



BRIGIDINE COLLEGE ST IVES

Year in Review

2025



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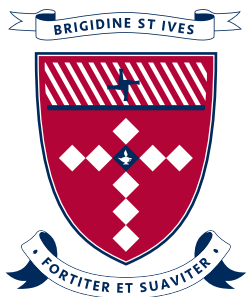
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Skipping Stone Photography

Brigidine staff and students

Printing

Worldwide North Ryde





01 Foreword

Principal's Welcome

2025 has marked another outstanding year for Brigidine College. Across academic, cultural, faith and sporting endeavours, our students have continued to shine. The active pursuit of excellence and the celebration of each student achieving her best remain at the centre of all that our staff do. This *Year in Review* reflects on the teaching, learning, faith, wellbeing, cocurricular life, school celebrations and events that have shaped Brigidine throughout 2025.

This has been a happy and successful year, characterised by achievement across a broad cross-section of College life. Brigidine students have excelled in ISDA Debating, sport and cocurricular activities, while maintaining a strong focus on academic excellence and achievement. Our Performing Arts students, in particular,

have distinguished themselves through outstanding results in their HSC subjects, reflecting both their talent and the dedication of our teaching staff.

We thank our outgoing College Captain, Emilea Wallis and Vice Captain, Caroline Cuda, together with the Senior 10, for their exceptional leadership and inspiring school spirit throughout 2025. Their commitment, enthusiasm and compassion have set a wonderful example for younger students.

We warmly welcome our incoming leaders for 2025 – College Captain, Emily Sing, and Vice Captain, Alyssa Sorbara – who bring great energy, creativity and a clear vision for the year ahead. We look forward to the new initiatives and opportunities they will lead as they continue to strengthen the Brigidine community.

I extend my sincere gratitude to our dedicated staff for their ongoing care and commitment to our students. I particularly acknowledge the College Leadership Team for their support and professionalism throughout this year: Deputy Principals Ms Leone Smyth and Mr Brian Loughland, Directors Mr Edward Codsí, Mrs Pamela Malone, Ms Sia Mastro, Mr Owen Vale, Mrs Mandy Loomes, and Business Manager Mr Luther Symons.

A special thank you also to Ms Celia Durer, Principal's Executive Assistant, for her outstanding support and contribution to the smooth operation of the College and to my work as Principal.

We remain deeply grateful to the Brigidine Sisters, the College Board, our Parents and Friends Association and all families of Brigidine College

for your continued support, encouragement and belief in the College's mission.

As we look to the future, our new Cill Dara Centre continues to take shape. This state-of-the-art Sports Precinct will house two full-size basketball courts and underground parking, providing students with exceptional opportunities for growth, teamwork and wellbeing. We anticipate its opening towards the end of 2025, marking another exciting chapter in the College's story.

On a personal note, I was not anticipating being the Principal at Brigidine this year, but was both delighted and honoured to be asked. It has been a privilege to lead such a vibrant and spirited community, and I have certainly created many wonderful experiences and memories to carry forward. There is a unique spirit and

energy at Brigidine – one that I have not experienced in any other school. Our senior students, in particular, see no challenge or task that they cannot conquer. Their confidence, kindness and courage embody the very best of the Brigidine tradition.

Brigidine is a very special place – a community of strength and gentleness, faith and purpose. I am immensely proud to have been part of its story and look forward to seeing its continued growth and success in the years ahead.

MR SHANE HOGAN
PRINCIPAL
BRIGIDINE COLLEGE ST IVES



Message from the Board Chair

On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to present this report to the Brigidine College St Ives community and our valued partners. In 2025, our unwavering focus remained on the education of young women, guiding every decision and initiative. As we reach the year's end, it is fitting to reflect on how this commitment has driven decisions to advance our students' academic and personal development.

A key responsibility for the Board this year was appointing a new Principal. We were delighted to announce that Mrs Kate Quinane will commence as Principal on 16 January 2026. Mrs Quinane brings extensive experience and a deep dedication to girls' education, with a proven record in fostering innovation and excellence in teaching and learning. Her leadership

promises to further raise academic standards and engagement at the College.

The Board extends sincere gratitude to Mr Shane Hogan for his outstanding leadership throughout 2025. His commitment ensured stability and continuity during a significant period of transition for the College.

Throughout the year, the Board and College leadership collaborated on a new Strategic Plan for 2026 and beyond, focused on enhancing the educational experience and outcomes for all Brigidine students. Our aim is to inspire excellence and nurture confident, creative and curious learners. Students are supported in navigating challenges such as disinformation, social media and artificial intelligence, while

guided by Brigidine values: hope, courage, compassion, justice, wonder and hospitality. These values empower our students to act with integrity and purpose in a rapidly changing world.

A major milestone in 2025 was the completion of the new sporting precinct, the "Cill Dara Centre," honouring the College's Irish heritage and Saint Brigid. Opening in early 2026, the centre will feature two indoor basketball courts, new teaching spaces, underground parking, upgraded outdoor courts, staff facilities and modern change rooms. This investment reflects the Board's recognition of physical education as essential to student wellbeing, promoting participation, teamwork and healthy lifestyles as integral parts of a well-rounded education.

Beyond facilities, the Board reinforced its commitment to young women's education through policies and programs supporting wellbeing, leadership and community engagement. Renewed mental health initiatives underpin student growth, while expanded leadership opportunities empower young women to develop lifelong skills. Partnerships with organisations and alumni continue to enrich the Brigidine experience, providing students with valuable real-world perspectives and mentorship.

In 2025, the Board's actions were guided by a steadfast commitment to empowering young women at Brigidine. With exciting new opportunities through the Cill Dara Centre, a new strategic plan, a new College uniform and the arrival of our new Principal,

the community can look forward to continued growth and excellence.

On behalf of the Board, I thank our Directors, Committee members, College staff, Kildare Ministries and the Brigidine Sisters for their dedication in 2025. Special thanks to Mrs Michelle Dixon (former Chair), Stephen Zadro, Louisa Rebec and Dominic May, who have resigned from the Board this year. Our achievements would not have been possible without their collaboration and commitment to our Brigidine educational ministry.

**DR MICHAEL
MCDONALD OAM**
BOARD CHAIR
BRIGIDINE COLLEGE ST IVES



02 Faith and Wellbeing

Faith and Mission

Being a Brigidine student at our Catholic Independent school is fundamentally about discipleship and strengthening our connections with Jesus as a foundation for living a good life. We use our time in Religion lessons, Chapel, and during Masses and Liturgies to reconnect with Jesus and reflect on how we should strive to live as Christian people. Through our social justice actions, we hope all students use their gifts to enhance the lives of those less fortunate and to be advocates for those who have no voice.

