

DOMINIC COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

21 November 2025



From the Principal

Dear Families,

Firstly, I want to express my sincere gratitude for the patience and flexibility shown by our families during this week's closures following the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's recall of coloured sand products. Your continued support ensures that our College remains compliant and provides a safe and nurturing environment for our students and staff. Being a part of our community means working together to look after one another and care for the spaces we share, and I deeply appreciate your partnership in this important responsibility.

We still have much to celebrate as a community this term. I would like to extend my congratulations to students who participated in the recent Music Soirees, JSSATIS (Independent) Athletics Carnival, Regional High School Basketball Tournament, the Year 9/10 Quiz Night, Brighton and Huonville Shows and the Projects Course and VET Hospitality Showcase. We are proud of your hard work and achievements!



2026 Leaders Induction Ceremony

On Friday 7 November we had the pleasure of inducting our new 2026 Student Leaders at the Leaders Induction Ceremony. It was wonderful to welcome families to celebrate this milestone and to see our current leaders pass on the mantle of leadership to our 2026 inductees. Students took part in a series of workshops and activities following the ceremony to commence their planning for 2026 and share ideas about the qualities of a strong leader. We ended the night with a special Mass in our chapel and a shared meal amongst students and staff. Congratulations to all our 2026 Student Leaders on their appointments and my thanks to all 2025 Student Leaders for their service to our community.



Dominican Feast Day and Farewell Sr Pamela Davis OP

Last Wednesday 12 November we celebrated our Dominican Feast Day to honour our patron saints St Dominic Guzman and St Catherine of Siena. The inspiration of St Dominic reminds us of the importance of having a thirst for knowledge and

"Anchored in hope, pilgrims with young people." - 2025 Strenna

From the Principal continued...

compassion, and St Catherine inspires us to be people of wisdom and courage. It was great to have our Dominican Sisters; Sr Pamela Davis OP and Sr Mary Rickards OP join us. The day continued with many fun games, activities and the sharing of a sausage sizzle BBQ to celebrate this important day.



During our Mass, we had the opportunity to thank and say farewell to Sr Pam who will conclude her 40+ years of service in Tasmania and move towards retirement at the end of the year. Sr Pam has been a visible presence at Dominic College over the years and was the first Deputy Principal of the Senior School. She went on to be Principal of GYC and has spent years dedicating her service and work to St John's Parish Glenorchy and many other Catholic organisations. I had the pleasure of presenting Sr Pam with a Principal's Medallion for *Outstanding Leadership, Service and Dominican Spirit*. We will miss Sr Pam greatly and wish her every joy and happiness as she commences her retirement.



Social Media Delay Update

A reminder to our school community that from 10 December young people under-16 will not be allowed to create or hold accounts on certain social media platforms. The eSafety Commissioner advises that parents and carers can help their under-16s by talking openly about the age restrictions, finding out how they currently use social media and how that may be impacted by the new law.

There are no penalties for under-16s who access an age-restricted social media platform, or for their parents or carers. Penalties will apply to age-restricted platforms that fail to take reasonable steps to prevent under-16s from having accounts on their platforms.

Information and resources to support parents and carers, and young people to prepare for the change are available at the eSafety Social media age restrictions hub.

Visit [eSafety.gov.au](https://www.esafety.gov.au).



Wishing everyone all the best for the final weeks of the 2025 Academic School Year. We look forward to celebrating our Year 10's over the next two weeks as they conclude their time with us and become Old Scholars of Dominic College at their upcoming Graduation Mass on **Thursday 4 December** at 6pm.

Mr Steve Casni
Dominic College Principal

"Anchored in hope, pilgrims with young people." - 2025 Strenna



Deputy Principals

Dear Families

Term 4 is always a very busy time, and this year is no exception. Students have been working well and have been focussed on their studies. We encourage them to maintain this positive focus as the academic year winds down. Unfortunately, the Year 5–9 Beach Day will not be held this year. We will review this event for possible inclusion in the 2026 calendar.

Year 8 Camp

Our Year 8s will be participating in their Camp Program at Freycinet during the Week of 24-28 November. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students to build their relationships, grow through challenges and experience the beauty of Tasmania.



