

DOMINIC COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

12 December 2025



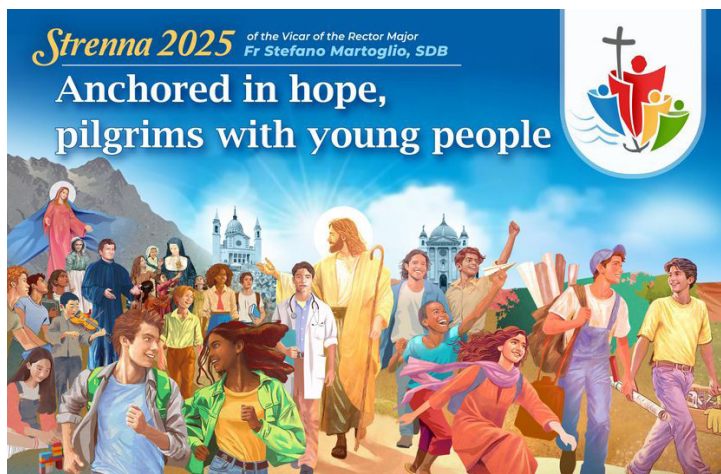
From the Principal

Dear Families

The 2025 Salesian Strenna challenged us all to work as a community “Anchored in hope, pilgrims with young people.” To be anchored in hope means holding firm faith and being people who show kindness and goodness to others, even

when the world feels uncertain. To be a pilgrim means to walk through life with purpose and openness – to keep learning, growing, and trusting that each step brings you closer to the person God is calling you to be.

I congratulate all students and staff for embracing the 2025 Academic Year as pilgrims of hope, walking together in trust to be people of faith and striving for excellence. I hope the end of year reports provide students and parents with much to celebrate and opportunity to set goals for 2026.



Dominic College Board

I extend my thanks to our Dominic College Board. Thank you to all Board Directors, Child Safety, Risk and Compliance Sub-Committee members and Finance and Audit Sub-Committee members for their guidance and support in 2025.



Special thanks to Tanishka Kumrai (Year 9) and Samuel Lukman (Year 8) for providing student voice and input at our Child Safety, Risk and Compliance meetings. Your input has been most valuable.

Policy Update

As part of our ongoing commitment to continuous improvement, the Board recently approved revisions to existing policies and the introduction of new ones. The changes will come into effect next year and will be accessible on the College website in January.

Revised Policies:

- Complaints Policy
- Student ICT Policy

New Policies:

- Records Management Policy
- Surveillance Policy
- Volunteer Policy



These policies are key documents and it is crucial that all members of our community are familiar with them and understand their obligations.

Thank You Volunteers for 2025

I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers for your exceptional and steadfast support of our students and College community. Your dedication in classrooms, coaching sports, assisting on excursions, or contributing to events has made a significant difference in creating a nurturing and enriching environment for our learners. Thank you to our Dominic Old Scholars Association and Parents and Friends for their ongoing support of the College in 2025.



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

From the Principal continued...

Farewell and Thank You to Departing Teachers and Staff

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank members of our staff who will be leaving our school community. Their dedication and contribution have been greatly valued, and they will be missed by both staff, students, and the wider Dominic community. We send our heartfelt best wishes to Ailsa MacFie and Anne Duigan as they take leave in 2026, and we look forward to welcoming them back to our school community in 2027.

Alicia McMahon- Deputy Principal- Primary

Brodie Cooley- Learning Support Assistant

Caitlin Turner- AFL SportsReady Trainee

Claire Gillam- Teacher- Primary

David Reinbach- Teacher- Secondary

Declan Martín- Teacher- Secondary

Joshua Glancy- Teacher- HPE K-10

Leah Ralph- Learning Support Assistant

Lily Mollineaux- Learning Support Assistant

Martin Smith- Teacher – Music K-10

Sandra Saad- Learning Support Assistant

Sarah King- Teacher- Secondary

Trish Coad- Learning Support Assistant

Thank you Mrs McMahon and Mr Kershaw

I would like to express my gratitude to Mrs Alicia McMahon (Deputy Principal: Primary) and Mr Thomas Kershaw (Director of Learning and Wellbeing: Secondary) for their excellent service to our College through their work on the College Leadership Team. As announced earlier this year, Alicia concludes her work with us and will transition to retirement. We wish her every happiness and joy for the future. Tom will be taking on an exciting new position as Instructional Coach (Secondary) mentoring new and experienced teachers on classroom practice aligned with the AITSL Teacher Professional Standards and Teacher Registration Board Standards. We are excited to see what he will achieve in this role to help us to continue to be a school of improvement in learning, teaching and wellbeing.

2026 LEADERSHIP UPDATE

We are pleased to announce the 2026 leaders. A full list of staff contacts, along with their email addresses, will be sent to families via email at the start of the school year.

College Leadership Team

College Principal – Stephen Casni

Deputy Principal: Primary – Allison Lowe

Deputy Principal: Secondary – Jan Marcenko

Chief Financial and Operations Officer – Phillip Excell

Director: Mission and Religious Education K-10 – Liz Lomi

Director: Learning And Wellbeing K-2 – Vanessa Young

Acting Director: Learning And Wellbeing 3-6 – Hayley Joyce (T1)

Acting Director: Learning And Wellbeing 7-10 – Adam Lapolla

Director: Learning and Curriculum 7-10 – Sunita Kumrai

Learning and Wellbeing Team – Early Primary (K-2)

