment – **Chelsea Delteza Patriarca**

Mission – **Roy Halliday**

Social Justice – **James Clarke**

Sport – **Archie Edwards**

## Year 7 Parent Welcome Event

Earlier this week we were joined by many of our Year 7 parents for the Year 7 Welcome Function, where we were able to showcase the outstanding facilities of our Issoudun theatre, foyer and amphitheatre. It was wonderful for parents to be able to attend the College, meet other parents whose children share the same House and to be able to utilise the new spaces. I wish to thank publicly the many staff who contributed to the evening which, once again, was a great success. We are very fortunate to have an excellent team of people including our Hospitality staff led by **Ms Janette Kline**, our Hospitality students and the College Leaders who worked tirelessly to ensure that the evenings went smoothly. Our thanks are also extended to **Ms Yvonne Turnbull** who managed all of the bookings and our events team for their work behind the scenes; members of the College Board, the P&F Committee, the Executive, our Director of Pastoral Care (Years 7-8), the Year 7 Pastoral Tutors and PCAs who attended. I wish to make special mention of our Hospitality students and Student Leaders who did an impressive job in helping to create and serve food and drinks on the evening. We received many very positive comments from parents about the quality and standard of the food and the service.

## Year 11 Reflection Day

Yesterday our Year 11 students participated in their first Reflection Day as senior students, offering a valuable opportunity for them to spend time together, consider their goals and get to know one another better. The retreat was

facilitated by **Dave Jorna** from Project Hatch who throughout the day invited students to reflect on the unique gifts they each bring as they begin their College journey. They also explored what they value, who influences them and how their choices and attitudes shape their experience of school and life. A message of hope for their future was woven throughout the day enabling the students to grow in confidence about the positive difference they can make in the lives of others.

## Year 7 and Year 9 Camps

Our Year 7 students will be travelling to the South Coast next week for their much-anticipated camp. The alternate programme here at school involves a wide variety of activities facilitated by key College staff. This programme will include sessions on digital readiness, learning skills, developing productive study habits, navigating the transition to High School, as well as team building and House competitions.

From Wednesday to Friday next week, our Year 9 students will be participating in their camp at Jindabyne. The programme focuses on team building and resilience activities, which align with the Year 9 Pastoral Programme based on the research of the Resilience Project.

I would like to thank and acknowledge all of the staff who will be attending the camps or facilitating the sessions here at the College throughout the week. It is an enormous ask to be away from their families and to be on call 24 hours a day to provide our students with these types of opportunities and activities.

## Moderation Day

**Tuesday 3 March** is Moderation Day and there are no classes or supervision available for students in Years 7-10. There are AST trials scheduled for students in Years 11 and 12 on that day and students will receive further information about the trials, including what times of the day they will be required to attend school, from **Ms Heike Craig** and through the AST tile on Daranet.

Staff who teach Year 11 and 12 courses will be undertaking the BSSS Moderation and Quality Assurance processes at various Colleges across the ACT. This year, Daramalan will



Whole School Assembly



Opening Mass



## From the Principal

be hosting Language teachers as they undertake the quality assurance process. I would like to thank **Ms Waka Burrridge** for her oversight as the venue convenor on the day. These days are extremely valuable for professional dialogue and networking opportunities for our teachers of senior classes.

### House Athletics

Following the enormous success of our House Swimming Carnival in Week 2, our House Captains are now busily drumming up House spirit and participation for our House Athletics Carnival calendared for **Friday 6 March**. The Carnival will be held at Dickson Oval, and as with other days on which we hold special events, students will be expected to be at the carnival for the whole day. There will be activities for students to assist with even if they are unable to compete or participate in events. Students are also reminded to ensure that they are sun safe on the day by bringing (and wearing) a hat and reapplying sunscreen throughout the day. As this is a College event, our Mobile Phone Policy will be enforced as it is at school on a normal school day. More details regarding the format of the day will be sent to families closer to the event.

### P and F AGM

On **Wednesday 18 March**, the Parents and Friends will have their AGM. All parents are welcome to attend. The meeting starts at 6:30pm in the College Board Room which can be accessed from the front carpark near Reception. Over the course of 2025, the P&F Committee undertook to review and revise the P&F Constitution. Details of the review and how to provide feedback can be found in the following section of this Daranews. There is an email address for P and F correspondence. It is [pandf@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:pandf@daramalan.act.edu.au) should you wish to contact the Committee with any matter.

### Financial Assistance

Families who are experiencing changed financial circumstances are encouraged to contact the Chief Operating Officer, Mr Ian Garrity to make an appointment to discuss support that may be available to you. He can be contacted via email on [ian.garrity@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:ian.garrity@daramalan.act.edu.au).

### Parking and Road Safety around the College

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. The roads around the College are extremely busy at all times of the day and the safety of our students, staff and families are our priority. Unsafe and illegal parking can reduce visibility for our students and motorists, 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. Families will have noticed that speed monitoring signage has been placed around the College during the first few weeks of the term. We have received notification from Access Canberra that mobile speed camera vans as well as licence plate recognition vehicles will be monitoring safe parking and driving around the College throughout the term.

We also ask that people who are dropping off their students in the morning, and/or picking up students in the afternoon do not park on the nature strips of houses near the College or across driveway entrances. Already this year we have received complaints from our neighbours about damage done to grass and trees as well as access being blocked when they have attempted to exit their property. We wish to maintain positive relationships with our neighbours so we ask that you assist by respecting their space. I would also ask that when collecting students of an afternoon that families do not park in the College driveways or the nature strip on Morphett Street once the gates have been closed. This creates a significant safety hazard for our students.

### Leave Requests

I would like to remind families that should a student need to be away for 5 or more school days for reasons other than sickness, prior approval from the Principal must be sought in writing via a letter or an email. This includes where a student is absent due to their participation in representative sporting teams and competitions. The request needs to be submitted in sufficient time so that arrangements regarding missed schoolwork and assessment can be made. The preferred email address for such requests is [principal@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:principal@daramalan.act.edu.au).

### Enrolments for 2027

Looking ahead to later in the term, our College Open Evening will be held on **Thursday 26 March** for prospective families looking to enrol their students for Year 7 and 11 in 2027. This provides an opportunity to view the facilities and speak with staff. Families are encouraged to come along to our Open Evening and join a tour. Details outlining the specific format and timing of the evening, including the Principal's address and other information, will be available on the College Website closer to the time. This year the College **will not** be holding a Try Dara Day for Year 6 students so prospective families are encouraged to visit on our Open Evening.



Ash Wednesday



Year 7 Parent Welcome Event

# From the Principal

## Student Successes

At our Opening Assembly I had the privilege of presenting three of our students with Principal Awards for their Australian Representation:

**Ella Higginbotham** (Year 11) as a member of the U16 Australian OzTag squad. Ella has also been chosen as a member of the CT U17 Girls Netball squad, the CNA Netball State League team, and is a member of the ACT OzTag squad.



**Ivy Hartwig** (Year 11) as a member of the Australian Volleyball squad



**Jaxen Bentley** (Year 9) as a member of the Australian Baseball squad.



Our congratulations are also extended to:

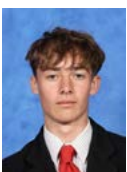
**Macie Wilson** (Year 8) who broke an Australian record for her classification F34 in Shot Put during the Summer Down Under International Wheelchair Sports competition.



**Ruby Holden** (Year 12) on being awarded third place (out of 450 entrants) in the Tamworth Country Music Festival busking competition over the break. She was also selected in the top 6 of the New Discovered Talent for TMFM 95.5 where she received the encouragement award. Ruby was also recently interviewed by the Catholic Voice. You can read the article by clicking on the following link: [Daramalan school captain hits the right note at Tamworth Country Music Festival – Catholic Voice](#)



**Sam Blood** (Year 11), **Sebastian Ryan** (Year 9) and **Jillian Ryan** (Year 11) who all competed at the National Athletics Championships at the end of 2025. Special congratulations to Jillian who achieved a PB to secure third place in the 3000m Walk event.



**Kwami Antwi-Tuffour** (Year 7) on his recent convincing win at the Capital Athletics Championships in the 100m final.



**Grace Kelly** (Year 9) who was recently selected to referee at the OzTag State Championships in Penrith.



**Amelia Amey** (Year 8) who will be competing at the Polocrosse National Championships in June.



**Mitchell Power** (Year 9) who will be competing as member of the ACT U15 Schoolboys Cricket squad in the National Championships in WA next week.