Year 10 Exams

We wish our Year 10s well as they embark on their exams next week from **Monday 24 November to Friday 28 November**. It is the College's expectation that all students sit these exams on the given days. If a student is unwell on exam day, families must contact the College prior to 8.35am. Students must return to school with a Doctor's Certificate or a Statutory Declaration if they are absent from an exam due to illness. Students should present these documents to Ms Sunita Kumrai, Director of Learning and Curriculum-Secondary, on the morning they return.

Year 7 for 2026 Orientation Day

On Monday 24 November, we will be delighted to welcome all Year 7 students for 2026 for an Orientation Day. This day enables students the opportunity to become familiar with the Valdocco Precinct and to meet key staff prior to the start of the 2026 academic year.

Graduation Mass

The Year 10 Graduation Mass will be held onsite in the Savio Centre on **Thursday 4 December** commencing at 6pm. Year 10 students are reminded that this is a compulsory event and that their full Formal Uniform is required to be worn for this occasion. Light refreshments will be offered afterwards for students and families. Year 10 students should arrive by 5.30pm on the day.



GYC Head Start Week

Our Year 10 students attending GYC in 2026 will be attending the Head Start Week from 8-12 December. This is an excellent orientation opportunity and sets students up well for a successful transition to Year 11.



End of Term

Friday 12 December is the last day of the academic year for all students in Years K-9.

Social Media Age Restriction

From 10 December 2025, some social media platforms will be restricted for children under the age of 16. This means they will not be able to create or keep an account.

You may have questions on how this will work. Families can find information regarding this, along with numerous resources, on the e-Safety Commissioner's website on <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/social-media-age-restrictions>

The information on this site will help you understand why, and how you can help your under-16 through the change.

Mrs Alicia McMahon - Deputy Principal: Primary and Mrs Jan Marcenko - Deputy Principal: Secondary

"Anchored in hope, pilgrims with young people." - 2025 Strenna



Year 7 SRC Leaders Report

Morning Tea Tours

Being an SRC Representative comes with responsibilities to take part in exciting events around the school, and one of them is Morning Tea Tours. This is when student leaders show families around the school. We collect families from the car parks

and take them to the library, where staff introduce themselves and explain to families how the tours will work.

We then pair up and guide families through different precincts, showing highlights like the languages room, the Savio Centre, and Animal Husbandry—always a favourite! After the tour, we return to the library for the best part: morning tea! Families can ask questions, and we enjoy some time together before heading back to class.

Oratory Program Classes

The Oratory Program runs from Kindergarten to Year 10 and focuses on wellbeing, life skills, and social development. Topics include building relationships, e-safety, and managing wellbeing. In Year 7, we learnt about mental health, coping strategies, and online safety—important skills for our age group. We have really enjoyed our Oratory Program classes this year, as they have given us the opportunity to get to know the peers in our Houses much better, and to work with our House Lead Teachers.

Term 4 Feast Day

On Wednesday 12 November, Dominic College celebrated the Term 4 Salesian Feast Day with Mass in honour of St Catherine of Siena and St Dominic Guzman, recognising their wisdom and faith. After Mass, students in the Valdocco precinct broke into Year Groups and took part in Valdocco Trivia! This was run by our House Captains, and we all enjoyed working in our Houses to try to take out the winning prize. Following this, we enjoyed a sau-sage sizzle and Zooper Dooper for lunch, as well as an extended lunch, which created a fun and festive atmosphere for everyone.

Oliver Fisher-Lumsden, Lenn Li, Aathi Vijayalayan and Maika Grayson - Year 7 SRC Leaders



A HOME THAT WELCOMES



Learning and Wellbeing

Learning and Wellbeing

As we move into the final weeks of Term 4, it is a meaningful time for students to reflect on what they have achieved throughout the year and focus on finishing strongly. For those in Year 7, it marks the end of their first year in secondary education, while Year 9 students are preparing to take on leadership responsibilities. This period offers a valuable opportunity to build momentum heading into the 2026

academic year.

The end of the year can be a busy time, with assessments, final projects, and school events all happening at once. Staying connected is essential. If a student feels uncertain, overwhelmed, or simply needs some guidance, they are encouraged to reach out. Class teachers, Oratory Group teachers, and House Lead Teachers are all available to offer support. Open communication helps ensure that students feel confident and well supported.