In 2025, the Kildare Ministries core value in focus was 'Hospitality'. In the eleventh year of this new community of faith, of which Brigidine College St Ives is a member, we took the step of supporting Wellsprings

for Women, a community works program within the Kildare Ministries group. Our Year 12 students raised over \$20,000 for this cause through a range of fundraising efforts, culminating in our annual Founders Day event.

The Commencement Mass at the start of Term 1 was a chance to welcome new students and new staff as well as our Principal for 2025, Mr Shane Hogan. Our annual Founders Day Mass was celebrated on a Wednesday in June, a change from the traditional Friday morning mass held during that week in previous years. It enabled us to celebrate as a community with the students in full school uniform and take time to acknowledge the contributions of past students and staff.

Our Easter preparations were enriched by a new Stations of the Cross Liturgy, led by the newly appointed Ministry Captains and senior students. On the final day of term, each year level participated in walking the Way of the Cross across the College, concluding with a final time of prayer and reflection in the Chapel.

Our annual Founders Day concluded Spirit Week and was celebrated in style, with Year 12 leading the way in support of their chosen charity, Wellsprings for Women. The College held the 'Brigo's Got talent' quest followed by a fun fair of food and special treats mixed with games, a Haunted House, Rave Cave and many stalls and fundraising activities.

During Chapel time we focused on personal stillness

and reflection, exploring many themes and Church seasons throughout 2025. Chapel provided an important opportunity to learn new songs, as well as to create space for self-reflection and individual prayer. Student-led reflections and prayer time were new features of Chapel, with every Mentor group contributing throughout the year.

The Community Involvement Program, or outreach, encouraged our young people to participate in volunteer work both in the wider community and through College initiatives and advocacy. In 2025, participation and completion rates were even stronger, and students came to appreciate that they could reach out to assist others while building a sense of purpose and meaning

through their involvement in the program.

The Year 12 theme of 'Come Alive in 2025' was inspirational, and the inclusion of alumni speakers at assemblies on the five areas of A.L.I.V.E. (Authenticity, Love, Inclusion, Valiance and Empowerment) was a great success in 2025.

Years 7 and 8 supported the St Vincent De Paul Society through the Winter and Christmas appeals, while Year 11 outstanding work supporting people experiencing homelessness during Homelessness Week in Term 3. Year 10 focused on our Indigenous people and steps towards reconciliation during Reconciliation Week, and Year 9 raised awareness of breast cancer through a wonderful Pink Day. Several



Commencement Mass



Graduation Mass



Founders Day



Mother's Day Liturgy



Founders Day Mass



Founders Day

staff and students also cut their hair for people undergoing chemotherapy as part of the 'Cut for a Cause' project.

At the end of Term 3, we were grateful to celebrate a beautiful Graduation Mass and Dinner with our Graduating Class for 2025 and their parents. Our Father's Day and Mother's Day liturgies were also very successful and well attended by the parent community. We always look forward to these special liturgies, which help to build and affirm the strong

ties between our parents and students.

Our liturgical celebrations and Chapel time continue to draw us closer together as a community with a shared purpose and focus. We know that the theme of 'Hospitality' resonated with many students and staff, inspiring a stronger desire to make a difference to the lives of others and to be strong and gentle as we each strive to be our best selves at Brigidine College.

MR BRIAN LOUGHLAND
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
FAITH AND MISSION

Camps and Retreats

The Camps held in 2025 provided students with the opportunity to strengthen their connections with one another, work collaboratively to complete activities and persevere through challenges. They form an essential component of the holistic education at the College, helping to build resilience, organisation, teamwork and connection – key skills for young people in today's world. In 2025, the Camps were scheduled across different weeks and times of the year to accommodate the impact of NAPLAN testing on the usual Camps week in Term 1.

In February, Year 7 spent time at Chowder Bay and Cockatoo Island on Sydney Harbour building connections with one another and participating in water-based activities such as snorkelling, swimming and kayaking.

Year 8 went to Katoomba in March where they enjoyed the bush setting and activities like archery, bush walks, craft making and local Indigenous

storytelling. The camp included a visit to Scenic World and a stop at Cables Aqua Park in Penrith on the return journey to school.

In Term 4, Year 9 made the long journey to the South Coast, past Ulladulla, to Murramarang National Park where they enjoyed beach-based activities and seaside camping for four days. They hiked along beaches, snorkelled, learned to surf, paddleboarded, listened to local Indigenous stories about culture and connection, and camped together at three different sites as part of a rotation of activities along the coastline. Over the four days they built strong connections with one another and explored their individual gifts and strengths in the pristine coastal setting.

Also in Term 4, Year 10 visited Wollongong where they stayed in cabins and prepared their own breakfasts each day. They spent time at the local Buddhist Temple, Nan Tien, and enjoyed a day at the beach as an alternate activity. On the final day they

travelled to Jamberoo Action Park near Gerringong before returning home.

The Senior Retreats provided opportunities for students to spend meaningful time with one another and to nurture their inner selves. Year 11 students participated in a Street Retreat at various sites across Sydney, gaining insight into the lives of marginalised people and engaging in placements with retirement and nursing homes, special schools and organisations supporting those experiencing homelessness and disadvantage. They stayed together overnight at the Collaroy Centre before travelling to their placements over the next two days.

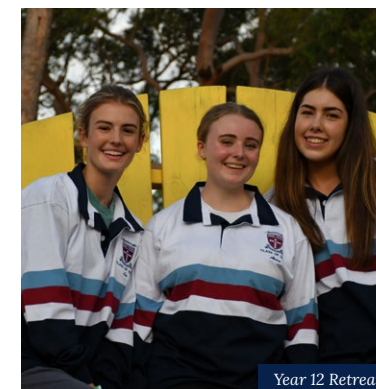
Year 12 spent three days at CRU Galston Gorge, reflecting on their life journey through school and the blessings and challenges they have encountered. They considered the essential components of a meaningful life and reflected on how to carry these blessings



forward into their final year of secondary schooling.

The Camps and Retreats continue to provide opportunities for students to live out our College motto, Strength and Gentleness, learning to face life's challenges with confidence, developing independence and deepening their awareness of others' needs. We hope that each student looks back on these experiences fondly, with the understanding that their time away was invaluable in helping them emerge from their teenage "cocoon" to fly confidently into the wider world.