Director: Learning And Wellbeing – Vanessa Young

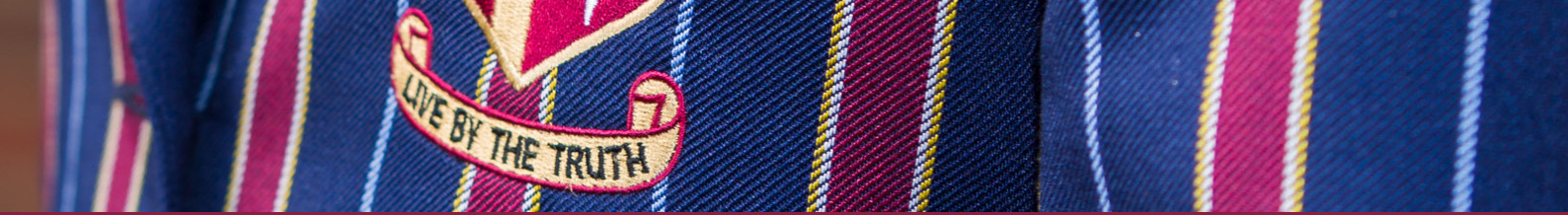
Lead Teacher: Kinder/Prep – Ruth Scanlon

Acting Lead Teacher: Year 1/Year 2 – Allison Cooley

Lead Teacher: Learning Diversity – Bridget Taylor



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



From the Principal continued...

Learning and Wellbeing Team – Upper Primary (3-6)

Acting Director: Learning And Wellbeing – Hayley Joyce (T1)

Acting Lead Teacher: Year 3/Year 4 – Michael Voss (T1)

Lead Teacher: Year 5/Year 6 – Jennifer Hallyburton

Acting Lead Teacher: Learning Diversity – Louise Zegveld

Learning and Wellbeing Team and Lead Teachers - Secondary (7-10)

Acting Director: Learning And Wellbeing – Adam Lapolla

Lead Teacher: Bosco House – Liam Binning

Lead Teacher: Guzman House – Liam Ward

Lead Teacher: Savio House – Marty Crerar

Lead Teacher: Siena House – Jacquelyn Turner

Learning and Curriculum Team and Lead Teachers - Secondary (7-10)

Director: Learning And Curriculum – Sunita Kumrai

Director: Mission and Religious Education K-10 – Liz Lomi

Lead Teacher: English – Katie Crawford

Lead Teacher: HaSS – Bonnie Court

Acting Lead Teacher HPE and Lead: Teacher Oratory Program (Secondary) – Kiera Farr

Lead Teacher: Mathematics – Jana Bryan

Acting Lead Teacher: Outdoor Education and Camps – Liam Binning

Lead Teacher: Science – Bronwen Baume-Tarrant

Lead Teacher: Languages K-10 – Belinda Kumashiro

Lead Teacher: The Arts K-10 – Katherine Denholm

Lead Teacher: Technologies and VET – Cameron Golding

Lead Teacher: Learning Diversity – Kate Le Rossignol and Kylie De Calmer

Other Positions of Responsibility

Lead Teacher: Aboriginal Liaison K-10 - Michelle O'Grady

Lead Teacher: Agriculture and Animal Technologies (Secondary) - Jane Myers

Lead Teacher: Instructional Coach (Secondary) - Thomas Kershaw

Library Services: Sarah Bromfield and Chantal Pettit

College Counsellor: Belinda Dooley

College Rector: Fr John Murphy

Wishing you a Happy and Holy Christmas!

May God keep you safe as you rest these holidays, and we look forward to seeing you in 2026. Take time to enjoy the outdoors, read for pleasure, and spend time with family and loved ones. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!

Mr Steve Casni

Dominic College Principal





Deputy Principals

Dear Families,

As we conclude another wonderful year at Dominic College, we wish all our students and families a joyful and blessed Christmas. May this holy season bring peace, love, and renewal to your hearts. Thank you for your

continued support and partnership. Stay safe during the holiday break, and we look forward to welcoming you back refreshed for an exciting new year ahead.

We would like to thank all our families for your continued support in nurturing your child's growth, spiritually, academically, and socially.

Over the upcoming break, we encourage you to make reading a daily habit in your home. Whether it's a picture book, novel, or magazine, reading strengthens imagination and language skills across all ages, from our littlest learners to our Year 10 students preparing for senior studies.

Academic Reports

Student Academic Reports became available on **11 December 2025** via SEQTA Engage.

Please review them for insights into student progress and areas for improvement. Accessing SEQTA Engage will allow you to view, download or print the report.



Term Dates 2026

Term 1 Prep - Yr 10 - Thursday 5 February - Friday 17 April

Kindergarten Term 1, 2026 Commence

Tuesday 10 February (Kinder *tuminana* 1 & 2)

Wednesday 11 February (Kinder *tuminana* 3)

Term 2 Tuesday 5 May - Friday 10 July

Term 3 Tuesday 28 July - Friday 2 October

Term 4 Monday 19 October - Thursday 17 December

Holidays

20 April to 1 May

13 July to 24 July

5 October to 16 October

Additional Student Free Days

Monday 4 May (Student Free Day/PT Interviews)

Friday 5 June (Student Free Day)

Monday 27 July (Student Free Day/PT Interviews)

Friday 23 October (for staff and students)

Social Media Delay

As the summer break approaches, we encourage families to visit the eSafety Commissioner's website for the latest guidance on social media age restrictions and practical parent resources. The site offers clear advice regarding age restricted platforms and offers families tools for navigating these changes.

I would like to take a moment to warmly acknowledge and thank Alicia as she concludes her time in this role. It has been a privilege to work alongside her and share leadership across our College. Her dedication and care have made a real difference, and I wish her every success and happiness in the next chapter.

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



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



2026 Captains' Report

Last week, our 2026 College Captains from Dominic College, accompanied by Ms Beveridge and Mr Parkin, attended the annual Salesian Leaders Conference from Sunday to Tuesday. They joined student leaders from nine other Salesian schools across Australia for three days of learning, reflection and connection.