Taking care of wellbeing is an important part of finishing the year on a positive note. Finding a healthy balance between study and rest is key. Students are reminded to get enough sleep, eat nutritious meals, stay physically active, and take time to recharge. Even small actions such as going for a walk, limiting screen time before bed, or speaking with someone they trust can have a big impact.

Families are reminded that the College provides access to SchoolTV, a valuable online resource available through the College website. SchoolTV offers expert advice and practical strategies on a range of topics relevant to student wellbeing. Links to Exam Jitters and School Transitions can be found below:

[Exam Jitters](#) | [Dominic College](#)

[School Transitions](#) | [Dominic College](#)

These resources are designed to support both students and parents as they navigate the challenges and milestones of school life.



As the College prepares to farewell its Year 10 students, there is a strong sense of pride and a touch of sadness. Their journey will be celebrated in the coming weeks through a range of events, including the Graduation Mass. This Eucharistic celebration honours their time at the College and offers best wishes for the future. The College community looks forward to seeing where their next chapter leads and is confident they will carry the Salesian values with them on their journey.

Don Bosco once said, *"School was not the end; it was rather the instrumental means for improving the way of life."*

Mr Adam Lapolla - Lead Teacher: House Secondary



A HOME THAT WELCOMES



Mission and Religious Education

Dominic Feast Day: A Celebration of Faith, Friendship & Generosity

Even the wild Tasmanian weather couldn't dampen our spirits as we came together to celebrate the Dominic Feast Day, honouring St Catherine of Siena and St Dominic Guzman, two powerful voices of truth, compassion, and courage.

From the youngest learners in *pulana* to our senior students in Valdocco, the day was filled with joy, connection, and community spirit. The day began with our Year 3 – 10 Feast Day Mass which was a beautiful and moving celebration. Later on, Mass was celebrated in the Chapel with pirates, fairies and our K-2 students! The singing was truly uplifting, voices united in harmony, filling the space with warmth and reverence. It was a powerful reminder of the strength and beauty of our shared faith. Throughout the day students across year levels shared stories, and meaningful moments. The Valdocco Trivia challenge sparked excitement and friendly competition, testing our knowledge of saints, school history, and all things Dominic!



A huge thank you to our amazing VET students led by Mr Golding and his team of teachers who prepared and served delicious snags that warmed both hearts and bellies. Their hospitality and teamwork were a highlight of the day!

🌲 The Dominic Giving Tree: Share the Joy this Christmas

As we enter the season of giving, we are proud to launch the **Dominic Giving Tree** initiative, a chance for our community to extend kindness and generosity to those in need.

Here's how it works:

- Pick a tag from the bucket at your precinct's tree
- Purchase the item listed on the tag
- Wrap it if needed
- Place it under the tree to help brighten someone's Christmas

📍 Dominic Giving Trees are located at:

- **pulana (K-2):** *luwutina* Centre
- **Prouille (Years 3-6):** MPC
- **Valdocco (Years 7-10):** Outside the Library

Let's fill our trees with love, hope, and generosity this Advent season. Every gift makes a difference 🧡

Ms Cecilia Lomi - Director of Mission & RE K-10



Dominic College Giving Tree

How it works:

Pick a tag from the bucket at your precinct's Giving Tree, purchase the item listed, wrap it if needed, and place it under the tree.

Every gift makes a difference!

📍 **Find a tree near you:**

- Pulana (K-2): Luwutina Centre
- Prouille (Years 3-6): MPC
- Valdocco (Years 7-10): Outside the Library

📦 **Items to donate:**

- Non-perishable food items
- Toiletries (including female sanitary items)
- New & Unused clothing

Let's fill our trees with love and generosity this festive season!



First Nation Focus



K-2 Sea Country Adventure

Last week, our First Nations K-2 students spent a wonderful day at Blackmans Bay Beach with Uncle Rodney. We explored the beach, collected treasures, and learned about shells, animals, and ancient living sites called middens.

Uncle Rodney shared a beautiful Whale Dreaming story about listening to your mother. Students created sand sculptures inspired by the story and decorated them with natural materials. On our walk, we discovered native plants and how they were used for food and medicine.

To finish the day, we practised dadirri, deep listening, taking time to slow down and notice the sounds and feelings of Country. One of the best parts was simply sitting, yarning, and enjoying nature together.

A big thank you to Uncle Rodney for sharing culture, and to Ms O'Grady, Mrs Taylor, and Ms Ralph for joining us.

