

DARANNEWS



29 May 2026

WEBSITE

DARANET



Earth Day

Upcoming events

- 29 May**
Yr 7 & Yr 11 2027 Enrolments Close
- 1 June**
Reconciliation Day Public Holiday
- 2-3 June**
Yr 7 Retreat
- 5 June**
Sacred Heart Day Mass and Heart Photo
- 8 June**
Kings Birthday Public Holiday
- 11-18 June**
Yrs 11-12 Examinations
- 12 June**
Feast of the Sacred Heart
- 22 June**
Yr 7 Grandparents and Grand Friends Day, McCowage Hall
- 23-24 June**
Yr 10 Transition to College Program
- 25 June**
Yr 8 Online Safety
- 26 June**
Daranews Published
Yr 7 Online Safety
End of Term 2

From the Principal



Dear Parents/
Carers, Staff and
Students,

We are now more than halfway through a long Term 2, with four weeks remaining of the term, it is pleasing to see the way

that students are engaged in their learning and making the most of the opportunities both inside and out of the classroom. This term has certainly been filled with activities and events. Since the last edition of Daranews, the Hospitality Parent Dinner has been held and was an outstanding success, the Spelling Bee created a buzz in the FLA, we celebrated and acknowledged Multi-cultural Week with a range of activities and events which culminated with our annual Languages Day, our Environment Group marked World Environment Day with their Sustainable Market and non-uniform day, and the Winter weekend sporting

competitions are well underway. Our Social Justice group have also been extremely active with a variety of awareness raising initiatives such as Do it for Dolly and the Gift of Life Walk. This week we have also acknowledged the significance of National Sorry Day and Reconciliation Week. In addition to this, our Bands and Ensembles achieved great success at the National Eisteddfod last weekend. I would urge families to take the time to read through the following pages where many of these events and activities are showcased.

Over the coming weeks we will be collecting donations for the annual St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal. I would encourage families who are able to donate items of clothing including jumpers, jackets, gloves and socks, as well as blankets and non-perishable snacks to do so to enable us to support those who are most vulnerable in our community. The details of how families can support this important initiative can be found in the following pages of this edition of Daranews.

From the Principal

While it is a busy time, it is important that students maintain a good balance in their lives to reduce anxiety about meeting the deadlines associated with the inevitable assessment that comes at this time of the semester. For many students who have planned their work and time well, they will find their efforts have paid off in terms of being well-placed to meet all deadlines successfully. We wish our Senior students all the best when their formal examination period begin in the coming weeks.

MSC Visit, Fr Jim Littleton MSC and Sacred Heart Day

As I mentioned in the last edition of Daranews, for several days in Week 14 we hosted a large number of guests from the three other MSC schools in Australia as well as the MSC Provincial Superior and other members of the Provincial's Leadership team and the MSC Education Members Council. The meetings which were held over two full days provided a great opportunity for representatives from each of the Colleges, MSC Education and the Chevalier Institute to discuss issues and share ideas.

Last Wednesday a large number of our staff travelled to Kensington and then to Douglas Park to attend the funeral service for **Fr Jim Littleton MSC** following his passing at the age of 96 on Wednesday 6 May. Fr Jim was Principal of Daramalan from 1971 to 1979 and returned to Daramalan where he lived onsite at the MSC residence from 1998 until 2019 when the residence was closed. Throughout these years, Fr Jim was not simply a leader of our College, he was an integral part of the daily life of Daramalan. In his role as Chaplain, Fr Jim continued to accompany staff and students in learning about the MSC charism, celebrating Mass, and he was a frequent visitor at staff morning tea where he would share stories and offer his wisdom. Fr Jim was also the Principal of Downlands College in Toowoomba, where he had been a student, Chevalier College in Bowral, was the first Director of MSC Education, and had also held the role of Provincial Superior. Fr Jim was a prolific writer and historian publishing many books throughout his life. We anticipate that a memorial service will be held here at the College on Saturday 4 July to celebrate Fr Jim's life and contribution to Daramalan and the wider MSC community.

Next Friday we will be celebrating Sacred Heart Day with a Mass led by **Fr Bob Irwin MSC** and concelebrated by our Chaplain, **Fr Tru Nguyen MSC**, taking our annual Heart Photo, sharing a BBQ lunch and then being wowed by our amazing performers in the afternoon at Dara's Got Talent. Thank you in advance to those families who have volunteered to help with the cooking of our House BBQs. I am sure that it will be a wonderful day of celebration of our charism and who we are as an MSC school.

Parking, Blocking Driveway Access, No Stopping Zones and Supporting Student Safety

I would again like to reiterate my previous messaging relating to parking and student safety around the College. Unfortunately, almost every day I witness multiple near misses where students have been dropped off and have alighted from cars in No Stopping areas or have crossed the busy roads in between buses, cars or not at the designated pedestrian crossings when being picked up. To keep our students safe when making their way to and from school, please ensure you drive and park safely and legally around our school. Unsafe and illegal parking can reduce visibility of our students and motorists to see each other, creating a significant hazard when students cross the road. Please remember not to park across pedestrian crossings, in No Stopping zones, on corners, verges or double parking. Our priority is ensuring the safety of all members of our community on the increasingly busy roads that surround the College. I would also 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.

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



Small school service for Fr Jim



Current and former principals of Daramalan College at Fr Jim's funeral

From the Principal

2027 Enrolments and Year 11 Transition Information

The official enrolment period for Year 7 and new Year 11 families for 2027 officially close today, Friday 29 May. Once again, this year we have received a significant number of applications for places in Year 7, 2027. Our enrolment policy provides a clear guide as to the process that we follow when determining the offers of places. Offers of places are scheduled to be made, in line with those made for other ACT Catholic Secondary Schools, by the end of this Term. Families with students currently enrolled in Year 10 are reminded that the Notice of Intention forms for Year 11 2027, emailed to families earlier this term, are due to be returned by **Friday 12 June**.

Uniform

As the weather has turned colder and the foggy and damp mornings have become more frequent, can I take this opportunity to remind families that hoodies, including Daramalan sports hoodies and quarter zip jumpers, and 'puffer' jackets do not form part of the Daramalan uniform and should not be worn to school, at school or from school. Unfortunately, we are seeing these items creeping in as the weather has changed. There is the option for our female students to wear trousers during the Winter months to alleviate the cold associated with wearing a skirt in the Canberra Winter. Thank you for your support in ensuring that our students wear their uniform with pride as ambassadors of the College.

Student Leave Requests

A reminder for 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.

Students in Years 11 and 12 should be aware that there are strict requirements for attendance stipulated by the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies in order for students to gain credit for a unit of work. Any extended absences from school may have an impact on the student's ability to be assessed even if all the assessment tasks for the unit are completed. Students should seek advice from the Assistant Principal - Curriculum Years 11-12, Mr Steve Carroll, prior to making plans to miss any school days.

Scholarship Fund

Application forms for Scholarships for the 2027 school year will be available on the College website early next term and will be located under Enrolments/Scholarships. Daramalan Scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need rather than on academic, sporting or cultural excellence. Their purpose is to provide the opportunity for students to attend Daramalan who may not otherwise have the opportunity due to financial hardship. Our Alumni website has details of how you can support the Scholarship Fund and includes the inspiring stories of a number of our former scholarship recipients. <https://alumni.daramalan.com.au/get-involved/>

With the 2025-26 Financial Year ending on Tuesday 30 June, some families may be interested in giving a donation to the Scholarship Fund as donations are tax deductible. For information about donating to the Scholarship Fund, please contact the College Director of Finance, **Ms Rachael Axford**, on 6163 6509 or email Rachael.axford@daramalan.act.edu.au. There is also the option of making a donation through the Qkr! App/Portal.



Languages Day Quiz

From the Principal

Financial Assistance

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

Student Achievements

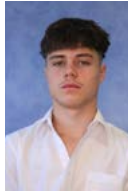
Congratulations to:

Eloise Smith (Year 12) on her selection again this year to umpire the School Sport National Netball championships in Melbourne.

Jayden Kocanov (Year 11) on his selection as a member of the ACT U18 Soccer squad for the upcoming National Championships.

Ella Higginbotham (Year 11) who has been selected as a member of the NSW Interstate OzTag team to play Queensland at the end of September.