MR BRIAN LOUGHLAND
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
FAITH AND MISSION





Year 8 Camp



Year 11 Retreat



Year 11 Retreat



Year 8 Camp



Year 9 Camp



Year 9 Camp



Year 12 Retreat

Social Justice

Social Justice is about creating a more fair, inclusive and loving world through helping others which is at the core of Brigidine's mission as a Christian community. Over this past year, Brigidine girls have been actively involved in a myriad of Social Justice initiatives ranging from the newly introduced Brigo Clothes Swap, to Shrove Tuesday, Rice Day, Domestic Violence Awareness, Dignity Dishes, the Brigidine Social Justice Forum, Vinnies Winter Appeal, Winter Sleep Out, Kildare Ministries Conference in Melbourne, Reconciliation Week, Homelessness Week, Pink Day, Daffodil Day and Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

A highlight this year was the Social Justice Forum that was held on 14 May. Brigidine organised and hosted this event attended by over 200

students from 22 schools along the North Shore, including The King's School, Shore School, Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College, Saint Ignatius' College Riverview, Pymble Ladies' College, St Joseph's College, Queenwood and more. This year's Forum was the most attended that Brigidine has ever organised. Guest presenters raised awareness from a diverse range of social justice issues, ranging from homelessness to Indigenous Education, to war on waste.

Additionally, this year, we saw a remarkable increase in student participation, with more girls than ever joining our Make a Difference Monday lunchtimes. Each week our Hall was lined with energy, laughter and a genuine sense of purpose as students came together to support Social Justice initiatives. It was clear

that these gatherings not only strengthened our commitment to helping others, but also deepened our sense of joy, inclusion and belonging within the Brigidine community. The growing enthusiasm and compassion shown by everyone truly reflect how Brigidine continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Of course, this year of Social Justice could not be possible without our junior leaders Grace Heilbuth, Molly Steven, Isabella Hague, Anisha Mellers, Bismun Kaur, Keira Anania, Sophie Jackson, Gemma Carson, Clare Hurford and Amelia Hague, as well as our Green Team Leaders, Katherine Raine and Alice Halpin, who advocate and coordinate these events alongside us and will continue to support Imogen Cran and Edie Scarf, the incoming Social Justice Captains for 2026.

Mrs Wachter is the heart of Social Justice at Brigidine. Her unwavering dedication has made all of this possible. She is an inspiring role model, consistently thinking of others and educating Brigidine girls to do the same. Sigird Veidners and I have had the most amazing year as Brigidine's Social Justice Captains for 2025 and are very proud and grateful to have had such incredible experiences throughout our high school journey.

ISABELLA RINGROSE SOCIAL JUSTICE CAPTAIN



Rice Day



Make a Difference Monday



Pink Day



Clothes Swap



Galentine's Bake Sale



Cut for a Cause



Reconciliation Week



Daffodil Day



Wellbeing

At Brigidine College, our Pastoral focus in 2025 has centred on character formation – the intentional development of values, virtues and habits that enable young people to flourish. Character is not formed in a single moment but through consistent practice of resilience, empathy and reflection, shaping how students respond to challenges, relate to others and grow into compassionate, confident young women.

Central to our wellbeing program is building a culture of care, where every student feels safe, valued and understood. This culture encourages students to take ownership of their actions, develop emotional awareness and strengthen

their sense of belonging. By nurturing compassion, respect and empathy, we equip students with the emotional tools to navigate adolescence and beyond.

Certain activities and experiences may evoke uncomfortable emotions, but genuine growth arises through these moments. Learning to manage unease, uncertainty or vulnerability builds the resilience and emotional agility needed for future challenges. Avoiding these experiences can hinder development, preventing students from gaining the confidence, courage and coping strategies essential to both character and wellbeing. Growth requires practice, and

often that practice begins in the moments that stretch us the most.

This year also saw the introduction of My Mind Check, a wellbeing initiative commissioned by Macquarie University. This evidence-based program has provided valuable insight into our students' mental wellness, allowing us to tailor programs to emerging needs. Combining research-informed understanding with pastoral care enables a more targeted and proactive approach to student wellbeing.

We have continued to strengthen partnerships with leading organisations to bring evidence-based expertise to

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.” – ARISTOTLE

our wellbeing programs as a way of supporting our students through the complexities of adolescence. These include Batyr, Headspace, Biting Truth, Enlighten Education, Dr Danielle Einstein, Ysafe, KYDS Services, The Butterfly Foundation, YouChoose, and DARTA. A highlight was the RU OK? Day Q&A breakfast and whole-school panel, featuring Headspace, Batyr, the eSafety Commissioner and alumni Olympic athlete Hayley Ballesty (Class of 2018). These events foster meaningful conversation about mental health, early support and helping friends in need.

As we conclude the year, we celebrate a program that has

focused on the whole person – head, heart and hands. Through practice, reflection and collaboration, students have developed purpose and resilience. This year has reinforced our belief that character formation is the foundation of true wellbeing, shaping not only what our students achieve but who they become. As the saying goes, “Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself,” highlighting that developing character and wellbeing is a lifelong process embedded in daily learning.

MS SIA MASTRO
DIRECTOR STUDENT WELLBEING



College Captains

“As we reflect on our journey, Year 12 has been an incredibly rewarding chapter, shaped by the unwavering support of our teachers and the Brigidine community.”

The Class of 2025 has had an unforgettable final year at Brigidine. Shaped by our theme, ‘Come ALIVE,’ we led the College through seasons of time, encapsulating the values of Authenticity, Love, Inclusivity, Valiance and Empowerment. Marked by coloured ribbons worn in our hair, we celebrated the uniqueness and powerful qualities of each Brigo girl, encouraging all to step into the world beyond high school and emerge as strong and gentle women. Our theme launch, featuring Year 12 students dressed in a technicolour array

of bright costumes whilst singing and dancing to the song ‘Come Alive’ from *The Greatest Showman*, captured the vibrancy of our cohort. During this time, we also introduced our chosen charity, Wellsprings for Women, a cause to which we felt a profound connection.

These foundations set the tone for our year ahead, with Year 12 actively involving themselves in carnivals, volunteering, fundraising and lunchtime activities. Some of our most cherished memories include our pastoral time talent shows, hosted by our passionate Drama

Captains, displaying talent and joy whilst uniting and strengthening the connections within our year group. Founders Day, one of the most anticipated days of the year, was another highlight. A celebration for the whole school, in which Year 12 mentors led activities like friendship bracelet making, cupcake decorating and a petting zoo.