As one student said, *"It felt peaceful. I didn't want to leave."*



Reconciliation Tasmania: Youth Speak Out Challenge

This year, students from Years 5–10 had the opportunity to take part in the Youth Speak Out Challenge. Fourteen students gave up their lunch times to create artworks about Reconciliation and what it means to them.

From these, four students were selected to attend Government and Parliament Houses to receive their prizes and recognition on behalf of the school. Each student received a certificate, and one of them won the Primary Prize for her magnificent artwork *"We Rise"*, along with a nice scarf. Awards were presented by Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC at Government House.

Congratulations to all our students who entered the challenge this year.



Ms Michelle O'Grady - Lead Teacher: Aboriginal Liaison





Learning and Curriculum - Kindergarten

Play-Based Learning in *tūmānana*

What is Play-Based Learning?

Play-based learning is an educational approach where children learn essential skills through purposeful, engaging play activities. In our Kindergarten classrooms, you'll see children building with blocks, creating art, engaging in dramatic play, exploring nature, and solving problems together. While it might look like 'just playing,' these activities are carefully designed learning experiences that give children opportunities to develop critical thinking, social skills, language, and creativity in ways that are natural and meaningful to them.

Why is this important?

Research consistently shows that play-based learning in early childhood:

- Builds strong foundations for literacy and numeracy through hands-on exploration
- Develops social and emotional skills like sharing, negotiating, and empathy
- Encourages curiosity, problem-solving, and independence
- Allows children to learn at their own pace and follow their interests
- Creates confident, engaged learners who love coming to school



When children are actively involved in their learning through play, they retain information better and develop a lifelong love of discovery.

The Power of Home-School Connection

Learning doesn't stop at the classroom door! When families and educators work together, children thrive. The connection between what happens at school and at home reinforces learning and shows children that their education is valued. When you engage with your child's play and learning at home, you're building on the foundations we're establishing at Kindergarten, creating consistency and confidence for your child.

How Can You Support Play-Based Learning at Home?

You don't need expensive toys or elaborate setups! Here are simple ways to extend this learning:

- Provide open-ended materials like cardboard boxes, scraps of fabric, or natural materials for creative play
- Ask open-ended questions during play: "What do you think will happen if...?" or "How did you figure that out?"
- Allow time for unstructured play where your child directs the activity
- Join in their imaginative play and follow their lead
- Resist the urge to "fix" or direct their play, let them problem-solve and experiment
- Read together daily and encourage storytelling

At Dominic College, we're committed to nurturing well-rounded learners who are confident, creative, and ready for their educational journey ahead. If you have questions about what your child is learning through play, we'd love to chat!

Mr Michael Voss, Ms Rachel Mackonis and Mrs Linda Douglas - Kindergarten Teachers





Learning and Curriculum - Year 6

Following on from our last newsletter, we're excited to share more about the Year 6 students' unforgettable adventure to Canberra, made possible through the generous support of the Australian Government's PACER program. This trip was an incredible opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of Australia's democracy, history, and culture while creating lasting memories with their classmates.

Throughout the week, students visited some of Canberra's most significant landmarks. At Parliament House, they learned how laws are made and even took part in a mock parliamentary debate, stepping into the shoes of real politicians. A visit to the Australian War Memorial encouraged thoughtful reflection as students explored the exhibits and learned about the bravery and sacrifice of Australian servicemen and women. At Questacon, the National Science and Technology Centre, students were thrilled by hands-on science experiments and interactive displays that made learning truly come alive.

Students also visited the National Museum of Australia, where they explored exhibits about Australia's unique history and culture, and enjoyed the stunning view from Mount Ainslie, taking in the beauty of the city and its carefully planned design. Some new additions to the trip this year included visits to the Flim and Sound Archives, where students viewed some of the oldest artefacts in Australian movie and television history, as well as the Australian Electoral Commission, where students ran through a mock electoral process!

The Canberra trip was not only an educational experience, but also a chance for our Year 6 students to develop independence, teamwork, and responsibility. They represented our school with pride, respect, and enthusiasm throughout the journey. A big thank you to our dedicated teachers and organisers who ensured the trip ran smoothly and safely. It truly was a highlight of the year and an experience our students will remember for years to come!