Joshua Higginbotham (Year 7), **Kye McGrath**, **Caetano Alzamora Magalhães** (Year 8) and **Lachlan Higginbotham** (Year 9) who will be representing the ACT at the National AFL Championships in Melbourne next term.



Our congratulations are also extended to the members of the various College bands and ensembles who recently competed at the National Eisteddfod and achieved the following outstanding results:

The Jazz Band won a Gold medal for their performance.

Concert Band were awarded a Bronze medal.

The String Ensemble won a Silver medal for their section.



I wish our Senior students much success in their examinations which begin in the coming weeks. For our Years 7-10 students, I encourage you to make the most of the final weeks of term and the learning opportunities offered during this time.

Best Wishes,

Rachel Davies
Principal



Earth Day stalls

Canteen Assistant Wanted

We are seeking a committed and suitably qualified canteen assistant on casual basis.

Applicants should visit the College website to view the full role description: <https://www.daramalan.act.edu.au/2026-employment/>

To apply for this role please address the selection criteria (as outlined in the role description), attach your resume, covering letter and the application cover sheet found on our website and email to sheryl.simpson@daramalan.act.edu.au

Applicants must have current WWVP card (or be able to attain these prior to commencement).

For further details please contact **Corinne Kelly**, Office Manager 62456310

Applications close at **5pm Tuesday 2 June 2026**

School News

WWVP Reminder – Compliance Audit

Access Canberra is currently conducting a Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) compliance audit across selected activities in the ACT, and the College has been selected for inspection.

As part of this process, in-person checks may occur at trainings, games and other College activities to verify that all individuals engaged in regulated activities hold a valid WWVP registration.

A reminder to all volunteers that you must carry your WWVP card with you when undertaking any regulated activity on behalf of the College. This includes roles such as coaching or assisting sports teams, team management, refereeing or officiating, and any activity involving direct work with students.

We appreciate your support in ensuring we meet our compliance obligations and continue to provide a safe environment for all students.

WWVP REMINDER COMPLIANCE AUDIT

Term 2 School Fee are now Overdue.

Term 2 School Fees were due by Monday 11 May and are now overdue.

If you require a copy of your statement, please email fees@daramalan.act.edu.au

Please be aware of the College's terms regarding unpaid fees:

- An administration fee of \$15.00 (including GST) will be charged to any family account not paid by the due date (typically 14 days after the start of term).
- A further \$15 fee will be added each fortnight until the account is fully paid.
- These charges do not apply if the College has agreed to a payment plan and fees are being paid by direct debit.
- The administration fee covers the additional costs incurred due to late payment.
- If a parent defaults on fee payment, they may also be liable for all associated recovery costs, including legal and collection fees.

For full details, please refer to our website:

<https://www.daramalan.act.edu.au/fee-schedule/>

ACT Pre Learner Licence Course - Semester 2, 2026

Registration for the ACT Pre Learner Licence Course Road Readiness program opens **Monday 8 June**.

Did you know that the ACT Government has a requirement that all ACT residents must complete a Pre Learner Licence Course if they want to obtain an ACT Drivers Licence?

If your child turns 15 years and 9 months before the end of the year 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 options for timing 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 offer the course in a way that is supportive and suitable for Daramalan College students.

Further information can be sought by contacting **Mr Steve Hackett** on 6163 6532 or steven.hackett@daramalan.act.edu.au.

Bookings are only available via Qkr!. Courses for Semester 2 start Week 3 of Term 3, with further information specific to each course option available via Qkr! or from the contact above.

This will be the last time the college will offer the Pre Learner Licence Course for 2026, so if you miss out Semester 2 or are not quite old enough to get your Learners Licence yet, there will be the opportunity to enrol for a course in Semester 1, 2027. If the popularity of the program for the last 3 years is anything to go by, Semester 2 programs will likely book up quickly and places are limited.

Mr Steve Hackett



First Nations

National Walk for Truth

On Tuesday 26 May, seven Daramalan students and two teachers participated in the National Walk for Truth. The walk was led by **Travis Lovett**, a Kerrupmara Gunditjmara man and Executive Director of the University of Melbourne's Centre for Truth Telling and Dialogue. The walk began at the Victorian Parliament in Naarm/Melbourne and travelled to Parliament House in Canberra on Ngunnawal and Ngambri Country. The Daramalan contingent joined the walk from Lyneham to the ANU. Along the walk Travis has carried an Open Letter on a kangaroo skin to give to Prime Minister Anthony Albanese. The letter is asking for national truth telling - for truth to be told, to be listened to and to heal.

Travis is inviting everyone to sign the open letter on his [website](#).

This walk was a truly meaningful experience, offering both students and teachers a fantastic opportunity to actively participate in the Reconciliation process. It fostered a deeper understanding and connection, strengthening our commitment to walking together towards unity, respect and truth telling.



The Corroboree Culture Day held at UC provided a meaningful opportunity to both connect to land and learn about Indigenous practises in an exciting and rewarding way. Representatives came to talk about pathways for Indigenous students going forward and offered many activities including athletic events, traditional dancing, and practices like weaving and spear throwing, showing the influence of Indigenous culture. Personally, I learnt

that Indigenous culture is not something that is just observed, but something that must be experienced through storytelling and participating. It was a great way to help people connect and understand the value of cultural traditions.

Bonnie Young (Year 12)



Earth Day

On Thursday 28 May, the Environment Group hosted Earth Day. Students celebrated by wearing non-uniform clothing of blue and green in exchange for a gold coin donation! Thank you to all our Year 7 PTs who donated the most amount of money for our cause! We had stalls in McCowage Hall run by students who were selling food, drinks, homemade art, plants, and we even had live music by our own musically talented students!

We raised well over \$4000 from this event and all our funds will go directly to our Sustainable Futures Project where the College Captains will be travelling to Cambodia to build a sustainable home for a family as part of our partnership with Volunteer Building Cambodia (VBC). This home will include solar panels, a toilet block and clean water to promote environmental sustainability.

A special thank you to those students who ran the stalls, as well as some of the Year 12 students who assisted by cooking and serving the barbeque as well as the setup of the stalls! Another special thanks to all the teachers who contributed to make this day so successful!



National Volunteer Week

National Volunteers Week 2026 was held Monday 18 - Sunday 24 May. During this week we take a moment to acknowledge the dedication of Australia's many volunteers. One industry where volunteers give so much of their time, often spending days and weeks away from families, often in high-risk service and situations, are those involved with the Emergency Services. They give a great deal of their time to training, community engagement and active operations to protect and support communities in times of need. Many of these people balance demanding careers with their volunteer roles, supported by understanding workplaces.

During National Volunteer Week, Daramalan College was acknowledged for its strong support of staff involved in



Emergency Services. Nominated by Teacher and Rural Fire Service volunteer **Mr Steve Hackett**, the College was recognised for enabling staff to fulfil their volunteer commitments.

At a special breakfast event on Friday 22 May, **Mr David Kurthi** and **Mr James Keeley** attended on behalf of the College, joining others in celebrating organisations that champion volunteer service. During the event, Daramalan College was presented with an acknowledgement plaque, which will be displayed in a prominent location at the college.

This recognition highlights the importance of community support in sustaining emergency service volunteers and strengthening community resilience.

To all those who volunteer in our community, in any industry, we say Thank You!



Business and Government

AFP Crime Scene Investigators Visit Year 11 Legal Studies

Students in **Ms Eve Fitzpatrick's** Year 11 Legal Studies class were treated to an engaging and eye opening incursion this week as Australian Federal Police Crime Scene Investigators **Nat** and **Bek** visited the class to share their expertise as part of the 'Crime and Justice' unit.

The session gave students a rare opportunity to hear directly from professionals working 'on the ground' in criminal investigations. Nat and Bek spoke about their day to day responsibilities, the specialised skills required in forensic work, and the career pathways that led them into the AFP. They also highlighted how police powers, legislation and strict investigative procedures shape every aspect of their roles.

Students were particularly captivated by the investigators' real world stories from the field, which illustrated the complexity and importance of crime scene work. Nat and Bek also discussed what it's like to testify in court, how



they prepare for giving evidence, and how their roles fit into the broader context of the justice system.

It was a fantastic learning experience that sparked plenty of curiosity, and perhaps even inspired a few future forensic investigators!