As we reflect on our journey, Year 12 has been an incredibly rewarding chapter, shaped by the unwavering support of our teachers and the Brigidine community. This experience

however would not have been possible without our devoted Year Coordinator, Mrs Lovett, who has been a constant source of guidance, a link that has allowed us to grow and evolve our sisterhood.

The Brigidine experience has been foundational for all of us, teaching us to recognise the gift of this opportunity, to cherish the bonds we have formed and to step into the future with the mindset that Brigidine girls can truly do anything. We could not have asked for a better year!

**EMILEA WALLIS AND
CAROLINE CUDA**
COLLEGE CAPTAINS 2025



House Captains

Fatima

Our time as Fatima House Captains has been an amazing journey that we will cherish for a lifetime. It has been filled with so many incredible memories and unforgettable moments, all thanks to being surrounded by the best people in the best house! It has been amazing to see the amount of effort, energy and inclusivity that has gone into every carnival, sing-off and dance-off that has truly been inspiring.

We are so proud of all of our Fatty girls for taking on every initiative and carnival with pride. Their enthusiasm in embracing each theme, 'Fatima Fighters' and 'Fatima Fair Dinkum' at the carnivals was amazing to see and we can't wait for them to continue supporting the new captains.

Through our time as captains, we have had the opportunity to form new friendships across all year groups and build some amazing house spirit that we are so proud of. The strong relationships with all of the House Captains are something that we will never forget and are sure will last a lifetime

We have loved our time as Fatima House Captains and are sad to be passing the role down to the new Captains, but we know they will do an amazing job.

INDIRA MELLERS AND MATILDA SAUNDERS CAPTAINS, FATIMA HOUSE

Kildare

This year, it's been a true privilege for us to represent Kildare! The dedication, teamwork and support shown by everyone – whether in carnivals, house events, or day-to-day activities – has truly stood out. The sense of community in Kildare is something we're incredibly proud of.

A highlight was the Swimming Carnival relay, where the energy and encouragement from every girl lifted our swimmers and helped bring home the gold! At the Athletics Carnival, despite the rainy conditions, Kildare showed strength and spirit, earning second place in the House Chants with voices that carried above the weather.

We'd like to give a BIG thank you to all of Kildare for making this leadership experience so special, especially the Year 12 girls for always backing us up. Your support made a huge difference!

We also wish Ailee Campbell and Charlotte Bensley the best of luck for 2026. We hope you enjoy your time as much as we did. We know you can carry on the Kildare house spirit!

Our time as Kildare House Captains has made us forever grateful for our fellow house captains and taught us the importance of teamwork, resilience and supporting one another through every challenge.

STAR HOWELL AND MEGAN JEREMY CAPTAINS, KILDARE HOUSE



Lourdes

From fluoro fits to country hits, Lourdes had a standout year full of energy and unforgettable memories. We kicked things off at the Swimming Carnival with our theme 'Lasso Lourdes', where Lourdes brought cowgirl spirit, loud chants and vibrant support poolside. It set the tone for a year of enthusiasm and house pride.

We lit up the Athletics Carnival with our theme 'Luminescent Lourdes', rocking bright orange and cheering every runner across the finish line. Our determination paid off as we gave it our all.



One of our proudest moments was winning first place in Cross Country, a testament to the dedication of our girls in Lourdes. We also brought fun to the stage on Founders Day, placing second in the talent show with our Trolls-inspired dance, filled with colour, glitter and entertainment – a big step up from our mistletoe dance at Christmas!

It's been an honour to lead Lourdes this year. We're so grateful for this opportunity and have enjoyed every minute, from cheers to dances. Lourdes' spirit is unmatched, and we can't wait to see what next year brings!

CHARLI MARKS AND ELLENI TURKOVIC CAPTAINS, LOURDES HOUSE

Prague

Being Prague House Captains this year has been a really rewarding experience. The carnivals and events were the highlights, and it was amazing to see everyone getting involved.

At the Swimming Carnival, 'Prague Paradise' had the house dressed in bright colours, leis and hula skirts. Everyone gave their all in every stroke – freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly – and our chants were the loudest, helping our house maintain its energy throughout the day. Seeing everyone support each other and compete so hard made it an unforgettable carnival.

The Athletics Carnival was just as strong with 'Pumped-Up Prague'. Everyone came ready to run, jump and throw, giving their best on the track and field. Once again, we won the chants, with all year levels stepping up and encouraging each other throughout the day.

Before the carnivals, we competed in the Christmas Dance-Off. We dressed as Minions and Prague won the competition. The performance was so memorable that it's something Prague will be talking about for years to come.

Being House Captains has shown us how much everyone contributes to the spirit of Prague, and we're proud of what we've achieved together this year!

DAISY-SKY RAAFF AND CAITLIN WILSON CAPTAINS, PRAGUE HOUSE



03 Students

Year 7

Our vivacious new cohort of girls hit the ground running, beginning their Brigidine journey by attending the two-night Year 7 Camp at Chowder Bay. Held much earlier in the calendar than in previous years, the tenacity and willingness of the girls to not only attend, but to wholeheartedly involve themselves in every activity – from snorkelling with seahorses, kayaking in Sydney’s beautiful harbour, to an overnight camp out on Cockatoo Island – was impressive. The girls were provided with a fantastic opportunity to form bonds with their mentor group and their peers in a meaningful and challenging shared experience.

The cohort continued to participate and connect through their involvement in the Year 7 Reflection Day at Oxford Falls and the Peer Support program, with record participation in the Swimming and Athletics carnivals. They also shared their first Founders Day celebration with the Brigidine community.

Showcasing their amazing and varied talents, the girls have represented Year 7 and the College with incredible successes on the sporting field, in dance eisteddfods, music performances, debating and academic enrichment, in aerobics and through their participation in the many clubs and societies on offer at the College.

It was impressive to see the girls embrace the value of service through their participation in the Community Involvement Program (CIP) and through their positive support of the various social justice initiatives that have run throughout the year.

Each students’ individual contributions to all that is College life has been invaluable. As a group they are a force of strength and gentleness, bringing a sense of excitement for what the rest of their journey will hold.