**Julian Felix** (Year 8) who represented the ACT as a member of the U12 Futsal squad at the national championships over the summer break.



All of the students who will be competing as members of the ACT squads at the NSW Touch Football Championships and OzTag Championships over the coming weeks.

All of our rowers who will be competing over the coming weeks at the NSW Rowing Championships in Penrith, the ACT Head of the Lake and ACT Championships here on Lake Burley Griffin, and finally at the NSW Schoolgirl and Schoolboy Head of the River Championships in Penrith to round out the rowing season.

Best wishes,

Rachel Davies

Principal



Year 11 Reflection Day



Year 11 Reflection Day





Swimming Carnival



Swimming Carnival



Selina Walker delivers the Welcome to Country at the Opening Mass

Selina Walker



Opening Mass



# DARAMALAN COLLEGE

## OPEN EVENING 26 MARCH 2026

The first tour departs at 4:45pm,  
with the last tour leaving at 6:30pm

### 2027 ENROLMENTS OPEN FRIDAY 13 MARCH

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](http://www.daramalan.act.edu.au)



# Positive Learning Environment

## Positive Learning Environments

Continuing our focus on positive learning environments from last year we will again be focusing on learning routines for our students. We have been delighted with the progress our students have made in the first weeks of the school year and are aiming to sustain these routines throughout 2026.

We are encouraging all students to follow and support the positive classroom routines by:

- Arriving at class on time with all learning materials including
  - Book
  - Pen/Pencil
  - Charged device
  - Subject specific stationery
  - Reading book (Years 7-9)

- Entering class in a calm and orderly manner ready to learn
- Being responsible for their learning and being respectful of the learning of others
- Ensuring the learning space is clean
- Waiting for the teacher to signal the end of the lesson.

These classroom routines have been made visible in each learning space to ensure there is consistency across the College. It is hoped that by following these clear and consistent routines and with your support, students can maximise time in class focused on learning, allowing them to flourish in each of their learning areas.

If students require any stationery, please see the front Reception where key items can be purchased.

# DARAMALAN COLLEGE LEARNING ROUTINE

To develop a **positive learning environment** we...



## ARRIVE ON TIME



## BRING ALL MATERIALS

- Book
- Pen/Pencil
- Charged Devices
- Subject specific stationery
- Reading Book (Years 7 - 9)



## ENTER CLASS CALMLY AND READY TO LEARN



## RESPECT

- Be responsible for your learning
- Respect the learning of others



## ENSURE THE SPACE IS TIDY AND EXIT ONCE INSTRUCTED





## School News

### School Fees

Term 1 school fees were due last Monday 16 January. If you have not already paid or are not on a payment plan, please ensure you arrange payment as soon as possible to avoid incurring a late fee.

If you set up a payment plan at the beginning of the year for Daramalan to deduct fees automatically, please check your bank account or credit card statements to ensure that payments are being deducted as scheduled. If no deductions have been made, please contact the Fees Office at [fees@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:fees@daramalan.act.edu.au) as there may be a problem with your payment plan.

### PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

#### Revision of the Daramalan College P&F Constitution

In 2025, the P&F, in conjunction with the College Executive, undertook a review and update of the Parents & Friends (P&F) Constitution to ensure it continues to reflect the needs, purpose and operation of our community. While P&F members have already been consulted in detail, we welcome broader community awareness and input.

The key focus of the revision is to modernise the document, clarify roles and processes, and ensure the P&F can operate efficiently in support of the College's mission and activities.

If any member of the wider community would like to offer feedback or ask questions about the [proposed updates](#), please contact **Mr James Keeley** at [James.Keeley@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:James.Keeley@daramalan.act.edu.au) before **Wednesday 11 March**.

#### ACT Pre Learner Licence Course – Semester 1, 2026

Registrations for the ACT Pre Learner Licence Course road readiness program are now open.

Did you know that the ACT Government has a requirement that all ACT residents have to complete a Pre Learner Licence Course if they want to obtain an ACT Driver's License?

If your child is within 6 months of turning 15 years and 9 months and they want to get their ACT Learner Drivers Licence, now is the time for them to complete this compulsory pre learner driver education program. Courses are available through the school for \$70, with up to 3 timing options available. This is a fraction of the cost compared to completing it through an external provider, and with the familiar environment and trained educators on staff we are able to offer the course in a way that is supportive and most suitable for Daramalan College students.

Further information can be sought by contacting **Mr Steve Hackett** on 6163 6532 or email [steven.hackett@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:steven.hackett@daramalan.act.edu.au).

Bookings are only available via Qkr!. Courses for Semester 1 start Week 5, with further information specific to each course option available via Qkr! or from the contact above.

The College offers the Pre Learner Licence Course twice a year; 3 programs during Semester 1 and 3 programs during Semester 2, so if you miss out Semester 1 or are not quite old enough to get your learners licence yet, there will be the opportunity to enrol for Semester 2 courses from June. If the popularity of the program for the last 2 years is anything to go by, 2026 programs will likely book up quickly and places are limited.

**Mr Steve Hackett**





## Counsellors Hub

### Counselling Services

A new school year brings fresh opportunities, new friendships and exciting challenges — but it can also bring moments of uncertainty or stress. Whether you are feeling overwhelmed, facing friendship difficulties, managing stress, or simply needing someone to talk to, the Daramalan School Counselling Team is here to support your wellbeing and mental health needs.

Our team includes three counsellors and a school psychologist. You can find out more about us and the services we provide on the Daramalan website.



If you would like to make an appointment to see one of our school counsellors, you can complete a Referral Form on Daranet. Please note that students under the age of 14 require dual parental consent before counselling can begin. Families and students are also welcome to contact us directly at [counsellor@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:counsellor@daramalan.act.edu.au).

If you're seeking practical strategies to support a young person experiencing stress at school, Headspace also offers a range of helpful, evidence-based resources for families. You can explore these supports on their website.

We look forward to working alongside students and families to help make this a positive start to the year for everyone.



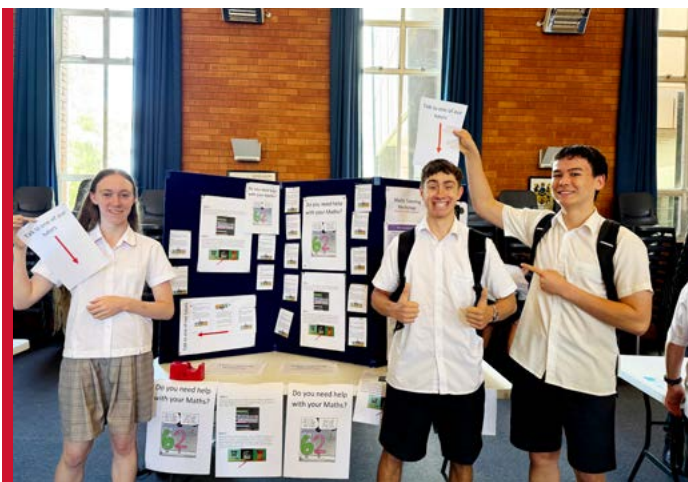
## Maths

### Maths Tutoring

Are you looking for a Maths Tutor?

The Daramalan Maths department has trained our best senior Maths students to tutor students in Years 7 to 10 who may benefit from some one-on-one tuition. Sessions are held only in the afternoons in the Senior Library, from 3.45pm to 4.45pm. These sessions cost \$35 per hour.

We also have a list of external tutors whom we can recommend for senior students looking for extra help. For more information, please complete the request form found on your student's Maths page on Daranet (look for the tile "Get a Maths Tutor HERE"). Alternatively, please contact **Ms Cathy Cheng** via email [cathy.cheng@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:cathy.cheng@daramalan.act.edu.au) or phone 6163 6465.





## Starting Year 7

Starting high school is an exciting, but sometimes overwhelming, experience for Year 7 students. The transition from primary to secondary school brings new subjects, teachers, classmates and responsibilities. However, with the right mindset and strategies, students can settle in smoothly and make the most of their high school journey.

One of the biggest challenges is adjusting to a new routine. High school days are often longer, and students move between different classrooms for each subject. To stay organised, using a planner or calendar can help students keep track of homework, assignments and important dates. Packing school bags the night before and following a consistent routine can also reduce stress in the morning.