"My favourite thing in Canberra was going to Questacon because there was a lot of cool activities to do and play with. But Canberra itself was just a really good and fun experience." - A Year 6A student

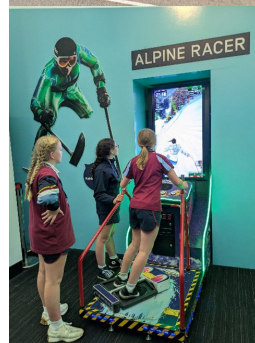
"My favourite activities on a Canberra trip were Questacon and the Sound Archive. I enjoyed all the partner and group activities at Questacon and the Sound Archives had audio clip and films from different generations." - A Year 6B student

"My favourite thing in Canberra was The Senate and The High Court because it is very rare to go inside those places, and I have always wanted to go there for my whole life." - A Year 6A student

"My favourite part of Canberra was the Floriade Festival because it was an amazing experience full of gorgeous flowers and photo opportunities, as well as many stores and marketplaces selling a whole range of wonderful souvenirs. The memory of the Floriade festival is one I will hold in my heart forever." - A Year 6C student

"My favourite parts of the Canberra trip were the pool and the High Court. I loved going to the pool and being social with everyone in Year 6 and encouraging people to go down the big waterslide. I found the High Court very interesting and liked hearing about the processes and procedures." - A Year 6B student

Ms Isabella Franklin, Mr Alex Firth and Mr Ben Crick - Year 6 Teachers





Learning and Curriculum - Year 7 and 8 Technologies

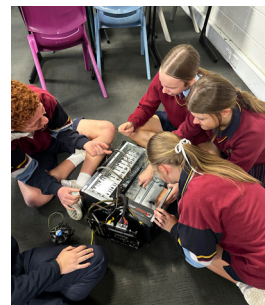
It has been a dynamic and productive semester/year in Digital Technologies, with both Year 7 and Year 8 students building their skills as safe, creative, and confident digital users.

Year 7 students began by learning about digital safety and privacy, exploring how to protect personal information and make responsible choices online. They then developed their problem-solving abilities through algorithmic thinking, discovering how computers follow precise, step-by-step instructions.

Building on these foundations, students were introduced to coding with Python, where they learned about variables, loops, conditions, and simple text-based programs. To put their creativity into action, Year 7 are finishing the term with game development projects, designing and coding their own games using Scratch and MakeCode Arcade. The cohort has shown enthusiasm, curiosity, and creativity, creating a strong foundation for future years.

Year 8 students have extended the knowledge built in Year 7, deepening their understanding of how digital systems operate. They explored computer systems, learning about inputs, outputs, and about the hardware and software that allow computers to function. Students also developed practical digital skills by programming in Microsoft Excel, using formulas and simple automations to solve real problems. Their coding knowledge was further strengthened through hands-on projects with BBC micro: bits, where they wrote Python Programs that interact with sensors, buttons, and LED displays. To cap off the term, Year 8 students are creating their own arcade-style games using MakeCode Arcade, applying their coding logic, creativity, and design thinking to develop engaging and playable digital products.

Across both year levels, students have demonstrated excellent problem-solving, creativity, and resilience. It has been wonderful to see them take ownership of their learning and develop skills that are essential in our increasingly digital world.



Food and Textiles Technology

This semester in Food Technology, students from Years 7–10 have been developing their cooking skills and learning how to make smart, healthy and sustainable food choices. Across all year levels, students have shown great creativity, teamwork and enthusiasm in the kitchen. Year 7 and 8 students also spend time on simple textiles projects to learn how to use the sewing machines. Students in Year 7 make a cushion using running stitch outlining a design of their choice. Students in Year 8 refine their skills on the sewing machine to construct a reusable bag. Students then get to embellish their bag with colour, pattern or they can create their bag using alternative fabric construction techniques such as knitting, crochet or weaving.

Year 7 students worked on a salad design task, where they learned about colour, texture, and nutrition in fresh foods. They explored different fruits, vegetables, grains and proteins, then planned, prepared and presented their own salad creation. Students focused on making their salads appealing, balanced, and colourful, while also practising safe cutting skills and good kitchen organisation.

Year 8 students learned about the design process through two practical tasks. First, they created their own sweet and savoury scrolls, experimenting with fillings and flavour combinations. They then designed and cooked a hamburger with a side dish, working on time management, knife skills, and presentation. Both tasks gave students the chance to be creative while learning about ingredient selection and reducing food waste.