MRS SIMONE WEBB
YEAR 7 COORDINATOR



Year 7 Spirituality Day



Pastoral Time



Year 7 Camp



Year 7 Camp



Grandparents Day



First day of school

Year 7

FRONT ROW: Emma Bailey, Aria Lorenzato, Francesca Wray, Harriet Soper, Aiai Dai, Skylah Brown, Eliana Zhou, Amalie Bigwood, Neala Goodarzi, Ms Gabrielle Reyes (Acting Year 7 Coordinator), Keke Dai, Grace Heilbuth, Sophie Corrigan, Milla Bagley, Amelie Aaron, Emily Kwak, Arlin Evanian, Emma Prior, Sienna De Silva

SECOND ROW: Mrs Roslyn Summerfield (Mentor), Lauren Porter, Elodie Mimmo, Kleioh Medel, Min Beeston, Ava Gilmour, Poppy Braybon Davis, Zoey Zhang, Lillian Stone, Rafah Gabila, Fleur Kelly, Amy Byrnes, Melody Jiang, Ravneet Jaspal, Iza Dar, Grace Heunemann, Eva Ross, Azalia Brown, Olive Stewart, Mrs Emma Johns (Mentor)

THIRD ROW: Charli Parker, Cynthia Liu, Miranda Yu, Noa Wolthers, Kitty McCarthy, Suzanne Thomson, Lily Davie, Indiana Smith, Jacqueline Turvey, Xinchun Jiang, Marissa Chuah, Caitlyn Wu, Olivia Bruce, Sophia Rodriguez-Ryan, Molly Steven, Grace Osborn, Katung Huang, Gabriella Papalia, Hoi Ching Chloe Sit

FOURTH ROW: Ms Angela Olver (Mentor), Sophie Keir, Elsie Hooper, Chiara Roperti, Elise Tanner, Alannah Tang, Seren Howells, Skye Tucker, Gabrielle Georgiou, Kalani Quayle, Nina Basilisco, Grace Patterson, Evie Munro, Alena Emmanoilidis, Christina Chen, Lauren Mitchell, Norah Moon, Annabelle Kim, Ava Finn, Mrs Susan Gibson (Mentor)

FIFTH ROW: Ms Michelle Cooper (Mentor), Bridgette Knight, Selena Jiao, Amelia Benson, Maggie Downs, Leila Mendel, Amber Heard, Zara Conner, Dionne Psarros, Matilda Wicks, Skylar Spencer, Amelia Christie, Lillie-Rose Read, Chloe Barkhuysen, Angela Darby, Maya Moulds, Abigail Robinson, Anna Xu, Angie Liu, Charlotte Taylor, Ms Clara Lim (Mentor)

SIXTH ROW: Mrs Caterina Wan Der Heyoten (Mentor), Alysha Chang, Ayla Tootian, Rachel Hallett, Charlotte Way, Chloe Drummond, Aditi Reddy, Kimiya Ghomi, Hannah Lynch, Lara Pawar, Eunha Chae, Ava Hexton, Isabelle Ross, Ava Stephan, Rebecca Liu, Eva Schweinberger, Catalina Pilon, Cailey Lovell, Grace Toussaint, Katie Horsman, Phoebe Sorohan, Lara Bradley, Zoe Desmarchelier, Ms Fiona Hooper (Mentor)

SEVENTH ROW: Talaya Hooley, Poppy Gilbert, Cara Hall, Lucia Julian, Tara Cheal, Mayah McDonald, Katie Dash, Rosalie Zadro, Alexandra Miller, Sophie Arthur, Lenna Lofhjelm, Hannah Wright, Emma Schreuder, Summer Damghani, Sophie Chant, Leah Higgins, Hannah Dawson, Madeleine Doyle, Junyu Zheng, Estelle Farmer, Tadiwa Mafusire, Ella Ross

ABSENT: Mrs Judith Allan (Mentor), Ms Monique Bobanovic (Mentor), Ms Ruby Kim (Mentor), Ms Natasha Mountfort (Mentor), Ms Samantha Neader (Mentor), Ms Gabrielle Nicholson (Mentor), Romina Baghaeifar, Zara Fraser, Caitlin Murphy, Sophia Torbarac



Year 8

This year, our Year 8 students have truly embodied the College theme ALIVE – living with Authenticity, Love, Inclusivity, Valiance and Empowerment in all that they do. As a cohort, they have grown into young people who are confident, compassionate and eager to take on new challenges with energy and optimism.

The year began with an unforgettable camp in the Blue Mountains, where their authentic spirit shone through laughter, teamwork and genuine connection. From playing djembes (African drums) and creating colourful mandalas, to trying their hand at archery and exploring the wonders of Scenic World, students embraced every experience with enthusiasm and openness. For many, the highlight was facing the towering slides and tricky obstacle courses at Cables Wake Park with courage and fearlessness, proving that they

were up for any challenge. Their spirit carried through to the Swimming, Athletics, and Cross Country Carnivals, where they proudly dressed in their House colours, cheered on friends and showed unwavering support for one another.

Acts of love and inclusivity were seen throughout the year, most notably through the Community Involvement Program (CIP). Students gave their time and energy to serve others – volunteering in childcare centres, retirement homes and animal shelters, as well as preparing meals for the vulnerable during Homelessness Week. Beyond the school gates, their compassion continued to shine, with students presenting at Global C3 conferences and leading charity drives to support vulnerable communities in Fiji. These acts of kindness and empathy highlighted the generous and inclusive hearts of the cohort.

Their valiance was evident across all areas of school life. In the arts, Year 8 students lit up the stage in the College musical, *Mamma Mia!*, transporting audiences to Greece with their confidence, joy and musical talent. They also captivated audiences during the *Dance Spectacular* and *Festival of Music* concerts, performing with passion, discipline and flair. In cocurricular pursuits, their courage and determination were clear – from debating and public speaking, to netball, sports aerobics and beyond. Regardless of the activity, students demonstrated perseverance, teamwork and a willingness to step outside their comfort zones.

Finally, their sense of empowerment was reflected in the maturity and excitement they brought to selecting their Year 9 electives. This process encouraged students to reflect deeply on their

strengths, passions and goals for the future. Many were eager to explore new academic pathways, while others committed to pursuing their established interests. Their thoughtful choices revealed a cohort ready to take ownership of their learning and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead.

I am so proud of all the Year 8 students and the way they have truly lived this year ALIVE, with heart, courage and an authentic joy that has enriched our school community. Congratulations girls!