The conference beautifully highlighted the four pillars of a Salesian community. A home that welcomes was evident from the warm hospitality shown by Xavier College staff and students as they guided us through their two campuses. A school that prepares for life came alive through engaging leadership workshops that offered our captains valuable skills and insights for the year ahead. A parish that evangelises was experienced through shared prayer and participation in Mass. And a playground where friends meet emerged as staff and students bonded over meals, explored Adelaide's sights, and enjoyed bowling and mini golf. - **Ms Beveridge and Mr Parkin**

Below, our two 2026 captains share their reflections on the conference, along with their responses to questions about their aspirations for next year.

One highlight of the conference was the amazing people we got the chance to connect with. Out of the nine schools, every single student was a very kind, welcoming, and passionate individual whose life reflected John Bosco's teachings. These people were all amazing individuals, and we were both very lucky to form some life-long bonds and memories with them over the course of the three days where we connected, reflected, shared meals, and experience very enjoyable moments that made this trip something that I will cherish forever.

Throughout our time in Adelaide, we had moments where we were all together, partaking in activities and having fun, but it was the moments when we sat together to reflect and think about our own schools that allowed us to deepen our hearts and set goals for Dominic College. The activities we did and the lessons we learnt made the conference a very eye-opening experience. We got the chance to connect with the Salesian family and dive deeper into John Bosco's life, inspirations, and teachings that held immense importance to him. We learnt deeply about the four pillars of our Salesian charter and the values that guided this Salesian family, the values built upon reason, religion, and loving-kindness.

Another highlight from the Salesian Captains Conference were the things we learnt while working with other students. For example, we had the opportunity to connect with older captains from other Salesian schools around Australia, and they had lots of experience in leadership and wisdom to share with us. This was a highlight because it has inspired us to start developing our 2026 leadership goals for the College, and how we can put them into action.

In our reflection time, we were asked to prepare a speech about Dominic College to present to the Xavier College students which was a great experience as we got to learn about every school and what makes them unique. Later, we were asked to choose one pillar of the Salesian charter and reflect on it in our school. We were asked to think about what we are doing right now, what we can do better, and what are our goals for next year and the legacy we hope to leave as College Captains. After thoughtful reflection time, we chose the pillar of A Playground where friends meet and enjoy themselves. After lots of work, we came to a conclusion that our goal for 2026 is to develop a more connected cohort. We took inspiration from this year's Year 10 cohort, and reflected on our friendships and connections as a Year 9 group. We figured that to develop on this pillar; we need to strengthen the fabric between our cohort and be a year level where all friendship groups feel included and the overall cohort is a welcoming environment where every individual feels empowered and confident.

We hope to do this by following Don Bosco's words "*if we are one in heart, we can do ten times as much*". We will aim to welcome incoming students and show interest in all the unique personalities and needs of our peers. We hope to continue running wellbeing days for high school students along with our Feast Days, Carnivals, Creative Arts Events, Teacher's vs Student sport, and Camps.

The Salesian Captains Conference was a rewarding experience, and we are very grateful to have been able to attend.



Jujhaar Jhaggi and Lucy Martin - College Captains 2026

A HOME THAT WELCOMES



Parent and Student Support

What a privilege to be a part of the Dominic College Community through the counselling space again this year. Riding the high's and low's together, what an incredibly rewarding environment from which we have so much to be thankful for.

A few handy things to share with you all, heading into the break:

With the new Social Media changes now upon us, there is a terrific resource from Kids Helpline called My Circle - [My Circle | Kids Helpline](#)

This is a safe to use platform that is supported by Kids Helpline counsellors where young people can share and connect with others. Something that our young people might find helpful as they adjust to this change and find new ways of connecting.

Throughout the holidays, if you're looking for some different and fun ideas, here's a few suggestions to get you started:

[Bush Adventures- City of Hobart, Tasmania Australia](#)

[Summer school holiday activities- Libraries Tasmania](#)

[About- Youth Arts & Recreation Centre](#)

[Great Short Walks in Southern Tasmania- Hobart and Beyond](#)

And don't forget about the terrific support services available during this time as well:

Pulse Glenorchy: Ph: 6166 1421

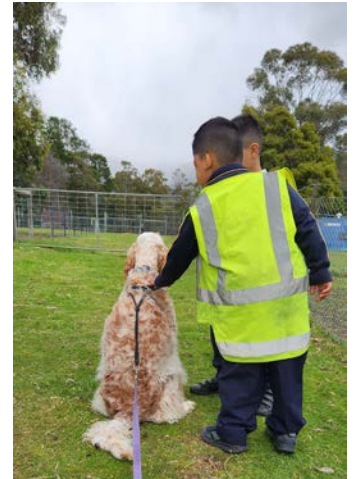
Headspace: Ph: 6231 2927

Kids Helpline: Ph: 1800 551 800

We encourage you all to take some time over the festive season to reflect and celebrate your achievements this year. Set some new goals to work towards next year and take the time also to just be present and enjoy being in the moment.

Our heartfelt thanks to our College families, colleagues and students for your continued support.

We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in 2026.



Mrs Belinda Dooley - College Counsellor



Merry Christmas
& HAPPY NEW YEAR

A HOME THAT WELCOMES



Mission & Religious Education

Anchored in Hope, Pilgrims with Young People

As we come to the close of another remarkable year, we pause to celebrate the many ways our community has lived out its faith, embraced the Salesian spirit, and grown together in peace, joy, love, and hope.

From the College Opening Mass, which set the tone for a year of grace, to the Year Group Masses, retreats, and Easter liturgies, we have gathered as a family of faith to encounter Christ in prayer and sacrament. Our Feast Days reminded us of the richness of our tradition, and the Graduation Mass was a beautiful moment of thanksgiving for our senior students as they step into new horizons. The Advent Mass now invites us to actively wait for the birth of Jesus with hearts full of expectation and hope.

Daily prayer has been woven into the rhythm of school life, whether in classrooms, assemblies, or the curriculum itself, reminding us that God walks with us in every moment. This year, we explored and lived out the Salesian Strenna: *"Anchored in Hope, Pilgrims with Young People."* Together, we have supported our students in their spiritual, emotional, and academic journey, and in turn, witnessed the incredible ways they have supported one another—through kindness, encouragement, and shared faith.