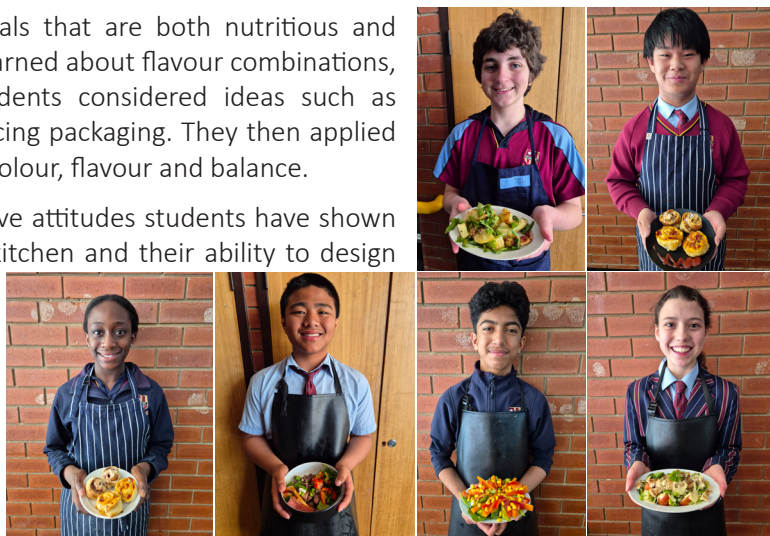


Learning and Curriculum - Year 9 and 10 Technologies

In Years 9 and 10, students focused on designing meals that are both nutritious and sustainable. They made a range of different meals and learned about flavour combinations, understanding portions and creating food labels. Students considered ideas such as choosing seasonal ingredients, using leftovers, and reducing packaging. They then applied this knowledge to design a healthy meal that was full of colour, flavour and balance.

We are proud of the effort, skill development and positive attitudes students have shown throughout the term. Their growing confidence in the kitchen and their ability to design thoughtful, nutritious meals will support them well both now and in the future.

Mr Cameron Golding - Lead Teacher: Technologies and VET



Learning and Curriculum - Animal Technologies

Why is showing such an important part of our Animal Husbandry course?

Showing sheep, goats and ponies is a powerful way for students to build confidence, teamwork and resilience. Working with animals requires patience, responsibility and clear communication, helping students develop calm, confident handling skills that transfer into everyday life. Preparing animals for the show ring encourages teamwork,

as students must rely on one another to prepare, train, clip, and present their animals safely and effectively. Stepping into the ring also builds personal confidence, giving students a sense of pride and accomplishment as they showcase the results of their hard work. Through these experiences, our students learnt to trust themselves, support their peers, and appreciate the rewards that come from dedication and collaboration. Winning is a bonus but is not why we show.

The Dominic College Sheep Show Team took part in both the Huon and Brighton Shows with our Border Leicester sheep. Students spent several weeks preparing the new lambs by training them to walk on a halter, trimming and tidying their fleeces, and scrubbing their legs and faces so the animals were ready for the show ring.

At both shows, students competed in the breed classes where our sheep placed well. Some key achievements included Reserve Champion Interbreed Lamb at the Brighton Show and Reserve Champion Commercial Lamb (Team of Three) at the Huon Show. Throughout the events, students also assisted other breeders by helping handle and show their sheep. This gave them opportunities to develop their skills, gain confidence, and build connections with experienced breeders.

Students also entered the junior judging and junior handlers competitions, taking home a range of results across these events. At the Brighton Show, they also took part in the sheep fancy dress competition. This was a fun activity that the students enjoyed alongside their animals and some came up with some very creative costumes.

Dominic College students also proudly represented the school in the pony classes, showing Mayo and Indie at the Brighton Show. Due to severe weather conditions, the equestrian section was relocated to the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre in Lauderdale, but this did not deter our students' enthusiasm or preparation. The ponies were carefully groomed, trained and presented beautifully in the ring. Mayo won Champion Miniature Pony, and Mayo and Indie together earned the title of Tasmanian Champion Pair of Ponies Owned by the Same Owner.

The two students who showed the ponies have worked tirelessly throughout the year, giving up countless break times to train, practise and prepare the ponies with patience and dedication. Their commitment was evident in the ponies' behaviour and presentation on show day. Both students have been exceptional handlers, and Mayo and Indie were very lucky to have them as their trainers.