MISS VICKY BOYD
YEAR 8 COORDINATOR



Year 8 Camp



Year 8 Camp



St Brigid's Day



Year 8 Camp



PDHPE

Year 8

FRONT ROW: Annabelle Cheng, Nicola Barbagallo, Anya Soghomonian, Go-Eun Moon, Emily Valentine, Lola McKay, Charlotte Rinckenberger, Miss Victoria Boyd (Year 8 Coordinator), Zara Fok, Billie White, Ka Man Huang, Lily Brennan, Sophie Fowler, Lucy Sadler, Eva Odysseos

SECOND ROW: Ms Rachel O'Brien (Mentor), Carissa Fischer, Indigo Wilmot, Isabella Hague, Maia Silverman, Charlotte Jones, Madison Kerkyasharian, Indigo Vale, Zahra Kazzaz, Amy Broome, Emma McLean-Johnston, Maya Fullford-Hurst, Calinda Diacopoulos, Caitlin Mathers, Eli Alder, Ms Alexandra Caruso (Mentor)

THIRD ROW: Kaitlyn Walsh, Anneliese Calacouras, Claudia Scicluna, Gracie Joyce, Victoria Bromley, Emma Thomson, Jessica Flint, Georgia Cordell, Winter Pollock, Hannah Stevens, Sophie Burke, Georgia Smyth, Natalie Fintanis, Atrina Alavi, Vassilia Koudsy, Ms Surmita Singhal (Mentor)

FOURTH ROW: Ms Elizabeth Troha (Mentor), Daniella Coates, Sophie Battersby, Lana Munro, Tilly Cooper, Charlotte Jurcevic, Alessia Leotta, Eva Keller, Willow Newton, Isabel Wilson, Savannah Cornish, Chelsea Tannock, Olivia Ashton, Eve Georgiou, Indi Willoughby, Ms Radell Carlson (Mentor)

FIFTH ROW: Mrs Margaret Covich (Mentor), Sarah Pottie, Addison Bannister, Shriya Vasanta, Chloe Kelly, Billie Torpey, Teddy Smith, Annika Henry, Olivia Ringrose, Zabelle Momdjian, Hannah Kilkeary, Harper Alexopoulos, Catherine Miller, Hannah Kelly, Willow Pollock, Oliana Sinclair, Sienna Macdonald, Zara Spurway, Kyra Butt, Ms Elizabeth Goode (Mentor)

SIXTH ROW: Mrs Tracey Byrne (Mentor), Mia Rose Wong, Evette Kelly, Mila Davies, India Carstens, Sybella Boon, Grace Trout, Courtney Hicks, Sophia Kennedy, Isla Rienits, Catherine Halgreen, Olivia Parkes, Tilly O'Shaughnessy, Isabella Plioplis, Lila Fraser, Jade Neill, Jemima Draper, Holly Glasner, Ms Sherill Townsend (Mentor)

SEVENTH ROW: Kate Sing, Grace McCloghry-Young, Cienna Richards, Sophia Gambrill, Adele Scully, Olivia Davie, Grace Wiblin, Jessica Grice, Eliza Haagen, Emmy Wiblin, Tiffany Widdup, Ava Ellis, Abigail Langley, Claudia Robertson, Talia Hislop

ABSENT: Ms Jessica Denholm (Mentor), Mrs Belinda White (Mentor), Anjuli Chandra, Emma Colreavy, Olivia Severino



Year 9

What a fantastic year it has been for Year 9! We began the year ready to embrace the exciting challenges and opportunities that come with being in the McMahon Wing. It has truly been a year filled with growth, friendship and memorable experiences.

Our reflective, student-led Chapel gatherings showcased the thoughtfulness and leadership of this amazing cohort. We proudly celebrated Pink Day, raising awareness and funds for cancer research, a true display of compassion, generosity and community spirit.

A major highlight was our unforgettable Year 9 Camp, held on the picturesque South Coast of NSW. With perfect weather, whale and dolphin

sightings, and opportunities to build independence away from home, it was an experience to remember. The girls handled every challenge with resilience and teamwork.

They also completed their first formal assessment block with excellence and contributed over 15 hours each to the Community Involvement Program (CIP) – an incredible achievement. Another highlight was the Year 9 Ceroc Dance Day with St Pius, where students built new skills, forged connections and had plenty of fun!

I am so proud of the Class of 2028 and all they have achieved this year. I can't wait to continue this journey with them in 2026!

MRS KATE RYDER
YEAR 9 COORDINATOR



Year 9 Camp



Year 9 Camp



Design and Technology



Visual Arts



Year 9 Shark Tank

Year 9

FRONT ROW: Gemma Batchelor, Angela Weir, Lauren Double, Sienna Osborn, Hannah Ryu, Chelsea Vuong, Airlie Smith, Keira Hsiung, Aemilia Reese Gabila, Mrs Katherine Ryder (Year 9 Coordinator), Abbey Qasabian, Lucie Howell, Isabelle Rogers, Harper Senanayake, Georgina Baker, Melanie Gordon, Tiffany Tang, Angela Ling, Sybella Hofmann

SECOND ROW: Mr David Clifton (Mentor), Chantal Mitchell, Ruby Johnson, Olivia Druce, Emma Grimley, Emily Clear, Isla Crapis, Charlotte Heunemann, Madison Gabila, Summer Wadling, Sabrina Sandrini, Madeleine Surjan, Tavnoor Kaur, Arabella Kough, Scarlett Frydman, Sophie Senanayake, Isabella Miller, Alyssa Behre, Natalie Vanza, Mr Lachlan MacFie (Mentor)

THIRD ROW: Ms Therese Wilson (Mentor), Tabitha Mimmo, Jasmine Zervos, Grace Radley, Heidi Lillycrop, Freya Saunders, Lucille Noble, Lucinda Maple, Xinyi Zhang, Caitlin Paisley, Alice Frost, Constance Brown-Min, Nina Spirkovski, Olivia Carter, Eloise Holloway, Phoebe Byrne, Mary Saraceno, Sarah Burke, Megan Penny, Dimitra Fintanis, Mr Mark Crewe (Mentor)

FOURTH ROW: Mrs Amanda Kilshaw (Mentor), Eva Marren, Gemma Elliot, Tahli Radford, Juliette Stewart, Michelina Parker, Myah Rimmer, Rosie Steger, Grace Lawless, Asha Wannell, Keira Stacey, Abigail Asscher, Liya Jonker, Keira Anania, Alivia Surman-Smith, Sophie Irvine, Talisha Bigwood, Layla Legovich, Katherine Raine, Ms Lauren Hickey (Mentor)

FIFTH ROW: Ms Carmel McCudden (Mentor), Ava Emmanoilidis, Honor Drysdale, Josephine Lovell, Scarlett Whooley, Matilda Dykes, Anisha Mellers, Camila Hilton, Zara Ellis, Chloe Baierl, Hannah Walters, Charlotte Ross, Grace Reynolds, Molly Joyce, Annabelle Doyle, Jacinta Hamann, Sally Arthur, Grace McKay, Ms Kate Millson (Mentor)