A highlight of this year was the completion of the *pulana* artwork project, now a stunning feature in our Kindergarten to Year 2 precinct, a tribute to the palawa kani language through the extraordinary talent of Luke and Jamin. This vibrant installation reminds us of the beauty of culture, language, and faith interwoven in our shared story. We thank Ms Michelle O'Grady for her efforts in organizing and coordinating the project.

We introduced new initiatives that deepened our devotion and community spirit:

- Month of Mary and Month of the Rosary Celebrations in the Chapel, drawing us closer to Our Lady.
- The Dominic Giving Tree, our new Christmas Appeal which overflowed with generosity for those in need.

These moments remind us that faith is not just taught, it is lived. And this year, we have truly lived it.

As Advent unfolds, let us embrace the call to actively wait, not with passive hearts, but with joyful anticipation, preparing room for Christ in our lives and in our world. May this season renew our hope and strengthen our commitment to walk together as pilgrims of faith.

A Prayer for Our Community

Loving God, We thank You for the blessings of this year, the friendships, the learning, the moments of grace. As we enter Advent, help us to wait with hope and joy for the coming of Your Son. May our hearts be open, our hands generous, and our lives reflect Your love. Bless our students, families, and staff with peace this Christmas and always.

*St John Bosco. Pray for us.
Amen.*

Ms Cecilia Lomi - Acting Director of Mission and Religious Education K-10



A PARISH THAT EVANGELISES



Learning Diversity - Early Primary

Kindergarten to Year Two is a time of incredible social, emotional, physical and academic growth. In the role of Learning Diversity Lead Teacher, I am lucky enough to be able to work with all students from Kindergarten to Year 2.

In *pulana*, and at Dominic College, we believe that all students are learning diverse. Our students are on a unique learning journey. Some students need support with physical or medical needs. Some need support academically. Others are linguistically and culturally diverse. For others, emotional and social development is important.

We have worked hard this year to facilitate multiple interventions with the help of our lead teachers and incredible Learning Support Assistants. Speech programs, counselling, literacy and numeracy interventions, social skills groups and *luwutina* legends have been pivotal in assisting our students to develop a sense of well-being, belonging, and academic capacity.

Again, we thank our incredible Learning Support Assistants who, alongside our teachers, work tirelessly to support all our amazing students. A dream team!

As always, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child and their development.

Pictures included are the Kindergarten to Year 2 students engaged in hands on learning – the best kind of learning!



Mrs Bridget Taylor - Lead Teacher: Learning Diversity - Early Primary





Learning Diversity - Upper Primary

This year, a group of our Years 4–6 students participated in the Catholic Education, Tasmania Learning Extension Program. These weekly online classes provided an exciting opportunity for students to collaborate and learn alongside peers from other Catholic schools.

Throughout the program, students explored a range of engaging topics, including English Extension, Story Writing, STEM – The Power of Prosthetics, and Public Speaking. In addition to the online sessions, students enjoyed a face-to-face enrichment day filled with hands-on activities such as Chance and Probability, Practical Pragmatics, and Puzzle HQ.

In Term 3, our students embraced the challenge of the Ethics Olympiad, a national online competition. Working together, they researched and discussed complex ethical issues, learning to consider multiple perspectives and the consequences of different choices. This experience helped them develop critical thinking and collaborative problem-solving skills.

Congratulations to all the students who represented Dominic College in this event.

They shared their thoughts on their favourite cases in the Ethics Olympiad.

- **Video Game Cheating:** it is interesting that if everyone has the option to cheat, it creates a very different situation compared to when only one person is cheating. Also, how it is ethically different to cheat in a single-player game to a multi-player game.
- **Running in Ramadan:** this case provided many interesting questions that required deep thought and careful thinking. This case helped the group come up with morally and ethically acceptable solutions to the questions posed in this case.
- **Internet use at school:** it was very relatable for them as they have experienced internet usage issues at another school, which helped with some examples and answering some questions. They also liked this case best as they are very passionate about this topic because they value the safety of everyone and knowing that the Internet can be a dangerous place, they know we must take precautions like the tracking software mentioned in the debrief of the case.

All of the students involved enjoyed the experience and agreed that they would love to have the opportunity to participate again.

Ms Anne Duigan - Lead Teacher: Learning Diversity - Upper Primary





Learning Diversity - Secondary

Change and Transitions

As we complete the school year, it is a valuable time to reflect on the progress made and to prepare for the transition into a new year level in 2026. Moving into a different year level often brings a mix of emotions. Many students feel excited about new teachers and fresh learning opportunities, while others may find the change a little daunting. Careful planning and preparation can make this transition smoother and more positive.

One helpful starting point is to reflect on the experiences of the current year. Consider asking your child the following questions:

- What went well for you this year?
- What strategies helped you succeed?
- Were there any challenges? If so, what could make things easier next time?
- Is there anything new your teachers or support team should know to assist you in 2026?

These reflections can provide valuable insights into how your child learns and what supports will help them thrive in the next stage.

For students with diverse learning needs, Term 4 is an ideal time to review their current Learning Plan. Our Learning Diversity Lead Teachers have been in contact to seek your feedback about any changes required for 2026. There will also be opportunities to communicate with Learning Diversity Teachers and Class Teachers via email, phone or in-person in Term 1 2026 to update Learning Plans.

Above all, if you or your child have concerns about the upcoming changes, please reach out to us at the start of the 2026 school year. We are committed to working with you to ensure a smooth and supported transition into the new year.