Learning and Curriculum - Animal Technologies continued...

The Dominic College Goat Show Team enjoyed a highly successful season. Working with goats requires immense patience and calmness, as they are strong-willed animals with big personalities, and our students rose to the challenge exceptionally well. They competed at both the Brighton and Huon Shows against experienced breeders from across Tasmania, many of whom have been showing for decades. Students took full responsibility for preparing the goats, including washing, clipping, training them to walk on a collar and lead, and trimming their hooves.

A highlight of the season was Mindhi, our oldest goat, giving birth to triplets. One of her doe kids, Dominic College Twix (under 12 months), was awarded Champion Kid of the Show across all breeds, with her sister Dominic College Honey placing third. We also celebrated another outstanding achievement when one of last year's does, Dominic College Onyx, won Champion Doe (12–24 months) across all breeds. Students also supported other breeders by showing additional goats in various classes, demonstrating teamwork, confidence and community spirit.

Our students competed strongly in the Junior Handling classes against juniors from across the state, and all of our goats received prizes. It was an excellent effort, and I was incredibly proud of both the students and the goats.

An exceptional effort by all students. A huge thanks must go to Ms Kirilee Beveridge and Ms Jess Pasanen in their dedication and hardwork in supporting the students.

At the College, we also proudly keep two beautiful chicken breeds: the White Silkie Bantam and the large, impressive Brahma. In preparation for the Huon Show, students take full responsibility for washing, grooming, and even blow-drying the chickens so they are perfectly presented in the ring.

Their hard work truly paid off this season. Our chickens achieved outstanding results, including Best of Breed for both the Brahmas and the Silkies. A highlight was our Brahma rooster, who won Champion Soft Feather Fowl across a wide range of varieties. We were also awarded Reserve Champion School Exhibit, recognising the dedication and skill of our students.



Ms Jane Myers and Ms Kirilee Beveridge - Lead Teacher: Special Project, Agriculture & Animal Technology and classroom teacher



A SCHOOL THAT PREPARES FOR LIFE



Learning and Curriculum - Health and PE

As we head into the warmer months, it's the perfect time to remind our students and families about the importance of staying active, connected, and healthy over summer. Longer days and (hopefully!) better weather create more opportunities for young people to build positive habits that support both their physical and mental wellbeing.

Regular physical activity is one of the most effective ways for adolescents to boost their overall wellbeing. When students move their bodies, whether through organised sport, swimming, walking the dog, or simply spending time outdoors, they experience benefits including improved mood and reduced stress, better sleep routines, stronger immune systems, increased focus, and energy and healthy social connection with peers and family.

Summer can also bring changes to routine, so encouraging screen-free time, outdoor activities, and balanced nutrition helps young people maintain healthy habits during the break.

Spotlight on Year 7 Health: Mental Health & Oratory Program

Our Year 7 students are currently exploring a combined Health and Oratory Program unit focused on mental health awareness and emotional literacy. This program helps students:

- Understand the foundations of mental wellbeing
- Build strategies for managing challenging emotions
- Recognise when they or others may need support
- Develop communication and help-seeking skills



Spotlight on Year 9 Health: Healthy Lifestyles

Year 9 students are deepening their understanding of healthy lifestyle choices, including:

- Daily physical activity and its long-term health impacts
- Building balanced routines around sleep, nutrition and movement
- Reducing sedentary behaviours
- Understanding how healthy choices support academic success and emotional wellbeing



As students move toward senior schooling, this unit encourages them to take ownership of their health and recognise the importance of positive habits, especially as independence increases.

Encouraging Healthy Habits at Home

Families play an important role in modelling balanced and active lifestyles. Here are some simple ways to support your young person this summer:

- Plan regular family walks, bike rides, or outdoor games
- Encourage hydration and sun safety
- Set healthy routines around bedtime and screentime
- Create tech-free times or spaces at home
- Explore local parks, pools, and community facilities
- Start a new family activity: kayaking, hiking, weekend sports, gardening



These shared experiences not only improve physical wellbeing but also strengthen relationships and build lasting memories.

Miss Kiera Farr - Acting Lead Teacher: Health and PE

A SCHOOL THAT PREPARES FOR LIFE



Sports K-10

It has been possibly the busiest four weeks since our last newsletter, with so much happening it's been difficult to keep track!