SIXTH ROW: Mr Ryan Jones (Mentor), Alexandra Danielian, Claire Dash, Claudia Monahan, Isabella Phipson, Natalie Gantvoort, Hanne Lofhjelm, Ella Fraser, Cordelia Mills, Evie Tucker, Eve Mortimer, Mila Lacic, Olga Kotleeva, Isabella Gaze-Jones, Eve MacKay, Ellana Ross, Willow Peschardt, Mr Timothy Donlan (Mentor)

SEVENTH ROW: Ms Erica Lee (Mentor), Coco Musgrove, Savannah Richmond, Sofiya Wachjo, Rachel Le Roux, Adelaide Lawler, Rosalita Crawford, Peishi Yang, Lily Haney, Edith McGill, Elizabeth Copley, Bismun Kaur, Erin Cran, Eva Saunders, Alice Karcher, Hannah Staude, Xuanwen Xiang, Mrs Claire Hatherell (Mentor)

ABSENT: Mrs Natalie Duffy (Mentor), Mrs Ellesha Holloway (Mentor), Lucille Hedgeland, Mackenzie Leech, Lily Lunn, Sage McKay, Bella Grace Nemeth De Bikal, Lily O'Connor, Francesca Powell, Joanne Shi, Isebella Tan, Lauren Taylor, Sofia Taylor



Year 10

2025 began on a beautiful morning, with several new students starting their Brigidine journey. It was lovely to welcome everyone to a new school year and our new students to our community.

Our Year 10 theme for 2025 is 'The Lotus'. The quote "Just like the lotus, we too have the ability to rise from the mud, bloom out of the darkness and radiate into the world" embodies the theme of learning from our mistakes, growing towards the right path, and embracing our individual strengths, gifts and talents.

During our first Pastoral Time in Term 1, students made origami lotus flowers and created unique Mentor Group posters showing what they were going to leave behind in the mud, such as procrastination and gossip, and what they were growing towards, such as self-acceptance and peaceful relationships. It was to be a reminder of what they were

collectively aiming for, what to focus on and what to encourage in others.

The cohort stepped up academically and embraced the challenge of studying Year 11 Accelerated Studies of Religion. As Term 1 concluded, the Acting Head of Religion, Ms Amanda Campbell stated she was very impressed with the application the students had demonstrated towards their studies. This had a positive flow-on effect into their other subject areas. Most students were more focused, more settled and demonstrated more maturity in all aspects of their academic life.

Term 1 concluded on a positive note with Easter Liturgy and Caritas Rice Day.

Term 2 had a careers and academic focus with the examination block. The effort some students put into their notes and how they embraced helping their peers with flash

cards, little quizzes and mind maps was encouraging. As we know, no one can climb a mountain alone, and the mountain that was looming is the HSC. Ms Leone Smyth had conversations with all students and many parents with regard to subject selection for Years 11 and 12, which prompted many more conversations regarding their futures. Students started to look beyond Year 10 and again, there was a step up in terms of personal accountability. There was the occasional lapse in homework or punctuality, but overall, the students accepted that, if they wanted to achieve their dream job, they needed to 'do the work'. They also showed greater appreciation for their support team of parents, peers and teachers. Year 10 was maturing!

Paul Dillon, Alcohol and Drug Educator, gave a targeted presentation to Year 10. I am sure the girls will always recall

'It's water time'. Hopefully some students stay connected to Paul via Instagram. His presentation also covered vaping. He stated that 90% of vapes contain nicotine, despite packaging that claims they are nicotine-free. I am hopeful that this generation makes wise choices when it comes to caring for their health.

Term 2 concluded with a wonderful celebration that we call Founder's Day. This is a highlight of the Brigidine calendar starting with Mass to honour our Founders and then fundraising activities for the Year 12 charity.

Before we knew it, Year 12 was graduating, and we wished them all the best for the examination period and their futures.

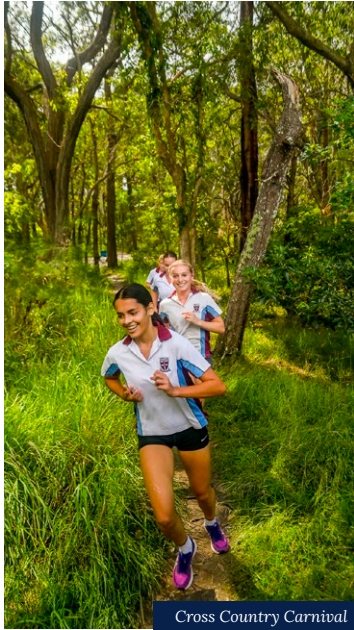
Term 4 commenced with Year 10 returning to school in crisp white shirts and a 'senior mindset'. The girls were very excited to be 'seniors first' in the bus line and move to

the Seniors' canteen line. The students' minds and efforts turned towards preparing for examinations, the Transition Program, Camp and Semi-Formal. What a whirlwind!

Year 10 2025 has been a journey of growth in both their academic and social worlds. They have consistently demonstrated independence, consideration for others and resilience. I hope they are proud of their personal accomplishments and they continue to be curious learners.

As women of Strength and Gentleness, may their Year 10 journey give them courage and confidence to stay strong in their quest for academic, creative, athletic, spiritual and philanthropic pursuits and like the lotus, may they radiate their light into the world.

MRS DONNA KUPER
YEAR 10 COORDINATOR



Cross Country Carnival



Year 10 Hospitality



Michaela Peters and Emily Hurst



Year 10 excursion to Parliament House



Kate Bromby and Maya Caulfield



Year 10 thumbprint artwork representing Authenticity



Cross Country Carnival

Year 10

FRONT ROW: Amelie McGuire, Abril Blanco, Poppy Decker, Veronica Scully, Emily Hurst, Sophie Walsh, Amelia Mather, Jemima Smith, Phoebe Taylor, Beatrix Gardner, Mrs Donna Kuper (Year 10 Coordinator), Ebba Cordell, Paige Sullivan-Bunt, Chloe Thomas, Angie Ho, Juliette Soady, Genevieve Tod, Hae Na Lee, Chloe Chu, Poppy Telfer, Allegra Raso