Staffing Changes in Learning Diversity 7-10

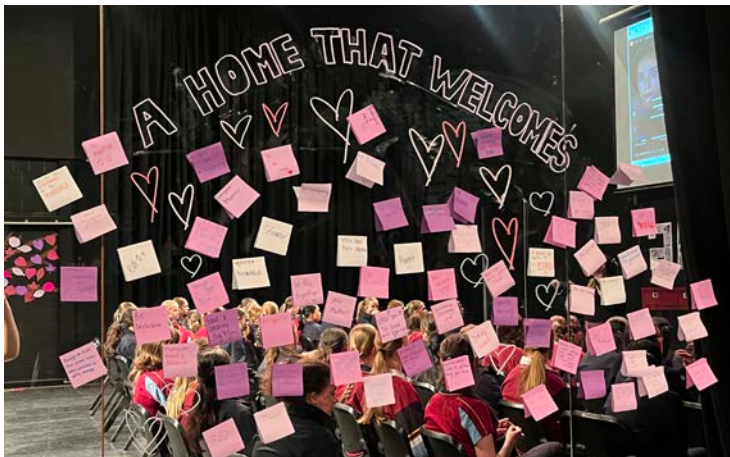
After six years as the co-Lead Teacher for Learning Diversity 7-10, Ms Ailsa MacFie will be leaving the team to move interstate to Darwin. Ms Kylie De Calmer has been shadowing the role for the past six months and will replace Ms MacFie in 2026.

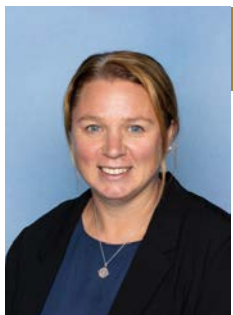
Mrs Kate Le Rossignol has been on maternity leave in 2025. She will return to the team in 2026 in a part-time capacity as Co-Lead Teacher for Learning Diversity 7-10.

Please include both Kylie De Calmer and Kate Le Rossignol in any email correspondence about 7-10 Learning Diversity matters.



Ms Ailsa MacFie - Lead Teacher: Learning Diversity - Secondary





Learning and Curriculum - Early Primary

"It is not enough to love the young; they must know they are loved." Don Bosco

As we reflect on Term 4, we realise what an extremely busy term we've had filled with learning, friendship and fun! In addition to the amazing learning opportunities provided in the classroom, some of the highlights have included:

Prep Learn to Swim

It was a busy start to the term for our Prep students enjoying their week of Learn to Swim at the Friends Pool. This was a wonderful time for them as they developed their confidence, safety and awareness in the water whilst having a lot of fun!

Asian Festival

The Asian Festival was a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and celebrate our connections with Asia. Students proudly shared their culture and traditions, and we all enjoyed learning about our closest neighbours.

Water Guardian Show

We were very lucky to have TasWater present the Water Guardian Show to our students. This live theatre performance helped our students understand the importance of water in our daily lives, where water comes from and goes and why protecting water is so important! The beautiful stickers students were provided with will help remind them to be Water Guardians.

Teddy Bear's Picnic and Friendship Ninjas

An annual favourite is always the Teddy Bear's Picnic. Our students loved bringing their Teddy to school and eating lunch picnic style. The playground was a buzz with laughter and chatter and this provided a sense of connection for our whole pulana community. On this day, students reviewed the URStrong ways to be a Friendship Ninja and made Ninja style headbands to proudly wear.

Bravehearts

Unfortunately, Bravehearts needed to cancel their annual visit to our school. We are hopeful we can engage with them early next year for our personal safety show *"Ditto's Keep Safe Adventure."*

Excursions

Excursions continue to be a highlight for our students as they connect with their local community and enjoy real life experiences. The Year 1 students had an amazing visit to the Botanical Gardens to see the pantomime *"The Lizard of Oz"*. Our Kindergarten classes enjoyed visits to the Sustainability Centre at Mt Nelson as a culmination of their Bush Kinder Program.

Feast Day Celebration

We celebrated the Feast Day of St Dominic Guzman and St Catherine of Siena with a beautiful Kinder – Year 2 Mass in the Chapel, BBQ Lunch and craft activities. Students enjoy learning about the Saints who shape our College.

Animal Husbandry Visits

Our Kinder – Year 2 students absolutely love the opportunity to visit the animals here at the College. Their visits are planned and complement the work they are doing in a number of subject areas in the classroom.



Learning and Curriculum - Early Primary continued...

Pre Kinder Visits

The 2026 Kindergarten students were welcomed to the College with four orientation sessions during the term. The older students loved seeing their younger siblings visit the College and become familiar with their new school environment.

Short Closure – Sand Recall

We had three days at school where we missed our pulana students very much! Thank you to our families for their support whilst we navigated this very unprecedented short closure due to the sand recall. We are very grateful for your support.

Kindergarten - Year 2 Picnic

To wrap up a wonderful year of learning, our Kindergarten – Year 2 students visited Tolosa Park for their end of year picnic. It was a beautiful day filled with play, fun and celebrations. Students had the chance to participate in some athletics activities following the cancellation of their Athletics Carnival due to weather and sand school closure.

Happy Holidays

We are incredibly proud of our Kindergarten – Year 2 students who have completed an amazing year of learning and friendship. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with all of our Kinder – Year 2 students and their families this year. We wish you all a wonderful holiday break and look forward to seeing you next year.

Mrs Allison Lowe - Director of Learning & Wellbeing - Early Primary



A SCHOOL THAT PREPARES FOR LIFE



Learning and Curriculum - Upper Primary

Schools are busy places and Term 4 in Upper Primary was no exception. With a range of well-designed learning opportunities, students have been actively engaged in their learning both in and out of the classroom. These opportunities included, Year 6 welcoming and working closely with 60 students from Shizuoka Salesio, our sister school in Japan, Year 5 participating in a three-day camp on the Tasman Peninsula and Year 3 visiting Mount Field and the Salmon Ponds. We all celebrated the Asian Festival investigating and learning more about our nearest neighbours and also commemorated Remembrance Day.