Making new friends is another important part of settling in. While it's natural to feel nervous, being open to conversations and getting involved in school clubs

or activities can help students connect with others. Being kind, respectful and inclusive helps build strong friendships. If students are feeling lonely or unsure, speaking to a teacher or school counsellor can provide valuable support.

Managing schoolwork is another key aspect of high school life. Staying focused in class, asking questions and completing homework on time will make learning more manageable. If subjects become challenging, seeking help from teachers, peers or tutors can prevent students from falling behind.

Lastly, self-care is essential. Eating well, getting enough sleep and making time for relaxation and hobbies all help maintain a positive mindset. High school is a journey, and it's perfectly okay to take time to adjust.

Overall, I have been very impressed with how the Year 7 students have settled into life at Daramalan and I look forward to the exciting weeks ahead.

**Mr Jonathan Hall**  
Director of Pastoral Care  
Years 7 - 8





## Social Justice

### Vinnies Christmas Joes Fun Day

The Vinnies Christmas Joes Fun Day was run differently to the usual holiday program. With 36 Joes attending, each child received a Christmas T-shirt of their choice. Activities for the day included a photo booth, face paint, temporary tattoos, colouring-in, Jenga, Uno, icing gingerbread biscuits and the usual basketball games. It was a busy day with new faces and very excited Joes.

What was the same though, were the rules the Joes wished to include in the day. Respect, safety, inclusion and showing friendship topped the list.

Thank you to **Chelsea Delteza Patriarca**, **Crystal Neou**, **James Clarke** (Year 12), **Annabelle Sleeman** and **Elly Collins** (2025) for being so generous with your time at the Joes Christmas party. The volunteers made such a difference to the life of these Joes by offering friendship, safe surroundings and fun.



### January Joes Holiday Program

**James Clarke** and **Chelsea Delteza Patriarca** supported by **Rex Collins** (Year 12), **Elly Collins** (2025) and two students from St Clares College, volunteered their time to run the January Joes Holiday Program. The first day started with the Morning Circle where everyone introduced themselves. A story was read covering the theme, allowing for discussion about the meaning of the book and asking and answering questions. This time the theme was 'Friendship'. The Joes explored the meaning of true genuine friendship, coming up with their own ideas of what friendship meant to them. The activities, led by the volunteers, emphasised the value of being a good friend and having a good friend. As a group they played their favourite game of Nerf Wars, followed by Tie Dye.

On the second day Joes made friendship bracelets and played with slime. After lunch they walked to Vinnies, each chose a book, learnt a bit about Vinnies and listened to some of James and Chelsea's favourite books.

The program finished with the "Warm and Fuzzy Circle" where each person received three affirmations from each other. The affirmations the Joes said about the volunteers showed how much they liked, trusted and respected them.

## Are you interested in being a volunteer?

Please contact Ms Dwyer or James Clarke (Year 12 Social Justice Captain) for more information

### 2026 Joes Program Dates

- **Monday 13 April – Tuesday 14 April** – Joes (age group 10-12) Holiday Program, 9am–5pm
- **Thursday 16 April – Friday 17 April** – Joes (age group 6-9) Holiday Program, 9am–5pm
- **Thursday 16 July – Friday 17 July** – Joes (age group 6-9) Holiday Program, 9am–5pm
- **Monday 28 September – Tuesday 29 September** – Joes (age group 6-9) Holiday Program, 9am–5pm
- **Saturday 12 December** – Joes (age group 6-12) Christmas Party, 9:30am–2pm



# CARITAS AUSTRALIA PROJECT COMPASSION AT DARAMALAN

**Project Compassion is a major fundraising and awareness campaign run by Caritas Australia throughout the six-week Lent period. Project Compassion aims to raise funds and solidarity to help alleviate poverty, promote justice and uphold the dignity of people experiencing vulnerability around the world.**

**Help Daramalan reach our fundraising goal of \$8000!**

**There are many ways you can be involved.**



**UNITE  
AGAINST  
POVERTY**  
this Lent



## Every Drop Counts!

Donate to Project Compassion through QKR! or by bringing money into PT.

Work with your PT to raise money - every 'drop' of water brings your PT group closer to winning some great prizes!

## Participate in The Long Walk

Challenge yourself to walk every day throughout Lent.

Every day, 292 million people walk 30 minutes or more just to collect water.

This Lent, walk in solidarity by taking on a 40-day walking challenge and help bring clean, safe water to vulnerable communities.

Set a daily goal that suits you — every step makes a difference.

Register your participation in the Daramalan team on the website below.

**Click Here**

## Join in The Big Water Walk

During Week 8, Daramalan will take on The Big Water Walk – during lunch we will walk with water and gain an understanding of the reality for many people who walk 30 minutes or more for clean water.

Entry is \$25 – this amount can help supply a hygiene kit and keep families safe from deadly diseases. Payment made via QKR!

THE **BIG** WATER  
WALK



## Uhr Information Centre

The Uhr Information Centre (UIC) is excited to welcome students to the space in 2026.

Whether it is borrowing books and magazines, card and board games, a place to meet friends, read or study, the UIC has something for everyone.

### Opening hours

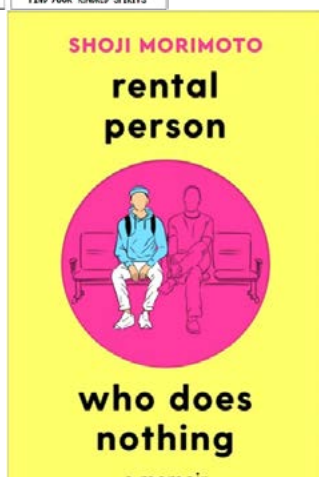
- 8:25am – 4:30pm daily (closed at 3:30pm on Staff Meeting and event days)
- Recess most days, except the first day of the week (usually a Monday)
- Lunchtime 1:10 – 1:35pm

### Homework Club

- 3:30 – 4:30pm daily beginning Week 4
- Quiet space to study, do homework or work on assignments
- Teachers available from across Departments to provide homework support

### New Books: Focus on graphics

- Sad Ghost Club series by Lize Meddings
- Studio Ghibli film comic series
- Haikyuu and Frieren series (manga)
- Squad and The Worst Ronin by Maggie Tokuda-Hall



### Random Book of the Month: Rental Person Who Does Nothing: A Memoir by Shoji Morimoto

*Today, I'm starting a 'rent a person who does nothing' service . . . Except for very simple conversation, I'm afraid I can do nothing.*

Shoji Morimoto was constantly being told that he was a 'do-nothing' because he lacked initiative. Dispirited and unemployed, it occurred to him that if he was so good at doing nothing, perhaps he could turn it into a business. And with one tweet, he began his business of renting himself out . . . to do nothing.

Morimoto, aka Rental Person, provides a fascinating service to the lonely and socially anxious. Sitting with a client undergoing surgery, accompanying a newly-divorced client to her favourite restaurant, visiting the site of a client's suicide attempt are just a few of his thousands of true life adventures. He is dependable, non-judgmental and committed to remaining a stranger and the curious encounters he shares are revelatory about both Japanese society and human psychology.





# 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!!!!



## Business and Government

### Guest Speaker - Year 12 Economics and Global Studies

On Monday 16 February, the Year 12 Economics and Global Studies classes combined to hear a talk from **Jamie Isbister**, Deputy Secretary in the Development, Multilateral and Europe Group at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

Jamie's talk was about Australia's engagement in the Pacific, the evolving role of diplomacy, and the importance of energy production in the region. This was a unique opportunity for our students to ask questions about the role of economics in policy settings, how Australia perceives its role in the region, and unpack the strengths and challenges of our interconnected world.

Our students sincerely appreciated the time and depth of his talk. It was wonderful to learn contemporary and under-reported case studies that reflect the challenges of applying the theory from these subjects.





# Languages

## Willkommen in Canberra

On the afternoon of Friday 13 February, we welcomed 14 German students and three teachers from our sister school in Dresden. After spending a few days in Sydney and the Blue Mountains, they enjoyed a week with us here in Canberra. Since many of our students stayed with the group in Dresden last year, excitement was high when the bus arrived and familiar faces stepped out.