Primary Athletics

Results from the Year 3–6 Athletics Carnival are as follows:

- 4th: **Siena** – 385 points
- 3rd: **Bosco** – 496 points
- 2nd: **Guzman** – 521 points
- 1st: **Savio** – 574 points



After a somewhat disarranged Year 3–6 Athletics Carnival, our inter-school teams were selected and went on to compete at the Catholic and Independent Carnivals on 30 October and 6 November, respectively. Both events were a huge success, with all our students participating in their events with energy, pride, and enthusiasm.

All Schools Athletics

Congratulations to our five students who travelled to Launceston for the All Schools Athletics Meet on 1 and 2 November. We commend you for your dedication and effort in representing Dominic College at this high level of competition.

Regional Basketball

Over the weekend of 8 and 9 November, Dominic entered three teams into the Southern Regional Basketball Tournament.

It was another huge and successful weekend, with our teams showing talent, respect, and great sportsmanship. You all represented Dominic College beautifully, and we couldn't be prouder.

Results:

- Year 9–10 Boys: 4th overall
- Year 7–8 Boys: 3rd overall
- Year 7–8 Girls: Runners-up



A big thank you to our coaches, managers, families, and referees who

supported our teams throughout this jam-packed weekend. Your guidance and encouragement are always greatly appreciated.

Congratulations and good luck to our Year 7–8 Boys and Year 7–8 Girls teams, who will now travel to Launceston to compete in the State Series.

Girls 5-6 AFL Gala afternoon

Seven of our Year 5–6 girls dusted off their football boots to represent Dominic College at the JSSATIS AFL Gala Afternoon on Wednesday 12 November. Up against amazing Hobart Talent from other independent schools, our girls played three games in total, showing outstanding teamwork, determination, and school spirit throughout the day.

Each match brought new challenges, but the girls rose to the occasion with enthusiasm and resilience. Their defensive pressure, clean ball movement, and supportive communication on the field were highlights of their performance. It was fantastic to see their confidence grow with every game, as they encouraged one another and celebrated each success together.





Sports K-10 continued...

2026 Term 1 Sport offerings

K-6

Year 5-6 Mixed Tennis – Tuesdays from 24 February

Year 1-6 Girls Soccer – Thursdays from 26 February

Year 1-2 Boys Soccer – Thursdays from 26 February

Year 3-4 Boys Cricket – Mondays from 23 February

Year K-6 Auskick and Superkick Clinic – Wednesdays from 4 March

7-10

Year 7-8 Girls Volleyball – Tuesdays from 24 February

Year 9-10 Girls Volleyball – Mondays from 23 February

Year 9-10 Girls Soccer – Tuesdays/Wednesdays from 24 February

Year 7-8 Girls Soccer – Wednesdays from 25 February

Year 7-10 Girls Cricket – Thursdays from 26 February

Year 7-8 Boys Basketball – Thursdays from 26 February

Year 9-10 Boys Basketball – Wednesdays from 25 February

Student Acknowledgement

Dominic College have had a significantly large numbers of students selected into Swisherr Basketball Academy that will take place in Eltham in January. Several of these students have been selected for the Country Cup Tournament in Albury Wodonga which is played the week prior. Congratulations to all these students, your commitment to basketball is second to none.



Ms Kylee Chivers - Sports Administrator



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IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR CURRENT FAMILIES WISHING TO ENROL SIBLINGS in 2027

It is important for current Dominic College families who intend to enrol a sibling to [contact the College Enrolments Team as early as possible](#) to avoid disappointment

This applies for all Year levels. Email: enrolments@dominic.tas.edu.au

Upcoming Events



24 November	Year 7 2026 Orientation
24-28 November	Year 10 End of Year Exam Week
	Year 8 Camp
30 November - 2 December	College Captain's Conference
3 December	Year 6-10 Awards Ceremony
4 December	Year 10 Belling Out Ceremony
	Year 10 Graduation Mass & Supper
5 December	Prep - Year 10 2026 Orientation Session
	Year 10 Graduation Dinner
8 - 12 December	Year 10 GYC 2025 Head Start Week
10 December	K-2 Picnic
11 December	Year 3-4 Picnic
	K-10 Academic Reports Available
12 December	Term 4 Ends
	Year 10 Report Collection