In religion, students in Upper Primary classrooms, have focused on scripture and Advent. This has seen classes learning more about texts from the Old and New Testaments looking at parables like the Good Samaritan and epistles like the letters written by St. Paul. As Advent is a time of preparation work has been done to better understand the symbols of the season.

In Term 4 the shared texts for each grade level were linked to curriculum mandated HASS, Humanities and Social Sciences topics. Reading a story that directly connects to other subject areas, allows students to develop and deepen their understanding of the topics.

Working on a shared text ensures all students access and experience high quality writing. Teachers draw out examples of well-structured sentences and paragraphs that provide a model for students to emulate. Grammar and vocabulary development is also closely linked to the novels.

We are continuing to see positive changes in student attitudes to Mathematics using an online assessment tool called Essential Assessment. The tool is providing teachers with exact information about learning in Mathematics that allows them to target what students understand and where areas of misconception lie. Students are benefiting from seeing how their effort translates to growth between the start of a unit of work and the end through engagement with the pre and post-test results.

After a busy year of highlights and opportunities for learning we are all ready for the summer break and the chance it offers us to recharge our batteries. The Upper Primary team wish you all a terrific break that is filled with fun, family and friends. We look forward to seeing you all back in 2026 ready to set goals for the coming year of learning.



Mrs Sue Cunningham - Director of Learning & Wellbeing - Upper Primary



A SCHOOL THAT PREPARES FOR LIFE



Learning and Curriculum - Secondary

It has been a wonderful year in the Secondary! Our College continues to be a special place thanks to our amazing students and the dedication of our teachers. Throughout 2025, the Valdocco Precinct provided countless opportunities for students to learn, grow, and enjoy memorable experiences. Here are some of the year's highlights.

Our Year 7 students began their high school journey with the Belling in Ceremony, where older students warmly welcomed them into the Valdocco community. They also enjoyed a camp at Fortescue Bay, building friendships and embracing new challenges. Through the Salesian Immersion and Oratory Programs, they learned about Dominic College's history and developed strategies to support a successful transition into secondary school.

Year 8 students undertook a major inquiry project on natural disasters. They produced detailed reports, created emergency kits, and designed innovative technologies to support disaster response. Their work culminated in the Exhibition of Learning at the end of Term 2, where they proudly shared their knowledge and understanding with families and staff.

In Term 3, Year 9 students travelled to Maria Island, where they completed fieldwork in Health and Physical Education, Mathematics, and Science. They also hiked Bishop and Clerk, celebrating their perseverance and enjoying the spectacular views. Back at school, they engaged in programs focused on preparing for the next stage of their lives.

Year 10 students explored future pathways by attending the Southern Catholic Schools Careers Expo and participating in conversations with teachers from Guilford Young College regarding Year 11 and 12 options.

Students across all year levels enjoyed various excursions and incursions. Year 7 visited the Sustainability Centre and took part in gymnastics. Year 9 learned about food security during a farm visit, and Year 10 participated in the RYDER and PARTY Programs, focusing on science, wellbeing, and safe decision-making. Elective classes offered opportunities to visit MONA, complete RSA Training, and take part in outdoor activities such as surfing and rock climbing.



Our Creative Arts Department had an exceptional year. The Drama performance of *The Day the Internet Died* captivated audiences with three full-house shows. The *Music and Dance Showcase* highlighted a wide range of student talent and featured the memorable performance of the staff choir. Congratulations to all involved.

Students also excelled in academic competitions, achieving outstanding results in state and national events including the Australian History and Geography Competitions, Japanese Calligraphy and Speech Competitions, AGFEST, ICAS, and the Australian Brain Bee Competition. Their achievements reflect the impressive abilities and hard work of our student community.

These are just some of the many events and experiences that shaped 2025. We are incredibly proud of our students' accomplishments and deeply grateful for the commitment and passion of our teaching staff.

Ms Sunita Kumrai - Director of Learning & Curriculum - Secondary



A SCHOOL THAT PREPARES FOR LIFE



Sport K-10

State Basketball

Over the weekend of 22–23 November, our Year 7–8 Basketball Teams who qualified for the State Championships travelled to Launceston to compete against the state's best school teams.

The competition was fierce, with several very close games across the two days. Both teams handled the pressure exceptionally well. The standard of Basketball on display was outstanding, and we are incredibly proud of the sportsmanship, determination, and respect shown by all players.

A special thank you to our coaches and families for giving up their time over such a busy weekend. We recognise the commitment and expense involved and deeply appreciate your support.

Results

Girls

- R1 v Marist – lost 45–43
- R2 v Deloraine – won 48–35
- QF v Friends – won 41–33
- SF v St Patrick's – lost 42–31
- 3PO v Marist – lost 39–29

Overall: 4th on percentage

Boys

- R1 v Marist – lost 52–45
- R2 v St Patrick's – lost 61–60
- PO2 v St Patrick's – won 55–52
- PO3 v Hutchins – lost 42–41

Overall: 7th on percentage



2025 Sporting Achievements – A Year in Review

- Seven Primary Teams entered the Basketball Regional Tournament.
 - Year 5–6 Boys Division finished as runners up.
- Outstanding participation in the Secondary Athletics Carnival, with excellent results at the SSATIS Carnival.
- Year 7–8 Yellow Volleyball Team finished as SSATIS Runners Up.
 - The Year 7–8 Blue team also made the finals.
- Introduction of a Year 7–8 Representative Netball Team.
- Year 9–10 Representative Netball Team crowned SSATIS Champions.
- Year 9–10 Division 2 Netball Team finished as Runners Up.
- Both Year 7–8 Regional Basketball Teams qualified for State Championships, with the girls finishing Regional Runners Up.
- 612 students participated in Co-Curricular sport and extra events in 2025, with many competing in multiple sports, some even taking on a sport every term.
- Eight students represented Dominic College at the All Schools Cross Country, achieving outstanding results.
 - Two students progressed to the Australian All Schools event in Ballarat.
- 39 students represented Tasmania at a national level across various sports.