Social Justice

Do it for Dolly Day

On Friday 15 May, Daramalan College proudly celebrated Do it for Dolly Day, joining schools and communities across Australia in promoting kindness and taking a stand against bullying. Students and staff were encouraged to wear blue clothing and accessories to show their support for the important cause and to honour the memory of Dolly Everett, who tragically took her own life at the age of 14 after experiencing prolonged bullying and cyberbullying.

Students engaged in a kindness activity in PT and were invited to wear blue ribbons for the day. A special thank you to **Ms Michelle Lloyd** who made blue scrunchies for students to buy and wear. It was inspiring to see so many members of the community wearing blue ribbons, socks, ties and other blue clothing in solidarity with the cause.

Do it for Dolly Day served as an important reminder that even small acts of kindness can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others, and that everyone has a role to play in creating a safe and inclusive environment for all.

James Clarke
Social Justice Captain



Social Justice

Vinnies Winter Appeal

This week, we launched the Vinnies Winter Appeal. The Vinnies Winter Appeal exists to support people experiencing hardship and homelessness, particularly through winter.

Imagine someone sleeping rough tonight in a Canberra winter?

What would they need? Maybe a hoodie, socks, gloves, a beanie, a jacket, a blanket or a sleeping bag? What would they need to eat for a day? Maybe long-life milk, pasta, soup, tinned vegetables, cereal, muesli bars or noodles?

We are inviting all PTs to “give warmth and food to one person” for a day.

From now until late July, we are collecting clothes and food for those doing it tough in Canberra’s winter.

We are seeking warm layers - jackets, jumpers, pants, socks (new), gloves, beanies, blankets and sleeping bags. We are also seeking food - breakfast (cereal, spreads, tinned fruit, tea and coffee), lunch and dinner (rice, pasta, noodles, canned soup, pantry staples, pasta sauce). These lists are by no means exhaustive, all non-perishable food items welcome.

Students are asked to bring their donations into PT. Qkr! is also open for monetary donations that will be used to buy items.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

**VINNIES
WINTER APPEAL**

Give warmth and food this winter

WHAT WE COLLECT

Winter coats, jackets, jumpers, scarves, beanies, gloves, socks, pantry staples, pasta, rice, tinned vegetables, breakfast, snacks, tea and coffee, soup.

DONATION DATES

MAY 25 - JULY 31

DONATE

Donate



**WHO IS SOMEONE YOU ARE
GRATEFUL FOR TODAY?**



**WHAT HAS MADE
YOU HAPPY TODAY?**



**I FEEL GRATEFUL FOR THE
PEOPLE IN MY LIFE BECAUSE...**

Counsellors

Grounding Techniques to Support Student Wellbeing

Grounding strategies are simple techniques that can help you reconnect with the present moment, regulate strong emotions and feel calmer when stress begins to build.

Grounding does not make difficult emotions disappear, but it can help reduce the intensity of distress and support clearer thinking, problem-solving and emotional regulation. These strategies are commonly used to support people experiencing anxiety, stress, panic, low mood or emotional overwhelm.

Why can grounding be helpful?

When we feel anxious or overwhelmed, our brain can shift into “fight, flight or freeze” mode. This is the body’s natural stress response system and can lead to physical symptoms such as racing thoughts, rapid breathing, nausea, muscle tension or feeling disconnected from what is happening around us.

During these times, grounding techniques can help slow the nervous system down and bring attention back to the here and now.

Grounding techniques can be particularly helpful:

- Before exams, presentations or sporting events
- During periods of stress or overthinking
- When emotions feel intense or difficult to manage
- During moments of panic or anxiety
- When finding it difficult to focus or concentrate
- After conflict or upsetting situations.

What are some grounding strategies young people can try?

Different strategies work for different people, so it can be helpful to experiment and practise skills when calm, rather than waiting until stress feels overwhelming.

Here are some simple grounding techniques you can try:

- **5-4-3-2-1 exercise:** Notice 5 things you can see, 4 things you can feel, 3 things you can hear, 2 things you can smell and 1 thing you can taste. This helps bring attention back to the present moment using the senses.
- **Categories:** Choose a category (e.g. animals, movies, sports teams or foods) and slowly name as many items as possible. This helps redirect attention away from anxious thoughts and back to focused thinking.
- **Counting backwards:** Slowly count backwards from 100 by 3s, 5s or 7s. This requires concentration and can help interrupt spiralling thoughts or panic.
- **Drawing or colouring:** Engaging in repetitive, creative activities, such as doodling, colouring or tracing patterns can help calm the nervous system and improve focus.

- **Box breathing:** Breathe in for 4 seconds, hold for 4 seconds, breathe out for 4 seconds and hold again for 4 seconds. Repeat several times to help calm the nervous system.

Need additional support?

Daramalan students have access to four counsellors and one school psychologist employed by the College. They are professionally qualified counsellors, social workers or psychologists who support the emotional, social and educational wellbeing of our students. More information about our services can be found on Daranet.

Learn more: [Finding relief through grounding techniques.](#)

5 senses technique

Take a moment to look at your surroundings.
Either in your head or out loud, list:

5 things you can see



4 things you can feel



3 things you can hear



2 things you can smell



1 thing you can taste



Want to try something now?

Think of someone positive

For example:

- a friend
- family member
- or pet



Uhr Information Centre

The Uhr Information Centre continues to buzz along. Our Teacher Librarians have collaborated with department staff to deliver workshops supporting assessment for Year 8 Science on Body Systems, Year 10 Religious Education on developing a picture book on grief, and Year 7 English on sentence structure techniques for short stories.

Cosy Games

As the weather gets colder, why not come and enjoy our collection of board and card games? Recent favourites include chess, Spot-it, Articulate and Uno. Or try one of our new games, Tapple, Guess Who Football Stars, and Wobbly Worms.

Homework Club

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

What are you reading?

Ms Mel Cashman Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Ms Emma Cox Pax by Sara Pennypacker

Ms Ellie Miller A Court of Mist and Fury by Sarah J. Maas

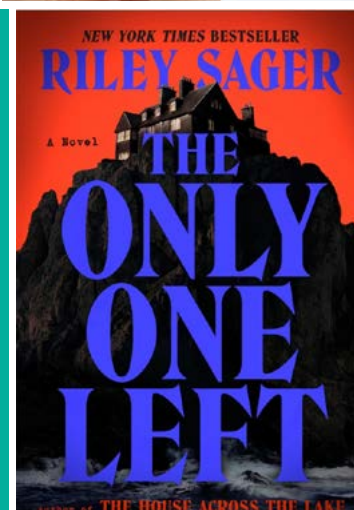
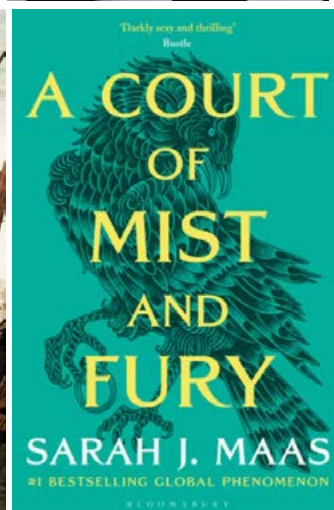
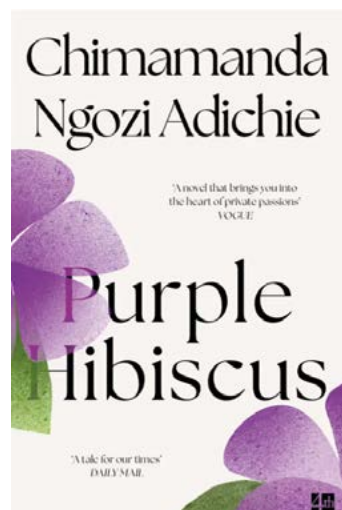
Ms Megan Colwell The Only One Left by Riley Sager

Word of the day

Do you fancy yourself a bit of a word whiz? Or did you flop at the Daramalan Spelling Bee? Come and check out our display lickety-split, as we try to bamboozle, discombobulate and flabbergast you with interesting words. Suggestions welcome!