Throughout the week, the students attended classes with their hosts, took part in two excursions, and enjoyed presentations by our staff on Australian animals, art and literature. They also had the chance to sample some typical Australian flavours and experience First Nations music and poetry.

An excursion to the Parliamentary Triangle took place on Tuesday. We began our day with a tour of Parliament House; we visited both the House of Representatives and the House of Senates, where our knowledgeable guide explained the parliamentary systems of Australia and compared them to those of Germany. We then took the elevator to the roof, where the clear weather provided a

wonderful view down ANZAC Parade all the way to Mt Ainslie.

Following a lunch stop at the Jetty, we made our way past the highest Court in the land and the National Portrait Gallery to pay a visit to the National Gallery of Australia where we explored the exhibition 'After the Rain'. The excursion was a wonderful opportunity for the German visitors to learn more about Australia by seeing some of Canberra's most interesting institutions! - **Calen Gould** (Year 12)

Wednesday's excursion to Tidbinbilla provided another opportunity to encounter Australian wildlife. A ranger-guided walk gave the students the chance to experience and better understand the Australian bush. A highlight of the day was the koala enclosure, where students were able to observe the animals up close. Spotting a red-bellied black snake added an exciting finish to the visit.

On Thursday evening, we were fortunate to attend the Garabari performance at the Canberra Theatre. The show invited the audience to immerse themselves in storytelling, rhythm, dance and music. Our week will conclude on Friday evening with a farewell dinner.

The German students will spend another week in Australia, visiting several places in Victoria, before flying out of Melbourne next week. Gute Reise und bis zum nächsten Mal!





## HASS



On Monday 16 February, Year 12 Modern History students, as part of their unit on Germany 1919-1945, had the privilege of hearing from **Peter Baruch**, a Holocaust survivor from Courage to Care. Peter delivered a compelling account of his family's flight from Nazi occupied Poland, detailing their journey through Lithuania, Russia, Japan and China before resettling in New Zealand and later moving to Australia. He reflected on his family's survival and the enduring impact of the Holocaust on his life. Students were then given the opportunity to reflect on how they can be upstanders in their own lives.

Peter's testimony provided a powerful reminder of the atrocities of the period and underscored the importance of historical study in helping prevent the recurrence of such events. Our students greatly appreciated the opportunity to hear his story.



## Canberra Day Appeal

### Canberra Day Appeal 2026 Fun Run

Date: **Monday 9 March**

Location: Lake Burley Griffin / Lennox Gardens (5km & 10km courses)

Time: 7.30am start – perfect for all ages, abilities and fitness levels.

The Canberra Day Appeal 2026 Fun Run is an easy way for our school to shine and support our local community. Appeal and run at the same time!

Here is how:

1. **Register** - Students, staff and families join for fun - no fundraising required upfront, just a simple registration fee. Register for the fun run [here](#).
2. **Canberra Day Appeal** – If running is not your vibe, perhaps raise some money for the appeal. Either donate straight to the appeal which assists Hands Across Canberra to donate over \$200k in matched funding back to our charities or donate to a charity of your choice. [Go to the appeal website here](#).





# Science

## Year 7

We are excited to have our newest students begin their high school Science journey. Over the coming weeks, they'll be exploring the laboratory, learning the names and uses of key pieces of equipment, and developing important safety habits that help keep everyone confident and comfortable in practical lessons. One of their first milestones will be earning their Bunsen burner licence - a fun and memorable rite of passage that teaches responsibility and safe handling of flame equipment. We can't wait to see their curiosity and scientific skills grow throughout the year!



## Year 10

Our Year 10 students have been hard at work in their Motion unit, learning how to determine the speed of moving objects and exploring a range of motion types - from steady, constant speeds to acceleration and deceleration. To connect classroom learning with real world applications, students headed outside to measure the speed of passing cars in local school zone areas. While they were eager to "catch" a speeder, we are pleased to report that all drivers were doing the right thing at the time!



## Year 11 Biology

Our Year 11 students have been exploring the incredible diversity of life. They've investigated how and why scientists classify living things, including the importance of scientific names in avoiding confusion when organisms have many different common names. To deepen their understanding, students created models of various organisms to examine their symmetry and classify them accordingly. They also curated and pinned specimen displays - producing work of a quality that would be right at home in a museum exhibition.



## Year 11 Chemistry

Our Year 11 Chemistry students have kicked off their new unit by revisiting atomic structure and strengthening their understanding of how electrons behave within atoms. They especially enjoyed a colourful practical investigation exploring the flame colours produced by different elements - similar to those seen in fireworks - and linking these vibrant hues to the excitation of electrons.



## Year 12

Our Year 12 Biology students have been diving into the fascinating world of DNA - the molecule of life. This term they've extracted DNA from a range of fruits, allowing them to see genetic material firsthand and have constructed several different DNA models to deepen their understanding of structure and function. A key focus has been evaluating these models, considering their strengths and limitations, and refining how scientific ideas are communicated visually. It's been a fantastic opportunity for students to strengthen both their conceptual knowledge and their science communication skills.





## Performing Arts

### Early Bird Offer for Daramalan Theatre Company Production 2026

Get your early bird tickets now for a 10% discount on ticket prices for our production of RHINOCEROS, an absurdist comedy by Eugene Ionesco. Offer is open until the evening of **Saturday 21 February**. On the tickets page (<https://events.humanitix.com/rhinoceros-cnbc99wn>), simply go to the DISCOUNT or ACCESS CODE BOX and tick the EBIRD CODE. Then click APPLY ... and select your tickets.

### DTC Production of RHINOCEROS by Eugene Ionesco

RHINOCEROS is not just a play, it is a significant event. For detailed information about this play, see the link below. Daramalan Theatre Company is offering a conducive atmosphere with options for light meals and drinks made available before and during the show. With options for table seating or theatre style seating, audiences will be offered the chance to relax into a comical yet insightful work of theatre.

Book your TAPAS as an option with your ticket. One box (see the image) is generally enough for at least two

people. You may simply book your seats in theatre style or at tables (see your theatre map when booking). Drinks and other basic snacks can be purchased separately at the bar that will open from 6.00pm. Your ordered TAPAS will be held for you for pick-up at the bar from 6.00pm for the evening shows. Drinks and food may be taken into the theatre as music is performed pre-show. Our now famous TAPAS serving can be an evening meal or as an after-dinner serving. Either way it is a satisfying food offering for before and during the show. TAPAS will not be available for the matinee performance. Drinks and light snacks will still be available at the matinee from the bar from 12.00 noon.

Seats, and most tables, have already been booked for opening night and final night. So book now to ensure you have your preferred theatre style seats and/or tables seating.

To learn more about this amazing play have a look at this fun and insightful You Tube presentation about the play: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4OmMsQjAOxQ>

It will get you curious and maybe intrigued ...

Don't miss out, so book now: <https://events.humanitix.com/rhinoceros-cnbc99wn>





# Swimming Carnival

The Daramalan School Swimming Carnival for 2026 was held on Thursday 12 February at Dickson Pool, with sunny weather providing the perfect backdrop for a fun-filled, high-energy event. From the moment students arrived, the event came alive with House colours, costumes and spirit, all of which contributed to the overall event atmosphere.

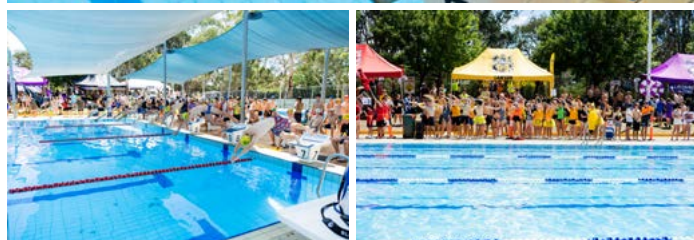
The carnival was full of competitive races and non-competitive races throughout the day, providing students with the opportunity to compete in swimming events to get their House as many points as possible. Other activities such as beach flag races, the tennis ball scramble and noodle races, provided all students with the opportunity to get involved in House spirit.

Cuthbert took out the overall House Cup for the third year in a row, with captains **Sean Loney** and **Tahli Milin** performing outstandingly in their roles. Additionally, Lawson took out the Spirit Plate for the third year in a row, thanks to **Liam Inwood** and **Emma Prail's** unmatched enthusiasm and cheering. Many students were also recognised for achieving personal bests and breaking school records throughout the event.