Student Acknowledgments

- At the start of December, two Year 7 students represented Tasmania in the U13 Football (Soccer) Tournament in Melbourne. An exceptional achievement, congratulations to both girls.
- Two Year 8 girls have been selected for the U15 State Hockey Squad. We wish them all the best for the final selection process.



Sport K-10 continued...

- Several Year 8 students have been selected for the U15 Devils Squads for 2026—well done!
- Good luck to all students travelling for sport over the Christmas break. We look forward to celebrating your achievements in the new year.

Looking Ahead to 2026

As this is our final Newsletter for 2025, here is what to expect in Term 1, 2026.

Sport Offerings

Kinder – Year 6

- Pickleball Club – Date/Time TBC
- Year 5-6 Mix Tennis – Tuesday from 24 February
- Girls Year 1–6 Soccer – Thursdays from 26 February
- Boys Year 1–2 Soccer – Thursdays from 26 February
- Boys Year 3–4 Cricket – Mondays from 23 February
- Auskick & Superkick Clinic – Wednesdays from 4 March

Years 7–10

- Girls 9–10 Volleyball – Mondays from 23 February
- Girls 7–8 Volleyball – Tuesdays from 24 February
- Girls 9–10 Soccer – Tuesdays (with some Wednesdays) from 24 February
- Girls 7–8 Soccer – Wednesdays from 25 February
- Girls 7–10 Cricket – Thursdays from 26 February
- Boys 9–10 Basketball – Wednesdays from 25 February
- Boys 7–8 Basketball – Thursdays from 26 February

Note for new families:

These sports are free as part of JSATIS or SSATIS rosters. All equipment is provided except for personal safety gear (shin pads, mouthguards, etc.). If you would like a full list of sports offered each term, please email sport@dominic.tas.edu.au. Dominic College also hosts additional paid clinics run by external organisations.

Term 1 Carnivals & Events

- Year 7–10 Athletics – 27 February (Domain Athletics Centre)
- Year 3–6 Swimming – 6 March (Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre)
- SSATIS Athletics – 10 March (Domain Athletics Centre)
- JSSATIS Swimming – 19 March (Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre)
- STCPSSA Swimming – 27 March (Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre)
- Year 3–4 Regional Basketball – 28–29 March
- SATIS Athletics – 31 March (Launceston Athletics Centre)



Sport K-10 continued...

Term 1 Trials

- Primary Regional Basketball: Expression of Interest will be distributed with the Co-Curricular email. Trials may be required if numbers are high.
- Year 7–10 Representative Netball: Trials will occur mid-Term 1. Families will receive details closer to the date.

Representative Netball Commitments

Year 9–10

- Term 2: Year 10 Div 1 SSATIS Roster
- Term 3: 2nds SSATIS College Roster
- Hart Netball Championships

Year 7–8

- Term 2: Year 8 Div 1 SSATIS Roster
- Umpiring at Year 6 STCPSSA Gala Day
- Hart Netball Championships

All Representative Netball players must wear the approved Dominic Netball dresses for all games and tournaments, available from the Perm-A-Pleat showroom in Mornington.



Ms Kylee Chivers - Sport Administrator



CHOOSE YOUR

FOOTY ADVENTURE

DOMINIC COLLEGE

Start: Wednesday, 4th March
Time: 3:20pm - 4:20pm
Venue: School Oval
Grades: Kinder - Grade 1
Length: 6 weeks
Cost: \$90 (includes pack)

Start: Wednesday, 4th March
Time: 3:20pm - 4:20pm
Venue: School Oval
Grades: 2 - 6
Length: 6 weeks
Cost: \$90 (includes pack)

← SCAN FOR →
COME TRY &
PAID PROGRAM

ALL GIRLS GROUPS AVAILABLE

FOR TICKET TO PLAY ELIGIBILITY SCAN QR CODE BELOW!
IF ELIGIBLE, THIS WILL MAKE THE PROGRAM FREE!

RECEIVE UP TO \$100 OFF PROGRAM FEES WITH A TICKET TO PLAY VOUCHER

1. On the final payment screen select 'Government Vouchers'
2. Enter your voucher code
3. Select apply and the fee will reset to reflect the voucher discount
4. Vouchers must be claimed before Friday, 6 June 2025.
5. For more information head to tickettoplay.tas.gov.au or scan the QR code

E: Rachel.Wynter@afl.com.au Ph: 0499 555 960

VISIT PLAY.AFL

A PLAYGROUND WHERE FRIENDS MEET



Launch into Learning

As the school year concludes, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support of the Launch into Learning (LIL) Program this year. It has been another very fun-filled, successful and enjoyable year of LIL! For those of you who may not be aware, LIL is a free of charge, play-based program, open to all families within the community who have a child aged between birth and five years. LIL offers families an insight into play-based learning, assisting families to continue to support their child's early years learning in their home settings. The program recognises and reinforces the College's philosophy that parents are the primary educators and play a crucial role in their child's educational journey.

LIL nurtures and enriches the learning and development of each child in a safe, welcoming, and caring environment, where children can play and learn simultaneously. With a focus on fostering connections between families in the community and ensuring to support the learning needs and abilities of all children. Each week of LIL, there is a different theme to provide children's lively personalities and naturally inquisitive minds with continuous stimulation from a wide variety of educational activities and opportunities. Encouraging children to use their problem-solving, investigative and critical thinking skills. Stimulating their curiosity and inspiring their creativity through playful inquiry.

This year at LIL, we have enjoyed reading stories together, singing and dancing, participating in lots of sensory play, building together, getting creative doing arts and crafts, exploring in nature, and much more! As in previous years of LIL, there were incursions held throughout the year, including visits to the library and the Animal Husbandry Program. Highlights from this year include celebrating NAIDOC Week, National Science Week, Book Week, Pyjama Day, Teddy Bears Picnic Day, Grandparents' Day, and creating a hanging mobile for display at the Visual Arts Exhibition!