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



Design and Emerging Technologies

Design and Emerging Technologies Excursion

Last term, our Year 11 and 12 Design and Emerging Technologies students had the valuable opportunity to attend the SHAPE Design and Technology Exhibition at the University of Technology in Sydney. The exhibition and seminar showcased exemplary major projects from 2025 created by Year 12 students from across New South Wales. The exhibition provided students with inspiration and insight into innovative design thinking, high-quality project development and effective folio techniques.

Students also visited WINDTECH Consultants – Wind Consulting Engineers, where they gained firsthand exposure to industry practices in engineering, environmental analysis and sustainable design solutions for large building projects. The excursion allowed students to connect classroom learning with real-world applications and provided valuable perspectives on future study and career pathways within design, engineering and emerging technologies.

The excursion was an engaging and informative experience, and students are to be commended for the professional manner in which they represented the school.

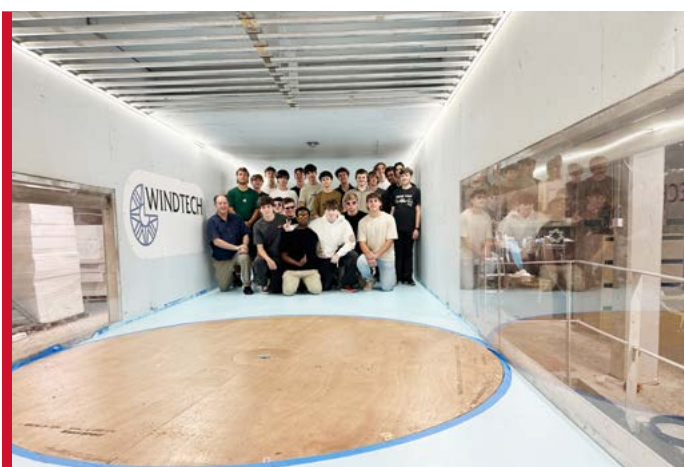
Mr David Kurthi – Technology and Design Coordinator

The excursion to UTS – SHAPE Exhibition was an extraordinary experience. It was full of valuable insights

towards not only the possibilities for projects, but also how to properly plan, structure and build projects. Projects showcased brilliant designs from last year's Year 12 students across NSW. The projects ranged from redesigning traffic lights to entire vehicles.

WINDTECH was an amazing experience, where applications of civil engineering and structural testing of real modern-day skyscrapers is performed in a state-of-the-art facility by a globally contracted consultant. The experience was priceless towards any goals in engineering and industrial design.

Andy Dunn (Year 12)



Technology Open Workshops

Up to twenty students took advantage of a productive Saturday in the Technology timber workshops as part of the College's flexible learning program. Students from Years 11 and 12 Design and Emerging Technologies and Furniture Making classes dedicated their time to progressing major projects in preparation for upcoming end-of-semester assessment tasks.

The workshop provided students with valuable extended access to specialist tools, equipment and teacher support, allowing them to refine practical skills and continue developing high-quality project work.

Throughout the day, students demonstrated excellent commitment, collaboration and creativity while working on a range of timber and design projects.

Opportunities such as these highlight the dedication of students and staff in supporting hands-on learning experiences beyond regular class time. The additional workshop session enabled students to make significant progress toward completing their major works and further develop their understanding of design processes, construction techniques and workshop safety practices.

The College congratulates all students involved for their enthusiasm and positive approach to learning.

Spelling Bee

The annual Spelling Bee made a triumphant return last week, much to the absolute delight of a packed and passionate crowd of supporters! The energy in the room was electric as our sharpest spellers went syllable-for-syllable in an epic battle of words.

After some incredibly intense rounds, we are thrilled to announce this year's Spelling Bee Champion: **Sean Loney** (Year 12 Cuthbert). Sean showed incredible focus and poise to take out the winning position. A huge congratulations also goes to our brilliant runner-up, **Angus Ferndale** (Year 10 Goolagong), who pushed the competition right to the very edge. No doubt Angus will be back next year to try to take out the top spot.

We would also like to acknowledge and congratulate our outstanding grand finalists who made it all the way to the ultimate Spelling Bee showdown on the final day:

Alexandra Johns (Year 7 Cuthbert)

Raeland Loney (Year 8 Cuthbert)

Eamon Kelly (Year 9 Cuthbert)

Rachael Matthews (Year 11 Lyons)

Laura Green (Year 12 Farrer)

Thank you and congratulations to all our other entrants representing their House groups in competitions across the week. It is a very brave move to get up and spell words in front of a crowd and we are so proud of you all.

A huge event like this doesn't happen without a fantastic team behind the scenes. A special thank you goes to **Ms Gail Mutton** for her meticulous work keeping track of the all-important House points, and to **Archie Edwards** (Year 12) for providing a stellar, crowd-energising warm-up each day. Archie wore an inflatable bee costume and admitted that it had become his entire personality by Friday. A shout-out to **Mr Fred Clark**, who took school spirit to a whole new level by also donning a bee costume to build hype around the campus during the week. It certainly got everyone buzzing!

Thank you to everyone who came out to support, cheer and celebrate the incredible linguistic talent of our students. Until next year...keep spelling!

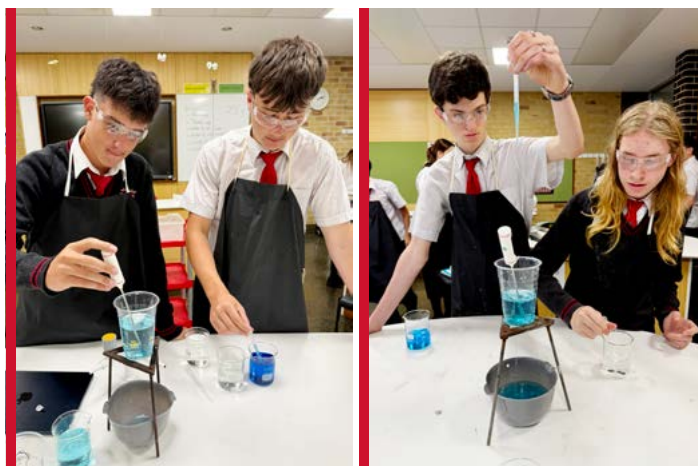
Ms Anne Brown and Ms Ellen Canfield



Science

Year 9 Nervous System and Homeostasis

Year 9 have been learning about the nervous system and homeostasis. To bring these concepts to life, students took part in an experiment that challenged them to keep a “body system” in balance. In this activity, students worked as a group to maintain water levels, temperature and colour of water within a specific range. Just like the human body, carefully regulating conditions and responding to changes, it quickly became clear that even small shifts could throw the system out of balance!



Year 11 Psychology

Our Year 11 Psychology students recently visited the National Zoo and Aquarium, where they explored how learning theories are applied in real-world settings. Bringing their studies of classical and operant conditioning to life, students discovered how animal trainers use these techniques to shape behaviour in a safe and ethical way.

Highlights included learning how positive reinforcement is used to train animals for important health procedures, such as encouraging sun bears to participate in dental checks, as well as training snakes to not bite their keepers!

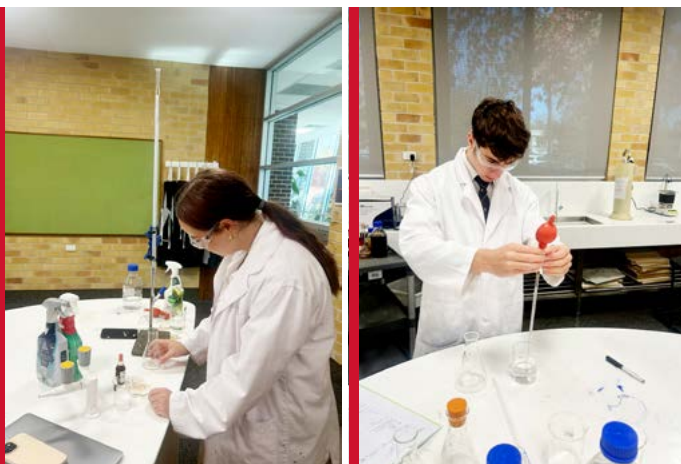
Students also enjoyed some hands-on experiences, including holding a snake and feeding alpacas and emus, making it a memorable and engaging day of learning beyond the classroom.

A fantastic opportunity to see psychology in action!