The Daramalan School Swimming Carnival for 2026 was an event to remember, with students showing their spirit as well as their athletic ability. A big thank you to all the students and teachers who contributed to the event.

House Cup		
Place	House	Points
1st	Cuthbert	813
2nd	Phillip	573
3rd	Farrer	491
4th	Merrick	451
5th	O'Brien	410
6th	Goolagong	405
7th	Lawson	393
8th	Lyons	314

Spirit Plate		
Place	House	Points
1st	Lawson	1552
2nd	Merrick	1526
3rd	Goolagong	1430
4th	Phillip	1351
5th	Lyons	1346
6th	O'Brien	1302
7th	Cuthbert	1231
8th	Farrer	1153





# Snow Sports Japan Tour

## An Unforgettable Experience in Hakuba Valley

On Monday 12 January, our Japan ski adventure officially began as we departed school and made our way to Sydney Airport. After flying via Singapore, we landed in Tokyo, full of anticipation for the week ahead. A long bus ride followed as we travelled into the stunning Japanese Alps and arrived at Hakuba Valley, and that's when the excitement truly set in.

The crisp winter air and snow-covered landscapes welcomed us to what would become an unforgettable week filled with new experiences, incredible opportunities and, of course, amazing food. Over the course of the trip, we had the chance to ski at several resorts, including Tsugaike and Hakuba Goryu, however, we spent most of our time at Happo One, conveniently located just a two-minute walk from our lodge and the chairlift.

Happo One delivered some of the best snow many of us had ever experienced. The powder was deeper and softer

than what we were used to, making every run exciting and surprisingly forgiving. Falling felt more like landing in a cloud than crashing on hard snow. Highlights of the trip included weaving through fresh powder in the trees and the thrill of night skiing under bright lights.

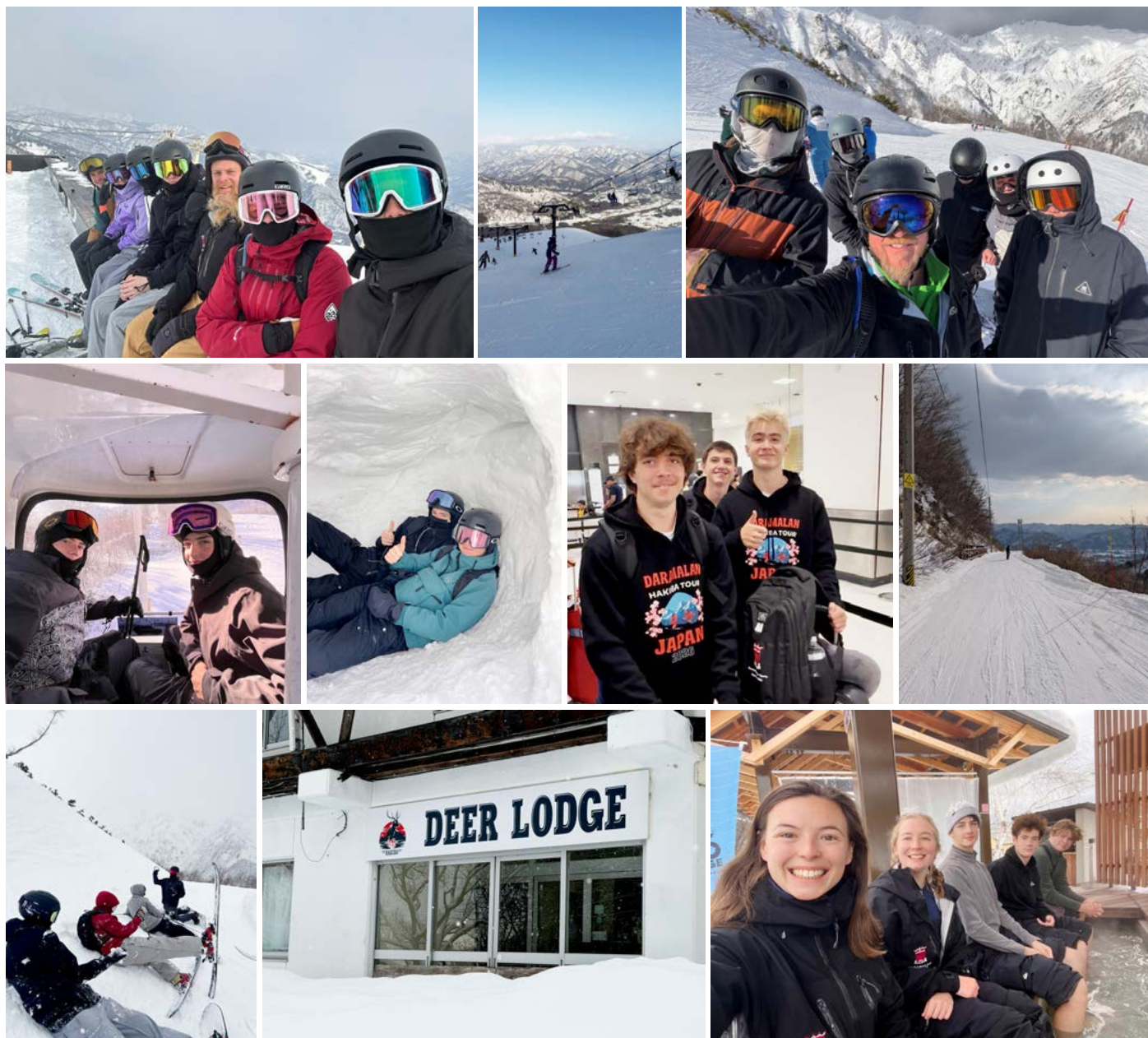
One of the most memorable parts of the tour, however, wasn't on the slopes. Each day, we were lucky enough to see the famous Japanese snow monkeys near our lodge, spotting them in the trees and passing by them on our daily walks.

A huge thank you goes to all the teachers who made this experience possible. Their organisation, encouragement and support ensured the tour ran smoothly and allowed us to make the most of every moment.

I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be part of the 2026 Japan Tour. If another chance like this comes along, I'll be the first to sign up and I strongly encourage any skiers or snowboarders to do the same.

Be sure to keep an eye on Daranews in Term 2 for more information about the Daramalan Snow Sports Program and upcoming information evening dates.

**Benjamin Allen**





## Sport

At the Australian Athletics All Schools Championships, **Macie Wilson** (Year 8) placed 2nd in the U15 Para Discus with a PB throw of 11.54m and placed 4th in the U15 Para Shot Put with a throw of 5.09m.



## Basketball

### Eltham Basketball Tournament

Over the Australia Day long weekend, we had two U18 Boys' teams competing in the Eltham Basketball Tournament. Both teams performed exceptionally well against strong opposition. Our U18 Black team progressed through to the Semi Finals, while the U18 White team narrowly missed out on a Semi Final berth after a series of hard-fought matches.

The boys faced quality opposition from new programs and embraced the challenge throughout the tournament. Off the court, they were also fortunate to experience some of the many highlights Melbourne has to offer at that time of year, including National Basketball League (NBL) games, the Big Bash League and the Australian Open.

A sincere thank you to **Rob Foote** and **Karl Petrovic** for coaching the teams, and to **Niomi Ceely**, **Fiona Scherl** and **Fabiola Viana de Freitas** for managing them across the weekend. We are also extremely grateful to all the parents for their support and for ensuring the boys were transported to and from games safely.

Finally, well done to our students for competing in the right spirit and representing the school with pride and passion, as they always do.



U18 Black	U18 White
Joshua Jenkins	Michael Trpeski
Lucas Ceely	Isaac Viana De Freitas
Will Blackwell	Lachlan Carey
Matthew Scherl	Ben Collett
Sam Whittaker	Wesley Milczarek
Xavier Hawke Slattery	Samuel Page
Logan Ramage	Jules Johnston
Hugh Almond	Mason Hewitt
Ethan Gregory	Rafe Mooney
Knox Petrovic	Tom Foote

COACH	COACH
Karl Petrovic	Rob Foote
MANAGER	MANAGER
Niomi Ceely/ Fiona Scherl	Fabiola Viana de Freitas





## Rugby Union

### Daramalan Rugby 2026 – Registrations Now Open

Daramalan Rugby is proud to launch the 2026 season, continuing a proud tradition that has been at the heart of our College community for 64 years. Rugby at Daramalan offers students the opportunity to challenge themselves, build resilience, develop lifelong friendships, and be part of a strong and supportive club culture.