It has been wonderful to see the children's confidence grow throughout the year as they have mastered new skills and challenged themselves, exploring new types of play and different learning activities each week. Every child a part of LIL is to be commended for exploring and familiarising themselves in their learning environment with such enthusiasm, excitement, and respect for the space and resources. It has been an honour to meet all the families who were part of the program this year and a true joy to see the excitement on the children's faces when they arrived at LIL each week.

The LIL Program will continue to be offered weekly next year, on Mondays and Fridays in the Iwutina Centre with the current session times for both days. We hope all the LIL families have a wonderful Christmas break and look forward to welcoming new and existing families back to the program for more fun-filled learning and friendship-building in 2026! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Miss Amelia Hill-Mundy - Launch into Learning Facilitator



A PLAYGROUND WHERE FRIENDS MEET



P & F News



What a wonderful year it has been, filled with successful events, strong community engagement, and many shared achievements. None of this would have been possible without the dedication, energy, and generosity of our Parents & Friends Community.

The P&F enjoyed a festive Christmas dinner on Friday 28 November, which provided a lovely opportunity to celebrate our accomplishments as a team and to farewell valued members who are moving on. A special thank you to Nicola for her years of engagement, commitment, and positive impact on our school community, her contribution has truly made a difference and will be greatly missed.

The Parents & Friends were also proud to be invited to the College Awards Ceremony, where we had the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of our students. Congratulations to all students who received awards, your hard work and accomplishments reflect the strength of our school community.

We look forward to welcoming new parents into the Parents & Friends group in the coming year and invite all members of our community to join us at our **AGM on Wednesday 18 February**.

On behalf of the Parents & Friends, we wish our school community a safe and happy holiday season, and we look forward to another fun-filled and rewarding year in 2026.

Ms Amberley Harrex - P&F President



A PLAYGROUND WHERE FRIENDS MEET

Back to School 2026

Please follow the links to helpful resources to prepare for the new school year

[Stationery and Booklists for 2026](#)

[Term Dates 2026](#)

[2026 General Terms and Conditions](#)

[2026 Fee Schedule](#)

[Uniform Shop Trading Hours](#)



*Best wishes for a happy Christmas
and a safe and relaxing new year
from the Enrolments Team.*

Our next Morning Tea Enrolment Tour is scheduled for Friday 10 April 2026.

To register please go to <https://www.dominic.tas.edu.au/enrolment/>

For enquiries, please contact the Dominic Enrolments Team on 6274 6000.

The Dominic College Enrolments Office will be staffed following the Christmas Break from Monday 12 January 2026.

K-6 FAMILIES - DROP IN AND SAY HI!

**We invite you for a quick 'drop-in' anytime
between 3.30pm - 5.30pm
on Tuesday 3 February 2026**

An informal opportunity to drop off books and stationery,
see classrooms, and say a quick hello to teachers.

DOMINIC
COLLEGE



A PLAYGROUND WHERE FRIENDS MEET

SCHOOL HOLIDAY

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS



The Uniform Shop will close on **Thursday 18 December, 2025** and reopen on the following dates in January 2026.

13.01	◆	8:00am - 4:00pm
14.01	◆	10:00am - 6:00pm
15.01	◆	10:00am - 7:00pm
16.01	◆	8:00am - 4:00pm
17.01	◆	8:00am - 4:00pm
20.01	◆	8:00am - 4:00pm
21.01	◆	10:00am - 6:00pm
22.01	◆	10:00am - 7:00pm
23.01	◆	8:00am - 4:00pm
24.01	◆	8:00am - 4:00pm
27.01	◆	8:00am - 4:00pm
28.01	◆	10:00am - 6:00pm
29.01	◆	10:00am - 7:00pm
30.01	◆	8:00am - 4:00pm
31.01	◆	8:00am - 4:00pm

Normal trading hours will resume from
Tuesday 3rd February, 2026.



Hobart.Retail@Permapleat.com.au



(03) 7047 7204



College News

CHRISTMAS EVE IS BACK



Join us for Carols and Mass
9.30pm 24 December 2025



HOBART HURRICANES STAGE 1 SMASH
JANUARY SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



FUN, FAST MODIFIED CRICKET MATCHES PLAYED ON OUTFIELDS

FOR AGES 8-12

ALL EQUIPMENT PROVIDED, SIMPLY TURN UP AND PLAY!

PROGRAMS DELIVERED AS 2, 2 HOUR SESSIONS

MINIMUM OF 2 GAMES PLAYED EACH DAY

SOUTHERN TASMANIAN PROGRAMS:

INCLUDING THE OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY ON NINJA STADIUM!

PROGRAM 1: Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th January, 9am - 11am, Eady Street

PROGRAM 2: Tuesday 27th January, Kangaroo Bay and Monday 2nd February Ninja Stadium, 10am - 12pm

PROGRAM 3: Thursday 29th January, Carnelian Bay and Monday 2nd February Ninja Stadium, 2pm - 4pm



For further information and to register for a program, please scan the QR Code or visit:
www.hobarthurricanes.com.au - Hurricanes Smash Series page

Upcoming Events

12 December

Term 4 Ends

23 December

Year 10 Report Collection

24 December

College Business Office Closes

25 December

Carols & Mass

1 January 2026

Christmas Day

12 January 2026

New Year's Day

26 January 2026

College Business Office Re-opens

3 February 2026

Australia Day

5 February 2026

Primary Meeting and Greet

10 February 2026

Term 1 Commences for Prep-10 Students

11 February 2026

Year 7 Belling In Ceremony

Kinder *tuminana* 1 & Kinder *tuminana* 2 Commence

Kinder *tuminana* 3 Commences