Year 12 Chemistry

Pickle juice, orange juice, aspirin and white wine – what do all these things have in common? They are all on the materials list for Year 12 Chemistry while our students investigate real world scenarios that involve acid-base or redox titrations. Using volumetric analysis techniques they will need to determine the concentration of a solution and communicate their findings as an investigation report.



Titration Competition

The annual Titration Competition was held at the Australian National University on Saturday 9 May. This competition involves Chemistry students from various colleges across ACT competing against each other to accurately conduct titrations and calculate concentrations of unknown solutions. We had the following students from Year 11 Chemistry represent Daramalan College: **Benjamin Axford, Cooper Barker, Timothy Bertram, Hannah Chi, Ashley Fothergill, Elijah Henderson, Michael Howlett, Océane Meredith, Kristian Slatter and Grace York.**

Although these students will only be learning about titrations in Year 12 Chemistry, it was great seeing them express interest in extending their Chemistry knowledge. They worked diligently during our practice sessions and supported each other throughout the competition. We ended the evening with students from all colleges sharing pizza and celebrating the results achieved by everyone.



Ethics Olympiad

On Wednesday 13 May two senior Daramalan teams represented the College at the annual Ethics Olympiad. They competed via Zoom against many teams from ACT and NSW colleges with outstanding integrity, collegiality and respect throughout the competition.

One Daramalan team achieved a fifth place, while the second team received an honourable mention from the judges.

Although we did not finish on the podium, the students' conduct, teamwork and thoughtful engagement in complex ethical discussions was truly commendable. We are incredibly proud of the way they approached each round with maturity and intellectual curiosity. As we often remind our students, the learning journey and personal growth gained through these experiences are what matter most.

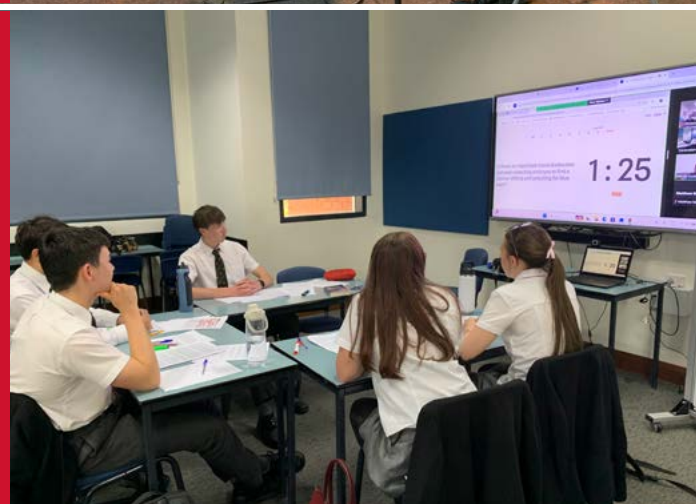
Reflecting on the day, the students shared their thoughts:

"The Ethics Olympiad was a fantastic opportunity to practise moral discourse and explore our understanding of our own personal values whilst debating the ethics of current moral dilemmas." **Sean Loney** (Year 12)

"The Ethics Olympiad was a rewarding experience for us all to explore and test our intrinsic values in a comfortable, yet demanding environment." **Kiran Isbister** (Year 12)

Congratulations and thank you to our Ethics Olympians: **Evie Nicholls** (Year 11) and Year 12 students: **Ruby Budd, Andy Dunn, Roy Halliday, Cael Heenan, Kiran Isbister, Lucas Korab, Sean Loney, Charlotte Price and Tristian Tierney.**

We are now seeking interested students in Years 7-9, who would like to participate in the Middle School Ethics Olympiad in November. Please register your interest at jarek.ferenc@daramalan.act.edu.au



Languages

Multicultural Week and Languages Day

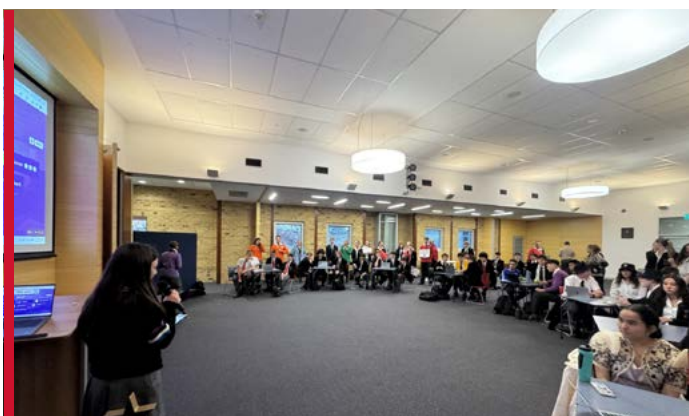
In Week 12, Daramalan College celebrated Multicultural Week and our annual Languages Day, highlighting the rich cultural diversity of our community. In the lead-up to the event, students took part in a language and culture quiz during pastoral time, which quickly became highly competitive. Congratulations to Year 12 O'Brien PT class for their win!

On Languages Day, it was wonderful to see students proudly wearing traditional clothing. During recess,

Chelsea Delteza Patriarca and **Aria Wallace** (Year 12) performed special world music, while food stalls offered popular freshly baked pretzels, macarons and mochi, selling out quickly. At lunchtime, the House Trivia Quiz was held in the FLA, with all eight Houses competing across seven categories, including geography and demographics, sports, word origins, flags, inventions, famous personalities, and even a "know your teacher" round. The event was filled with energy, laughter and great spirit. Congratulations to Farrer House for winning the 2026 Languages Day House Trivia!

We extend our heartfelt thanks, Danke, Merci and Arigato gozaimasu to everyone who contributed to making the event such a success.

Languages Department



Senior Japanese Excursion

Our Senior Japanese class recently went on an excursion to Tiger Lane and Ujin Matcha Tea House in Civic. The trip gave students the opportunity to try Asian cuisine and Matcha. Here is a student's reflection:

At Tiger Lane, we explored a variety of Asian cuisines in a vibrant and modern food hall. The lively atmosphere provided a relaxed environment for us to socialise and enjoy our meals together. Following lunch, we visited Ujin Matcha Tea House. The tea house offered a more traditional experience.

A highlight for many of us was riding the tram through Civic. The experience reminded us of using the public transport whilst in Japan, providing fond memories for those of us who had previously participated in the 2025 Japanese Study Tour.

The excursion served as a valuable experience, allowing us to connect with Japanese culture, cuisine and tea. The trip was both enjoyable and meaningful, leaving us with shared memories from the day.

Roy Halliday (Year 12)



Languages

Tag der deutschen Sprache

On Tuesday 19 May, German students from Years 10, 11 and 12 undertook an excursion to the Embassy of Switzerland. This trip concluded a three-year cycle in which Daramalan students, along with students from various other schools in the ACT, visited the three most prominent embassies of German speaking countries in Canberra (Austria in 2024, Germany in 2025, and Switzerland this year in 2026) to celebrate the Tag der deutschen Sprache (Day of German Language).

Each time, students were given the opportunity to partake in several fun activities that allowed them to grow their German speaking abilities and learn the way in which the German language differs across different dialects in three countries. Not only this, but Daramalan students were able to socialise with and build connections with students studying German from all around the ACT region and learn how their language learning experience varied from theirs. We also had the chance to talk to ANU students about studying German at university.

After the conclusion of the activities, we were served lunch which was prepared by a Swiss chef. We sampled delicious foods originating from the respective countries of the embassies.

Overall, these excursions served as fantastic means for German students to expand their German skills, knowledge of culture, and integrate themselves into the German speaking community of Canberra!

Tomasz Williams (Year 12)



German Film Festival

Kino for Kids returned as part of the German Film Festival, giving Years 9–12 German students the chance to attend screenings of *The School of Magical Animals* or *The Secret Floor* at Palace Electric Cinema in New Acton. Despite relying on subtitles, many students were surprised by how much German they could understand.

“We are very appreciative to have had the opportunity to see *School of Magical Animals 4* with our Year 9 German class. It was an amazing film, and it immersed us in the German culture and language. We particularly enjoyed the funny elements of the film, that brought laughter that filled the whole cinema. It’s events like these that build a stronger Daramalan community that we are so grateful to be a part of.”

Xanthe Thomas, Livia Harris and Nel Baraniecki (Year 9)



Hospitality

Hospitality Masquerade Dinner

On Thursday 21 May, Daramalan's Year 12 Hospitality class hosted a masquerade themed three course dinner. The dining room was transformed beautifully, guests were welcomed warmly, the night ran seamlessly due to months of hard work and planning behind the scenes.