#### Registrations are now open via RugbyXplorer.

All players must be registered before they are able to participate in training sessions or games. We welcome players of all experience levels and offer teams for boys aged 13–18 and girls in the Under 13, Under 15, and 1st Girls age groups. Whether you are new to rugby or returning for another season, there is a place for you in the Daramalan Rugby community.



#### Training Schedule

Training has now commenced and follows the schedule below:

- **Girls (all age groups) and Under 13 & Under 14 boys:** Monday and Wednesday, 4:00pm – 5:30pm
- **Under 15, Under 16, and Senior boys:** Tuesday and Thursday, 4:00pm – 5:30pm

These sessions focus on skill development, fitness, teamwork and preparing players for the upcoming season.

### Upcoming Trial Matches

Trial matches provide valuable preparation and an opportunity for players to represent the College:

- **All Boys Teams vs St Augustine's College (Canberra):** 21 March
- **Senior Boys vs Chevalier College:** 27 March (lunchtime fixture), strengthening our connection with fellow MSC schools
- **1st Girls and Senior Boys vs Canberra Grammar:** 2 March

The official competition season will commence in Week 2 of Term 2.

### New Daramalan Rugby Website Launch

We are excited to be launching the new Daramalan Rugby website, developed in partnership with Clubland. This platform will serve as the central hub for all rugby information, including training schedules, fixtures, results, team announcements, registration links, club news, policies and important updates. The website will improve communication and ensure players and families can easily access everything they need throughout the season.

### Get Involved

Daramalan Rugby is built on the commitment and support of our wider community. We are always looking for parents, alumni and community members interested in coaching, managing or volunteering. We are currently looking for an Under 13 Girls, Under 15 Girls and Under 13 Boys coach. If you would like to be involved, please contact **Mr Ben McGee**.

We look forward to another exciting season and encourage all students to take part in this outstanding program. Daramalan Rugby continues to foster not only skilled players, but confident, respectful and resilient young people who proudly represent their College.





# Oztag

## Daramalan Summer Oztag

A total of 118 students took part in this year's Daramalan Summer Oztag competition, forming 10 teams; five boys' and five girls' teams, competing on Wednesday nights at the Kaleen Playing Fields.

The season delivered a mix of results, but more importantly plenty of fun, teamwork and new friendships ahead of the school year. With a strong focus on social sport, the competition provided a great opportunity for students to connect and get to know one another in a relaxed, supportive environment.

The final round was played on Wednesday 18 February.

A huge thank you to our dedicated student Coaches: **Imy Vickery, Emily Reid, Addison Fordham, Zoe Buckman** (Year 11), **Annie Campbell, Lucy Beard, Esther Sakul, Georgia Morris, Jack Gilligan** (Year 10), **Riley Wyeth** (Year 12), **Charlotte Power, Mia Lane** and **Grace Kelly** (Year 9).

We also extend our sincere appreciation to our staff Managers:

**Mr James Hollis, Mr James Ross, Ms Bernie Ross, Ms Tarni Magyar, Ms Lucy Stonebridge, Ms Mel Bradham, Ms Corinne Kelly, Mr Jonathan Hall, Mr Aaron Krug** and **Mr Simon van Meurs**.

Thank you to everyone involved for making the season such a positive and enjoyable experience.





# COME AND TRY DARAMALAN HOCKEY

**WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH**  
**3:45pm - 4:45pm**



**Daramalan ovals**  
**Sausage sizzle provided**

**Register your interest with Mr Dix in the**  
**Sports office or email [stuart.dix@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:stuart.dix@daramalan.act.edu.au)**





# Careers News

## DARAMALAN CAREERS WEBSITE

Please contact **Annette Brady** on 6245 6394 or [careers@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:careers@daramalan.act.edu.au)  
**Book an Appointment with the Careers Advisor**

### Upcoming Events

**Tuesday 24 February** Charles Sturt University information session, lunchtime in the Seminar Room

**Friday 27 February** Future Fridays: Career talk with Olivia Fairweather and Jake Bunday (Real Estate) – Senior Common Room

**Wednesday 4 March** Provide First Aid course (details have been emailed to all students)

**Wednesday 11 March** ANU 2027 applications open for Year 12 students

**Monday 16 March** RSA course (details have been emailed to students in Years 11 and 12)

### Future Fridays: Career talk with...

Dara Alumni are returning again in 2026 to help inform, inspire and guide students in their career journeys. Students are invited to come to the Senior Common Room at lunchtime on Fridays to chat with past students about their own career journey.

Coming up we have:

**Olivia Fairweather** and **Jake Bunday** – jobs and pathways in Real Estate.

### Bond University Future Forum

Future Forum is hosted by Bond University, at the Arboretum in Canberra. This complimentary event aims to inspire, empower and connect high school students as they enter the next stage of their education and career. Future Forum is an opportunity to connect with like-minded students, educators and mentors who share the same drive for excellence. Attendees will leave feeling better informed, more confident in their choices, and empowered to take their next steps toward a bright future. Express your interest here - <https://bond.edu.au/bond-future-forum>

### ANU Direct Applications for Study in 2027

ANU direct applications open on **Wednesday 11 March** for Year 12 students. Direct applications are free and allow students to apply for admission, scholarships and accommodation in one application. Please contact **Ms Brady** in the Careers Hub if you have any questions or if you need any assistance with the process. Please note, those who intend on applying for the Tuckwell Scholarship should be aware of the different application deadline. [Click here for more information on applying to the ANU.](#)

### Charles Sturt Advantage Applications Now Open

Are you interested in studying at CSU? The Charles Sturt Advantage (early offer) program is a direct application program for Year 12 students. [See here for more information.](#)

### University of New England Early Entry

Early Entry applications are now open for Year 12 students, students can complete their application via the following link: [https://study.une.edu.au/app/early\\_entry/applicant\\_portal](https://study.une.edu.au/app/early_entry/applicant_portal)

### ACU Uni Step-Up

Uni Step-Up is a HECS-free program for Year 11 students from regional and remote areas, and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Participants study two first-year ACU units online while still at school, receive credit towards related degrees, and become eligible for an early offer on successful completion. For 2026, units are offered in Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine, Exercise and Sports Science, and Business. [For more information please visit the website.](#)

### UC's Accelerated Pathways Program (APP)

With UC's APP program, you can earn credit towards a university degree and an ACT Senior Secondary Certificate. It's a chance to explore subjects like [Psychology](#), [Business](#), [Environmental Science](#) and [heaps more](#) - all while getting a taste of university life. For 2026 Year 11 students only. Applications close Wednesday 25 February.

### UNSW ACTivate Cybersecurity H Course for 2026.

This program is designed for motivated Year 11 students with an interest in technology, problem-solving and future careers in Cybersecurity. Students will study at UNSW Canberra City while completing their college studies, gaining exposure to university learning and real-world applications of cybersecurity. Classes commence in Term 2, 2026, with orientation in the week of **Monday 20 April**. Applications close **Saturday 28 February** and there is no cost to participate. Application forms are available online here: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/canberra/study-with-us/city-campus-programs/unsw-activate>

### MedEntry UCAT Preparation

Students interested in pursuing Medicine and Dentistry need to sit the UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test) in July/August 2026. MedEntry offers free resources, preparation materials and practice tests. Students can access significant discounts including for groups and those nominated by their teacher. For more information, please visit [www.medentry.edu.au](http://www.medentry.edu.au)

### Free UCAT and Medical Entry Workshop On-Campus at UNSW for Years 10 - 12 Students

Dreaming of a career in Medicine? Join the world's top UCAT tutors in March 2026 for an exclusive, free workshop at UNSW. Learn exactly how to balance Year 12 with UCAT study and master the strategies used by real medical students. Hosted by Contour MedPrep (home of the World Record UCAT scorer), you will leave with a physical workbook, a clear roadmap, and a free gift pack.