Head Chefs **Crystal Neou** and **Liam Inwood**, working closely alongside **Ms Janette Kline**, put together a menu that genuinely impressed...the kind of food that makes you forget you're at a school dinner. Maître d' **Grace Rogalewski-Slade** ensured the floor ran smoothly, and **Bhianca Pandoo's** eye for decoration turned the space

into something guests won't forget in a hurry. **Alice Cuddihy** kept the energy alive throughout the evening with a well-planned entertainment program, and MC **Jasper Harris** tied the whole night together with enough humour to keep the room laughing between courses. Guests were also treated to a performance by **Bella Fraser**, whose singing added to the atmosphere and enjoyment of the evening.

The night was a credit to the hard work and dedication shown by all the Year 12 Hospitality students. A huge thank you to our Year 11 students who also volunteered their time in the kitchen, a contribution that didn't go unnoticed. Nights like this are a reminder of just how much talent exists within Daramalan's Hospitality program, and how much heart goes into making it all happen.

Jasper Harris (Year 12)



Textiles

Fashion Excursion

The Year 12 Textiles Fashion trip began with a train ride to Sydney. After arriving at Sydney Central we enjoyed spending time exploring the city. Australian Fashion Week was held at the Museum of Contemporary Art, where we had the opportunity to watch runway shows of future designers.

We were also fortunate to take a tour of the runway space and hear from **Nikki Andrews**, head of PR for Australian Fashion Week, who shared her career journey and industry insights. Day two was filled with fashion, creativity and excitement, where we attended an outdoor fashion show beside the Opera House, and took part in a Fashion Bingo activity. We met lots of influencers and were grateful to attend the 'New Generation' fashion show, where we observed the designs of four emerging designers, with some students getting front row on the runway.

Overall, the trip was an unforgettable experience to see the future of fashion, as well as view creativity and behind-the-scenes of similar fashion events.



Performing Arts

Students from the Music program at Daramalan College have enjoyed an exciting and highly successful week of performances, showcasing their talent both at the Music Performance Evening and at the National Eisteddfod.

On Monday 18 May, the Music Performance Evening drew a large and enthusiastic audience of family, friends and staff. The evening featured performances from the Junior Concert Band, String Orchestra, Choir and Madrigal Choir, Senior Band and Jazz Band, highlighting the depth of talent and dedication within the College's music community.

Audience members were treated to a diverse and engaging program, with each ensemble demonstrating impressive musical skill, teamwork and confidence on stage. From the polished harmonies of the choirs to the energetic performances by the bands and orchestra, the concert celebrated the hard work students have put into rehearsals throughout the term.

The success of the evening continued into the week at the National Eisteddfod, where Daramalan ensembles achieved outstanding results. On Thursday 21 May, the Jazz Band delivered an exceptional performance and was awarded a prestigious Gold Medal. On Saturday 23 May, the String Orchestra received a Silver Medal for their polished and expressive performance, while the Senior Band earned a Bronze Medal following a strong and spirited performance.

Throughout both events, students were supported by wonderful audiences and strong encouragement from parents and the wider school community. Their ongoing support plays an important role in the success of the College Music program and is greatly appreciated by students and staff alike.

A special thank you goes to **Ms Angela Dunn**, **Ms Michelle Coggan** and **Ms Heather Roche** for their dedication, encouragement and hard work in supporting the students and helping prepare the ensembles for these performances and competitions.

Congratulations to all students involved for representing Daramalan College with pride, passion and excellence.

Mr Michael Jackson



Sport

There was an error in the previously published Athletics Age Champions results. The issue has now been rectified and the following results are correct.

12 Years Girls:	
Champion	Kiara O'Connor (Merrick)
Runner-Up	Holly Meadley (Cuthbert)
12 Years Boys:	
Champion	Kwame Antwi-Tuffour (Lawson)
Runner-Up	Mason Brown (Phillip)
13 Years Girls:	
Champion	Eve Andonovski (Lawson)
Runner-Up	Audrey Dal Santo (Farrer)
13 Years Boys:	
Champion	Arthur Giason (Cuthbert)
Runner-Up	Ryder Coutts (O'Brien)
14 Years Girls:	
Champion	Bridie Iglewski (Farrer)
Runner-Up	Baaba Antwi-Tuffour (Lawson)
14 Years Boys:	
Champion	William O'Rourke (Lawson)
Runner-Up	Jett McInerney (Goolagong)
15 Years Girls:	
Champion	Grace Kelly (Lyons)
Runner-Up	Rachel Giason (Cuthbert)
15 Years Boys:	
Champion	Alexander Clarke (Lawson)
Runner-Up	Jack Gilligan (Cuthbert)
16 Years Girls:	
Champion	Ella Higginbotham (Farrer)
Runner-Up	Gabbie Iglewski (Farrer)
16 Years Boys:	
Champion	Harry Clark (Lyons)
Runner-Up	Hayden Armstrong (Merrick)
Opens Girls:	
Champion	Grace York (Goolagong)
Runner-Up	Sophia Papanicolaou (Phillip)
Opens Boys:	
Champion	Jasper Harris (Cuthbert)
Runner-Up	Lucas Korab (Merrick)

It has been another busy few weeks in sport at Daramalan, with students representing the College across a wide range of competitions and carnivals. Congratulations to all students involved for their enthusiasm, teamwork and sportsmanship displayed.

A special congratulations to the students who competed in the following events:

- Years 7/8 and 9/10 Boys Rugby League
- ACT 12&U Swimming Carnival
- ACT 13&O Swimming Carnival
- Years 7–9 Boys and Girls AFL

- Years 7/8 and 9/10 Boys and Girls Oztag
- Years 7/8 and 9/10 Girls Volleyball.

Thank you to all staff involved for supporting our students and helping provide these fantastic sporting opportunities.

Today also saw the running of the ASC Cross Country Carnival, and we congratulate all students who competed and represented Daramalan.

Looking ahead, there are still several exciting events coming up this term, including:

- ACT Cross Country Carnival – Friday 12 June
- Annual ASC v CSC Rugby Match – Wednesday 3 June
- Boys Volleyball Gala Days for selected students.

We wish all students the best of luck in their upcoming events and thank our sporting community for their continued support throughout the term.

Match of the Round:

Mr Ben McGee - Rugby Convener

This weekend we see our U15 Girls team take on Trinity/Cooma at home. This group is growing from strength to strength and displaying some amazing rugby skills. Many of the girls have been selected in representative sides and with that experience are bringing it back to the team to enhance the overall performances. Come down and see this wonderful group showcase all the things we love about grassroots rugby and Daramalan sport

Mr John Gale - Basketball Convener

Under 14 D4 Girls - The girls kicked off the season in Pool B and have been outstanding, winning their first four games convincingly to earn promotion to Pool A. They have been brilliantly led by their coaches, Year 10 students Gabbie Iglewski and Rufina Kim, whose leadership has been instrumental in the team's success so far.

Next up, the girls face a strong Spartans team at 5:30pm on Saturday 30 May at Tuggeranong Basketball Stadium. Come along and show your support — let's get behind the girls as they take on this exciting challenge!

Ms Bernie Ross - Netball Convener

Come and support Dara Bruce (Year 7 team) this Saturday 30 May, 11:30am at the Lyneham Netball Courts, (Court 10)

In their very first season representing Daramalan Netball, this talented team remains undefeated and continues to impress each week. The girls have come together exceptionally well as a team, showing fantastic determination and teamwork on the court. Don't miss the chance to watch one of the competition's most exciting young teams in action as they look to keep their unbeaten streak alive!

Mr Stuart Dix - Hockey Convener

Daramalan Red JSL Boys will be taking on United tonight at 6:15pm in Tuggeranong. The Daramalan Red side currently sits on top of the ladder with 3 wins and 1 loss to start the season. Get down to support the boys as they look to continue this fine run of form and cement their spot as the team to beat this season.

Mr Marty Capon - Acting Sports Coordinator

My game of the round is our Dara Maloney (Inters Div 7) Netball team. Currently undefeated after four rounds, with three wins and a draw (17 all against Dara Wood). Come down and support our girls as they take on Merici College Thunderbirds at 10:30, Court 1 at the Lyneham Netball Centre.

Sport Cont...



Basketball

We are now well into the BACT Winter season, with four games already completed and plenty of exciting action behind us. It has been fantastic to see strong performances across all teams. There have been several close matches and impressive wins have highlighted the depth of talent and spirit within our teams. As we move into the next stage of the competition, we wish all teams the very best for the remainder of the season.

Grade	Home Team	Home Team Score	Away Team	Away Team Score
U14 Boys Division 1	Gungahlin Flames	34	Daramalan	71
U14 Boys Division 2B	Spartan Storm	28	Daramalan	29
U14 Boys Division 3B	Spartan Assault	9	Daramalan	23
U14 Boys Division 4B	Daramalan Black	17	St Edmund's College White	18
U14 Boys Division 4B	Spartan Steel	10	Daramalan White	34
U14 Boys Division 6B	Radford Ospreys	16	Daramalan	69
U14 Girls Division 1A	Weston Creek Woden Dodgers	21	Daramalan	34
U14 Girls Division 4B	Ramblers Black	10	Daramalan	43
U16 Boys Division 1A	Weston Creek Woden Dodgers	46	Daramalan	53
U16 Boys Division 2B	Daramalan	18	Ginninderra Desert Rats	56
U16 Boys Division 3A	Daramalan White	25	Marist Cyan	24
U16 Boys Division 3B	Marist Indigo	35	Daramalan Black	21
U16 Boys Division 4A	St Edmund's College Gold	44	Daramalan White	37
U16 Boys Division 4B	Daramalan Black	39	Ginninderra Stats Rats	40
U16 Boys Division 5C	Weston Creek Woden Dodgers	28	Daramalan	23
U16 Boys Division 6	Daramalan White	30	CGS Nuggets	34
U16 Boys Division 6	Daramalan Black	14	BAS Lightning	28
U16 Girls Division 2	Gungahlin Flames	14	Daramalan	13
U16 Girls Division 4	Ramblers White	18	Daramalan	10
U19 Boys Division 1A	Daramalan Black	50	BAS Heat	34
U19 Boys Division 1B	Ramblers Red	29	Daramalan White	62
U19 Boys Division 2A	Queanbeyan Roadrunners	19	Daramalan Black	34
U19 Boys Division 2B	Daramalan White	49	Norths	42
U19 Boys Division 3A	Daramalan Red	45	Weston Creek Woden Dodgers 3 A	38
U19 Boys Division 3B	Daramalan White	39	Ginninderra Desert Rats	27
U19 Boys Division 3B	Daramalan Black	40	Radford Eagles	56
U19 Boys Division 5B	Gungahlin Flames	19	Daramalan	42
U19 Boys Division 6	Canberra City Stallions	58	Daramalan	13
U19 Girls Division 1	Daramalan	50	Warriors Basketball Club	29
U19 Girls Division 2	Canberra City Stallions	16	Daramalan	21
U19 Girls Division 3A	Radford Eagles	14	Daramalan	18



BASKETBALL TRAINING CAMP 2026

THURSDAY 9 & FRIDAY 10 JULY

LOCATION: Daramalan College Canberra, 121 Cowper St, Dickson

AGE GROUPS: Students in Years 4,5,6 and 7

Drop off and pick up is in the foyer of the Daramalan College Sports Centre. Please enter the school via the Morphett St entrance and park closest to the oval. Then enter the school via the closest quad which will lead you to the sports centre. All instructors are highly experienced, many currently playing in the premier league BACT competition.

ARRIVAL & PICK UP TIMES

- Arrive: Between 8.30am - 9am
- Pick up: 3:30pm sharp

WHAT TO BRING/WEAR:

- Basketball training attire, rubber soled shoes
- A basketball
- Packed lunch. (similar to school, please bring your own lunch and snacks every day in a clearly named lunch box or bag. Lunch shouldn't include any nuts or nut products)
- Drink bottle. (Please make sure it is named)
- A small amount of cash. A small canteen will be set up to sell lollies and soft drink.

WHAT NOT TO BRING: Avoid bringing items that you wouldn't want to get dirty, lost or broken. These items include iPad's and other electronic devices, watches and jewellery.

TYPICAL SCHEDULE

8.30-9am – Arrival/ Casual shootaround
 9.00-9:20 – Introduction/ warm up and group allocations
 9:20-10.00 – Session 1
 10.00-10.30 – Recess
 10.30 – 11:10 – Session 2
 11.10 – 11.20 – Drinks break (instructors game)
 11.20 – 12.00 – Session 3
 12.00-1.00 - Lunch
 1.00 – 1.40 – Session 4
 1.40 – 2.10 – Afternoon Tea
 2.10 – 2.50 – Session 5
 2.50 – 3.00 – Warm down/ tidy up
 3.00 – 3.30 – Pick up

SESSIONS (order may vary on the day)

Session 1: Shooting clinic using our Dr Dish Complete Trainer
 Session 2: Fun basketball games
 Session 3: Non active session - NBA games on the big screen/ board games/ card games etc
 Session 4: Ball Handling and passing workshop
 Session 5: Small sided games

PAYMENT

\$80 per day, payments can be made using the following link:



**\$70 EARLY BIRD SALE IF YOU
BOOK BEFORE 12 JUNE**

Rugby

Daramalan Rugby has now reached Round 5 of the 2026 season, with many positive signs emerging from the opening month of competition. Following a strong and productive pre-season, players and coaches alike are beginning to see the benefits of the hard work completed across the summer months, with a number of teams producing excellent performances both on and off the field.

One of the major highlights so far has been the Under 13 program and the way our youngest players have transitioned into high school rugby. While their performances on the field have been impressive, it has been even more pleasing to see how quickly the players have embraced the culture, standards and expectations that are such an important part of Daramalan Rugby. Their enthusiasm, coachability and support for one another continue to build a strong foundation for the future of the program.

Our Girls' Rugby program also continues to flourish. The Under 15 Girls squad has seen a significant influx of players this season, creating greater depth and stability within the group. The continued growth of Girls' Rugby at Daramalan is extremely exciting, and we are confident this momentum will continue as players progress toward senior Girls Rugby in future years.

A fantastic initiative introduced this season has been the Domino's Pizza Teammate of the Week award.

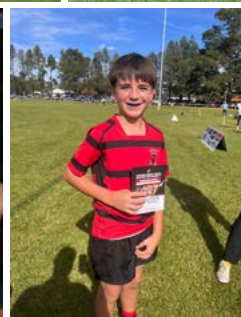
Rather than focusing solely on on-field performance, this recognition celebrates players who demonstrate outstanding culture, support, encouragement and commitment to their teammates. The award has already become an important part of reinforcing the values and spirit of Daramalan Rugby.

Our senior programs are also enjoying a strong start to the season. The Girls 1st XV recorded an outstanding 65–5 victory over Trinity in Round 4, while both the 2nd XV and 1st XV remain undefeated heading into Round 5.

With the restructuring of competition divisions throughout the season, several teams will move into new divisions that better reflect both their level of competition and enjoyment of the game. This provides valuable opportunities for players to continue challenging themselves while ensuring positive and rewarding rugby experiences for all involved.

The representative rugby season is also now underway, and Daramalan Rugby is incredibly proud of the students and players selected in ACT and South Coast Monaro representative teams. These selections are a testament to the hard work and dedication shown by our players, coaches and families. We wish all representatives the very best in their upcoming tournaments and look forward to following their achievements.

As the season continues, we warmly invite all members of the Daramalan community to attend our home games and support our teams. The support shown so far this year has been exceptional, and it is wonderful to see the wider College community continuing to embrace and promote grassroots rugby participation at Daramalan.



Careers News

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

DARAMALAN CAREERS WEBSITE

June

Tuesday 2 June	RSA course (full)
Thursday 4 June	UC Explore Day for Year 12 students only
Monday 15 June	UOW Early Admission applications open
Monday 22 June	RSA course (NEW) Year 11-12 students only – open on Qkr!
Tuesday 23-24 June	Year 10 Transition to College program

July

Monday 20 July	ACU Guarantee opens
Tuesday 28 July	NSW Police Academy excursion to Goulburn – registration details have been emailed to students
Wednesday 29 July	SRS and UAC PT assembly for Year 12 students

August

Wednesday 5 August	CareersXpo excursion for Year 10 students
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NEW! – RSA course Monday 22 June

This course is open to Year 11 and 12 students only. Registration details have been emailed to students and payment is now available on Qkr!