Secure your seat here: <https://bit.ly/ucat-caa>

For any questions, please email [medprep@contoureducation.com.au](mailto:medprep@contoureducation.com.au)

### University of Tasmania – Opportunities for Students

NEW natural sciences camp: From critters to cosmos  
**Sunday 26 April – Saturday 2 May**

This field-based experience is designed to inspire and challenge Year 12 students through hands-on natural science activities, including study of geological formations, animal and plant observations, participation in drone navigation, a visit to an observatory, with integrated mathematical and chemistry applications. Applications close at midnight (AEDT) on **Sunday 1 March**. [Learn more.](#)

### Maria Island marine biology experience Monday 27 April – Sunday 3 May

Designed to engage, challenge, excite and inspire students through a hands-on Marine Science program. They will be encouraged to explore issues threatening biodiversity as well as the productivity of the marine system. Investigating issues such as climate change, invasive species, pollution,



## Careers News Cont...

debris and their associated social and economic impacts will be covered. [Learn more.](#)

### Work Experience at the Canberra Theatre Centre 2026

Applications for the 2026 Work Experience Program at the Canberra Theatre Centre – the One Week Project - are now open. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to find more information.

### Work Experience at the ACT Courts and Tribunal - 2026

The ACTCT offer a limited number of work experience placements twice a year at the end of Term 2 and Term 4. Due to the sensitive nature of the work, work experience at the ACTCT is restricted to Year 11 and 12 students and there will be no exceptions to this requirement. The ACTCT will publish the link to the expression of interest (EOI) form [on our Work Experience page](#) from **Wednesday 1 April to Friday 15 May and Tuesday 1 September to Friday 9 October.**

### Work Experience in Forensic Science with the AFP

Curious about working with the AFP? Love forensic science? Fascinated to learn more?

The Forensics Work Experience Program is a one-week immersive program for students in Years 10 to 12. It's held twice a year at the AFP Forensics Facility at Majura in the ACT. Learn about the inner workings of AFP Forensics and find out if a role with the AFP could be your perfect career. Applications for the 2026 program are open and close on **Sunday 1 March.**

### CIT EV Awareness days

CIT will be hosting two EV Awareness Day events this March, designed to give students a hands on, engaging introduction to electric vehicle technology, sustainability pathways, and future career options in the EV industry. These events are ideal for students with interests in STEM, sustainability, engineering, innovation, or hands on learning. These events will showcase the Electric Vehicle TAFE Centre of Excellence at CIT. Interested students need to respond to the email sent by **Ms Brady** during the week! The priority groups are First Nations students and Women in EV.

### The Girls Leadership Network

Do you know any enterprising female-identifying people who are in Year 11 and 12, keen to expand their network, meet some amazing people and be introduced to cutting edge leadership concepts? This program is great for existing leaders as well as those emerging. Registrations can be [submitted here](#) and are due by **Friday 6 March** with the first session to be held on **Thursday 26 March.** More

information can always be found on our website - <https://thegirlsleadershipnetwork.org/>

### World Education Program Australia

WEP is hosting free online Information Sessions this term. These sessions are designed for students and parents alike to:

- Learn about WEP's student exchange programs
- Ask questions about destinations, schools and host families
- Hear first-hand insights from staff and students who have returned from their exchange.

Please see the attached flyer for details.

### Nominations are Open for Young Future Shapers

Nominate a young person in Years 5-10 to build confidence, capability and connection with Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) with an amazing support package.

- The young person needs to answer at least one question in the nomination form.
- Parental consent is required for nominations.
- All costs of Young Future Shaper experiences are covered by the program.

Parents can nominate their children (unless the parent works for CSIRO, BHP Foundation or BHP.)

For more information and to apply, [see the Young Future Shapers website.](#)

Nominations close at 11.59pm AWST on **Tuesday 10 March.**

### Fair Work Ombudsman - Students' Rights at Work Webinar

Are you thinking about working while you study? The Fair Work Ombudsman's webinar can help students understand their workplace rights and make the most of their job.

Students can register for the webinar at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7303637281153919319> or watch the recording and other helpful webinars on the FWO's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@FairWorkGovAu>

### News from Work Study Grow

#### How to ask for a reference or referee

References can play a big role when you're applying for a job, apprenticeship or course.

#### 7 rewarding traineeships you haven't heard of

Not sure what career path to take but eager to get started?

#### What to know about Australia's latest university rankings

A new global university ranking has just been released, and it places more than two dozen Australian universities among the world's leading institutions for 2026.







WORLD EDUCATION PROGRAM  
AUSTRALIA

Discover  
the world  
with student  
exchange!

# WEP Student Exchange Term 1



## WEP Talk Online Events

Join one of our info nights to learn about going to **high school overseas with WEP**. Ask any questions & find the right program for you!

### WHEN?

**January 21<sup>st</sup>**, 4:30pm AEDT

**February 5<sup>th</sup>**, 6pm AEDT

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>**, 6pm AEDT

**March 18<sup>th</sup>**, 6pm AEDT

**March 30<sup>th</sup>**, 6pm AEDT

**April 14<sup>th</sup>**, 2pm AEST

## Open Day

Come and see us to talk it over at our Open Days! You'll be able to chat with our advisors, ask questions, and discuss destinations, programs, and experiences...

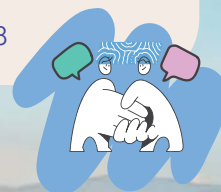
### WHEN?

**February 21<sup>st</sup>**, 1-4pm AEDT

### WHERE?

**WEP Australia Office**

479 Hampton St  
Hampton VIC 3188



[wep.org.au](http://wep.org.au)

RSVP online on our website  
or call our office!



03 9598 4733 • [info@wep.org.au](mailto:info@wep.org.au)





**dream. believe. achieve.**

## Calling all year 11 & 12 girls who strive to become better leaders!

### Welcome to The Girls Leadership Network

#### What is The Girls Leadership Network?

The network is a series of fun and interactive workshops where college age girls will explore leadership topics and develop a support group of like-minded peers.

Improve your leadership skills by attending 6 monthly leadership workshops. Topics include knowing yourself as a leader, making change happen, resilience and more. Learn skills that you can then take forward into your community.

Be inspired by our amazing speakers and workshops designed by experts.



#### What's Involved?

- Monthly workshop sessions starting on Thurs 26th March and following on the last Wednesday of each month.
- These in person sessions will take place from 5.30–8.30pm at ThinkPlace's Barton office which is a purpose-built innovation studio.
- There is no cost for participants to attend.

**Applications are open now and must close on 6 March 2026.**

## Program Highlights

Dedicated Workshops

Connection

Goal Setting

Amazing Speakers

Learning Yourself

Confidence

#### Testimonials for our Program –

I was nervous at first because I didn't think I would know anyone, but The Girl's Leadership program made it so easy to connect, learn, and grow. The space is warm, inclusive and full of people who genuinely want to support each other. I learned so much, had fun, and feel more confident stepping into leadership than I did before. Highly recommend!

– Mia, 2025 Participant



**[thegirlsleadershipnetwork.org](http://thegirlsleadershipnetwork.org)**



Come along to a Parent & Carer Presentation!



## Digital Wellbeing for Families Webinar

**WHO'S INVITED?**  
Parents & Carers

**DURATION**  
60 minutes

**WHERE?**  
Online Webinar

### ABOUT THIS WORKSHOP

This online presentation invites you to step back and reflect on how screen time affects your household. It explores **practical tips and strategies** for creating **healthier digital habits** that positively impact relationships and **strengthen family connections**.

Tailored for parents and carers, this session will help you:



Gain insight into the **latest research around family screen time and its impact** on individual and collective wellbeing in the home.



Feel equipped to **support your children's device usage with practical strategies** without screen shaming, banning or removing devices.



Discover **ideas and strategies to enhance your own digital wellbeing** to role model for your family.

SCAN FOR MORE ABOUT  
**THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™**







MARIST COLLEGE  
CANBERRA PRESENTS

# Fr. Laurence Freeman OSB

*AT AN EVENING OF DIALOGUE*

HOSTED BY GENEVIEVE  
JACOBS AM

Tuesday  
10 March

Marist College  
Canberra

7.00pm -  
8.30pm

The purpose of the evening is to create a space for respectful dialogue on the National Marist theme 'Full of Grace, transformed by God's love' and its implications for Catholic Education in the Canberra community.

## FORMAT

Keynote presentation by Fr. Laurence Freeman, participant dialogue and time for question and answer.

- Welcome and introductions
- Fr. Laurence Freeman 30-minute address on the topic 'Full of Grace, transformed by God's love'
- Dialogue in circle groups
- Genevieve Jacobs facilitates Q&A
- Close and thanks

## FR. LAURENCE FREEMAN OSB

Monk of the Benedictine Congregation of Monte Oliveto Maggiore. He is the director and spiritual guide of the World Community for Christian Meditation.