2026 Careers Expo – Online

Daramalan has extended access to the 2026 [National Virtual Expo](#). For a limited time, you can watch on demand the sessions from the expo. Use the code cyu2604.

UAC Applications Now Open!

UAC applications for Year 12 students for study at university in 2027 have opened.

Year 12 student number and UAC PIN: an email with a UAC PIN was sent to ACT students on Wednesday 8 April using the email addresses ACT BSSS have on file.

Early Entry for Study in 2027

[Early Offer Schemes for Year 12 Students](#). Please check the institution's website for the most up-to-date information.

University of Canberra Early Offer Scheme

UC applications are open for study in 2027. [See here for more details](#), including eligibility and course exclusions.

Macquarie University Early Entry

[Macquarie University Leaders and Achievers Early Entry Scheme](#) applications open Monday 1 June.

Bond University

Students are invited to visit the Gold Coast for Bond University's Open Day Interstate Experience on **Saturday 25 July** and enjoy a VIP experience, including a complimentary night's accommodation for two and an exclusive breakfast with fellow future Bondies. This is a great opportunity for students to experience the Bond difference, explore our

campus, meet students and academics, and gain real insight into university life. [Find out more here](#).

Bond are hosting an online Parent Information Webinar to provide parents with essential insights into the university experience. This session is designed to help parents understand what makes Bond unique, how to navigate the application process, and the wide range of support services available to students.

Date: Thursday 18 June

Time: 6pm - 6.30pm AEST

[Link to Register](#)

UNSW Portfolio Entry Scheme

The [UNSW Portfolio Entry Early Conditional Offer Scheme](#) is an alternative undergraduate admission pathway. It allows eligible Year 12 students to receive an early conditional offer based on a portfolio submission rather than relying solely on their ATAR. The scheme recognises skills, experience and achievements that are not fully reflected in academic results. Portfolios are assessed by the relevant faculty, and successful applicants receive a conditional offer, subject to meeting specified academic requirements.

UNSW Upcoming Events

[2026 UNSW Girls in Business Camp – Registrations Now Open](#)

Female students in Years 10–12 are invited to explore how human skills like creativity, ethical decision-making, collaboration and emotional intelligence will shape success in an AI-driven world. Across four dynamic days, students will build confidence and future-ready skills through inspiring workshops, industry experiences and real-world challenges.

Careers News Cont...

UNSW Future Creators' Day – Tuesday 7 July

Years 10 and 11 students are invited to explore creative careers and uni life through immersive, hands-on workshops from UNSW Arts, Design & Architecture. These engaging workshops led by academics and industry professionals will cover Game Design, Animation, Fashion, Graphic Design, Jewellery and more.

Blak Hack program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Year 12 students – 12–18 July

Blak Hack is an immersive week-long innovation program with hands-on workshops, a fast-paced hackathon, and social and cultural activities. Students develop creative solutions to real-world challenges while building confidence, leadership, collaboration and critical thinking skills. They will also gain insight into future study opportunities and career pathways. The program is completely free, with all travel, accommodation and meals covered. Applications close Friday 12 June.

News from Work Study Grow

What's the difference between a boss and a mentor?

Bosses and mentors can both have a significant influence on your working life, but they play very different roles. Knowing the difference makes it easier to get the most out of both relationships, and to recognise what kind of support you're actually looking for.

Early entry: Quick facts

We've put together some interesting facts about early entry over the last year, and what you might be able to expect this year.

National Volunteer Week 2026: Your year to volunteer and why it matters

National Volunteer Week is the perfect time to discover how giving your time could build real skills, open doors, and make a difference in your life and for those around you.

Where physical education can take you

Physical education builds more than fitness. It develops a genuine understanding of how the body works, how movement affects health, and how people perform and improve over time.

What is a HECS debt and what does it mean for you?

Australian Students - University is more accessible than most people realise, partly because of a government loan scheme that means you don't have to pay your tuition upfront.

Applying to university in Canada as an international student

Applying to university in Canada as an international student involves more moving parts than many other destinations, with provincial application systems, study permits and a newer attestation letter requirement all to navigate.

Clouds

Staff and Alumni Biennale 2026

Call to Artists

All Alumni and Staff are invited to join this inaugural visual arts exhibition.

Entries Open: Monday 18 May
Entries Close: Monday 20 July, 5PM

Exhibition Opening: Thursday 3 September 5:30 - 8:00 PM

Please direct queries to:
 StaffandAlumniExhibition@daramalan.act.edu.au

Call to Artists!

The Visual Arts Department is excited to announce our upcoming biennale exhibition. All current staff, past staff and alumni are invited to enter.

Please see the [link to the form here](#) for details and entry.

This year's theme is Clouds, opening in the Joe Woodward Theatre on **Thursday 3 September**.

All artists and makers are welcome to apply!

Alumni

Daramalan College Community Trivia Night

We had a fantastic Trivia Night on Friday 15 May! More than 100 people came together to laugh, enjoy some food and drinks, and show off their knowledge. Former students, staff, parents and friends all mixed in and had a great night. It was wonderful to meet parents and reconnect with old friends!

Together, we raised over \$5,000 for the Scholarship Fund! It was a great feeling to support those in need—especially

members of our community facing difficult circumstances. The Daramalan community truly shines when it comes to helping others. We also learnt something new! For example, some discovered what Batemans Bay residents call Canberrans (yogies), while others realised that milk is more expensive than Coca-Cola and petrol.

A huge thank you to everyone who came along and supported this event. A special thanks to **Mr Ben McGee** who once again showed his true colours (black and red!) and made the night incredibly fun, **Mr Michael Castrission** for writing those very challenging questions, and our amazing events team and volunteers!

Now... time to start preparing for the next Trivia Night.



2026 REUNIONS

SAVE THE DATES



SAT	24	1976 YEAR REUNION
OCT		
SAT	31	1986 YEAR REUNION
OCT		
SAT	7	1996 YEAR REUNION
NOV		
SAT	31	2001 YEAR REUNION
OCT		
SAT	31	2006 YEAR REUNION
OCT		
SAT	7	2016 YEAR REUNION
NOV		
SAT	21	2025 YEAR REUNION
NOV		



Additional Reunion!

Class of 2001

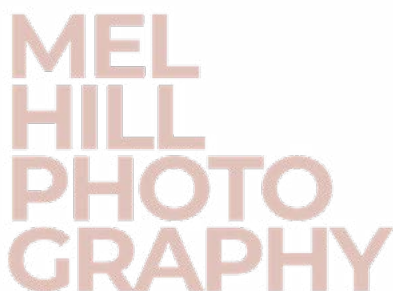
25th Anniversary

Saturday 31 October

*More information coming soon.
Please save the date.*

Alumni Cont...

A huge thank you to all our sponsors for helping make the Daramalan College Community Trivia Fundraiser such a wonderful success. Your generosity made the night fun and engaging for everyone, while also supporting students in need. We are sincerely grateful for your support.



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
Caday Workplace Relations	Cath Day	hello@caday.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
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
Loop Booth	Michael	www.loopbooth.com.au
Mel Hill Photography	Mel Hill	www.melhillphotography.com
Pacific Facilities Maintenance	Justin Hyland	www.pacificfm.com.au
Pinnacle Driving School	Lisa Murphy	www.Pinnacledrivingschool.com.au
Q1 Dental Care	Dr Susan Leonera-Salazar	www.q1dentalcare.com.au
Ray White Canberra		www.raywhitecanberra.com.au
Ray White Rural Canberra-Yass	Simon or George Southwell	www.raywhiteruralyasscanberra.com.au
Red Shed	Monique Gassan	www.redshed.org.au
Riteway Cleaning Services	Alan	www.ritewaycleaningcanberra.com.au
Sentinel Security & Technology Group	Ellena	www.sstg.com.au
T.A.T Building Group	Toby Ward & Ancke Ward	
The Athlete's Foot	Ashleigh Hogan	www.theathletesfoot.com.au
The Corner Market	Katherine Olmos	
The Energy People	Alex Morrison	www.energypeople.com.au

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