With Irish and English roots, Laurence Freeman was educated by the Benedictines and studied English Literature at New College, Oxford University. Before entering monastic life, he worked with the United Nations in New York, in Banking and Journalism. He is Director of The World Community for Christian Meditation (WCCM) a global, inclusive, ecumenical contemplative community.

John Main was his teacher and Fr. Laurence assisted him in establishing the foundations of the Community. Fr. Laurence is the author of a number of books on Christian Meditation. He travels extensively giving presentations and leading Christian Meditation Retreats.



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER OR CLICK HERE





# 2026 CANTEEN PRICE LIST



Breakfast (8:25am - 8:50am)	
Toasties	\$4.00
Banana Bread	\$4.00
Hash Brown (2)	\$2.50
Quiche	\$4.50
Ham and Cheese Crossant	\$4.50
Muesli cup	\$4.00
Fruit salad	\$4.00
Cheese & Crackers	\$2.50
Yoghurt	\$2.50
Recess Hot Food	
Pizza	\$3.50
Sausage Roll	\$4.50
Spinach Ricotta Roll	\$4.50
Meat Pie	\$5.00
Chicken Burger	\$6.50
Beef Burger	\$6.50
Egg and Bacon Roll	\$6.50
Recess Chilled Food	
Sushi (G.F)	\$4.50
Rice Paper Roll (G.F)	\$4.50
Muesli cup	\$3.50
Fruit salad	\$3.50
Cheese & Crackers	\$2.50
Yoghurt	\$2.50
Lunch Hot Food	
Sausage Roll	\$4.50
Spinach Ricotta Roll	\$4.50
Meat Pie	\$5.00
Chicken Burger	\$6.50
Beef Burger	\$6.50
Large Special	\$6.50
Small Special	\$4.50
Lunch Chilled	
Sushi (G.F)	\$4.50
Rice Paper Roll (G.F)	\$4.50
Wraps	\$8.50
Sandwich	\$5.00
Greek Salad (G.F)	\$6.00
Sweets	
Muffins	\$4.00
Chocolate Croissant	\$4.00
Cookie	\$3.00
Slices	\$3.50
Chips	\$2.80
Chocolates	\$2.80
Mentos	\$2.00
Zappos	\$1.50
Life savers	\$1.50
Ice Creams	
Icy Twist (G.F)	\$2.00
Calippo	\$3.00
Cyclone	\$3.00
Magnum	\$4.40
Drinks	
Large Milk	\$4.00
Wild Juice	\$3.50
Aloe/coconut Water	\$4.00
Up & Go	\$3.50
Iced Tea	\$4.00
Juice Bomb	\$3.50
Mineral Water	\$3.50
Water	\$3.00
Large Coffee	\$5.50
Small Coffee	\$4.50

- To pre-order an item for lunch just ask at one of the registers between 8.25am-8.50am
- Daily Specials change daily,
- Please ask at the counter for today's specials or to place a pre-order.
- Please ask Canteen staff if you are unsure of dietary requirements.



# 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](mailto: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!



## Ginger Books

Small business bookkeeping; BAS Lodgement; Payroll and Admin

T: 0413 517 196

E: [phillip@gingerbooks.com.au](mailto:phillip@gingerbooks.com.au)

W: [www.gingerbooks.com.au](http://www.gingerbooks.com.au)

C: Phillip van Zomeren



**Book an appointment  
with us today!**

Telephone: (02) 6299 4822

Part Suite 1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 23 Antill Street, Queanbeyan, NSW, 2620

Email: [contactus@q1dentalcare.com.au](mailto:contactus@q1dentalcare.com.au)

Website: [www.q1dentalcare.com.au](http://www.q1dentalcare.com.au)

## Q1 Dental Care

Part Suite 1, First Floor, 23 Antill Street, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

T: (02) 6299 4822

E: [contactus@q1dentalcare.com.au](mailto:contactus@q1dentalcare.com.au)

W: [www.q1dentalcare.com.au](http://www.q1dentalcare.com.au)

C: Dr Susan Leonera-Salazar

F: [Facebook](#)



## Ray White Canberra

Ray White Canberra Group is a market-leading property business across residential sales, rentals, commercial property, mortgage broking and project marketing.

Shop 2, 14 Wales Street, Belconnen ACT 2617

Level 1, 146 Scollay Street, Greenway ACT 2900

32 Lonsdale Street, Braddon ACT 2612

E: [enquiries.canberra@raywhite.com](mailto:enquiries.canberra@raywhite.com)

W: [www.raywhitecanberra.com.au](http://www.raywhitecanberra.com.au)

F: [Facebook](#)

I: [Instagram](#)



## COMMUNITY BUSINESS DIRECTORY CONT...

ACT Cabs	Hamza	<a href="http://www.actcabs.com.au">www.actcabs.com.au</a>
AllClass Carpet & Upholstery Care	Peter Nassar	<a href="http://www.allclasscarpetcare.com.au">www.allclasscarpetcare.com.au</a>
Australian National Character Check	Hamza	<a href="http://www.australiannationalcharactercheck.com.au">www.australiannationalcharactercheck.com.au</a>
CBR Recruitment	Adam Kowalski	<a href="http://www.cbrrecruitment.com.au">www.cbrrecruitment.com.au</a>
Corver and Co Chartered Accountants	Trevor Corver	<a href="http://www.corverandco.com.au">www.corverandco.com.au</a>
Eat Cookies	Lisa Jansen	<a href="http://www.eatcookies.com.au">www.eatcookies.com.au</a>
Element Building Projects	Dennis and Aldona Stravopodis	<a href="http://www.elementbuildingprojects.com.au">www.elementbuildingprojects.com.au</a>
The Energy People	Alex Morrison	<a href="http://www.energypeople.com.au">www.energypeople.com.au</a>
Griffin Legal	Claire Carton	<a href="http://www.griffinlegal.com.au">www.griffinlegal.com.au</a>
Holly Komorowski – home.byholly	Holly Komorowski	<a href="http://www.homebyholly.com.au">www.homebyholly.com.au</a>
Leader Security	Troy Cassell	<a href="http://www.leadersecurity.com.au">www.leadersecurity.com.au</a>
Pacific Facilities Maintenance	Justin Hyland	<a href="http://www.pacificfm.com.au">www.pacificfm.com.au</a>
Pinnacle Driving School	Lisa Murphy	<a href="http://www.Pinnacledrivingschool.com.au">www.Pinnacledrivingschool.com.au</a>
Q1 Dental Care	Dr Susan Leonera-Salazar	<a href="http://www.q1dentalcare.com.au">www.q1dentalcare.com.au</a>
Ray White Canberra		<a href="http://www.raywhitecanberra.com.au">www.raywhitecanberra.com.au</a>
Ray White Rural Canberra-Yass	Simon or George Southwell	<a href="http://www.raywhiteruralyasscanberra.com.au">www.raywhiteruralyasscanberra.com.au</a>
Red Shed	Monique Gassan	<a href="http://www.redshed.org.au">www.redshed.org.au</a>
Riteway Cleaning Services	Alan	<a href="http://www.ritewaycleaningcanberra.com.au">www.ritewaycleaningcanberra.com.au</a>
Sentinel Security & Technology Group	Ellena	<a href="http://www.sstg.com.au">www.sstg.com.au</a>
The Athlete's Foot	Ashleigh Hogan	<a href="http://www.theathletesfoot.com.au">www.theathletesfoot.com.au</a>
The Corner Market	Katherine Olmos	

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

Daramalan College hosts a Community Business Directory on our school and alumni websites where local businesses are promoted year-round. Each company is also promoted on a rotational basis in our school newsletter and on alumni Facebook and Instagram pages with more than 5000 followers.

Promoting your business on the Daramalan College Community Business Directory costs \$130, including GST, and is an annual subscription renewable at the end of each advertising year.

All funds raised from annual subscriptions will be donated to the Daramalan College Scholarship Fund. This will provide a life-changing opportunity to a student whose

family situation would mean an education at Daramalan College might otherwise be out of reach.

Contact Ms Arina Yakovtseva for more information on [alumni@daramalan.act.edu.au](mailto:alumni@daramalan.act.edu.au)