SECOND ROW: Ms Cinzia Marrocco (Mentor), Mia Soghomonian, Poppy Templeton, Elise Shanahan, Alexandra Cornish, Ruby Ryan, Yaejoon Baek, Yuna Han, Jemima Sayers, Charlotte Chang, Ava White, Scarlett Metcalf, Sofia Lenarduzzi, SooRim Lulu Gazal, Chloe Kuo, Indiana Murphy, Michaela Peters, Alexis Theodorides, Jamila Rumjahn, Ziyu Wang, Holly White, Ms Amanda Ellem-Sanders (Mentor)

THIRD ROW: Sienna Abrahams, Isabella Andersson, Ina Yun, Metta Brynildsen, Gemma Basilisco, Ava Wearne, Gemma Gannon, Yi-Min Hwang, Tahlia O'Brien, Soumya Patel, Tiffany Kisahwan, Jasmine Fox, Emma Creevey, Inez Taylor, Ella Bruce, Eva Perry, Kiahna Marashian, Annabelle Willoughby, Sophia McKechnie, Caetlin Ashby, Sophia Benson, Ms Robyn Collins (Mentor)

FOURTH ROW: Ms Amanda Campbell (Mentor), Adie Beeston, Lucy Fitter, Mimi Boffa, Chloe Hicks, Ruby Ossowski, Lara Bozikian, Abigail Julian, Ava Cran, Scarlett Pratt, Joselyn Shen, Jada Drape, Neva Carpenter, Stella Jordon, Alannah Walesby, Mae McEvoy, Charlotte McGregor, Bronte Nott, Lucy Fitzpatrick, Lily Hulley, Rane Wu, Mr Robert Farr (Mentor)

FIFTH ROW: Ms Catherine Arnott (Mentor), Vienna Kaufmehl, Ruby Collocott, Abigail Roche, Sybilla Conn, Sienna Poulos, Ava Poulos, Isabella Parkes, Rose McLean-Johnston, Nikita Muriti, Ellie Saunders, Caitlin Millar, Charlotte Croft, Mia Vale, Elsie Ord, Amelia Way, Sofia Dewar, Gemma Carson, Sophie Jackson, Mr Francis Fu (Mentor)

SIXTH ROW: Mr Joshua Holmes (Mentor), Leia Nable, Olivia Kilkeary, Isabella Lipari, Ella Flynn, Sophie Scott, Jasmine Cooke, Nakita Notaras, Evelyn Howells, Clara Ross, Sophie Vandine-Mendoza, Brooklyn Philpott, Charlotte Trout, Charlotte Rudolph, Matilda Lloyd, Kate Bromby, Annabelle Zreika, Sage McConnell, Mr Clive Meyers (Mentor)

SEVENTH ROW: Charlotte Fisk, Macy Pickering, Livia O'Bey, Sofia Ehnbohm, Jessica Widdup, Olivia Greig, Clodagh Carroll, Maya Caulfield, Lylah Turner, Mary Formston, Samantha Shaw, Ella Wolthers, Claire Mahon, Whitney Galvin

ABSENT: Ms Teneill Loneragan (Mentor), Mrs Leanne Miller (Mentor), Chloe Bell, Rose Branagan, Jacklyn Chen, Lily Cooper, Scarlett Gerke, Ava Inglis, Evelyn Mai, Tabitha Matthews, Paulena Moran, Evie O'Sullivan, Amelia Terry



Year 11

2025 has been a remarkable and memorable year for Year 11. Under the guidance of our Year Coordinator, Mrs Dunsmore, and Acting Coordinator, Mrs Ryder, the cohort has grown closer and become a cohesive group. Year 11 students have excelled in academics, sports, cocurricular activities, social justice initiatives and leadership, making it a year of growth, unity and achievement.

The year began with excitement over new senior privileges, including study periods and the long-awaited common room. This space quickly became a hub of laughter and connection, with a microwave, toaster and coffee machine – initiated by the girls – adding to its enjoyment. During free periods and senior study sessions, students worked hard towards academic and personal goals, supported by Mrs Dunsmore in mentor planning and positive learning activities.

In Term 1, Year 11 participated in the 'Random Acts of Kindness' initiative, anonymously performing small gestures for their buddies, fostering friendship and connection. A pivotal experience was the annual Year 11 Retreat which focused on community service and helping those less fortunate. Students volunteered at organisations such as The Big Issue, St Edmund's College, St Lucy's School, Our Big Kitchen, and Anglicare. This eye-opening experience strengthened empathy, compassion and gratitude. Additional social justice activities included leading Homelessness Week, preparing Dignity Dishes and assembling stationery packages for students in need.

Term 2 saw students applying for senior leadership positions, exploring their strengths and developing confidence. Leaders were announced on Founders Day, attended a Leadership

Camp in Narrabeen and were commissioned in Term 3, ready to guide the College in their final year.

The Year 11 play, *The Small Poppies*, was a highlight of 2025. Directed by Miss McDonald, the production showcased the cohort's talent across acting, choreography and backstage roles. All girls came together with enthusiasm and teamwork, creating an atmosphere of unity and joy that strengthened the bond within the cohort. The production will be fondly remembered as one of Year 11's most cherished memories.

Cohesion was further evident during Book Week in Term 3, when Year 11 dressed as Rainbow Fairies, embracing the fun and spirit of the day.

Students also achieved outstanding success in cocurricular activities and sports, including Mock Trial, Public Speaking, Debating,

Music, Dance, Sports Aerobics, and various sporting teams. The Senior Firsts Debating Team triumphed in the Archdale Competition, several netball teams won grand finals, and many shone in the College musical *Mamma Mia!*, *Dance Spectacular* and *Festival of Music*.

2025 also saw the introduction of the Big Sister, Little Sister initiative by the 2026 Year Ambassadors. This peer mentoring program pairs older and younger students to build collaborative projects, long-term support and a sense of belonging.

As 2025 comes to a close, Year 11 looks forward to embracing Year 12 with confidence, excitement and enthusiasm.

**EMILY SING AND
ALYSSA SORBARA**
COLLEGE CAPTAINS 2026



Visual Arts



2026 Leaders Commissioning Ceremony



Year 11 Play cast



Year 11 Play

Year 11

FRONT ROW: Gemma Barkhan, Siena D'Alessandro, Estelle Batchelor, Ariel Qasabian, Nyzarel Oertel-Low, Sophie Reynolds, Jiaqi Chen, Amelia Hague, Anabel Clancy, Mrs Karen Dunsmore (Year 11 Coordinator), Bronte Alexopulos, Nineveh Aniquae Cabigao, Sirui Wang, Grace Eldridge, Amelie Breaden, Chloe McGuire, Emily Sing, Hannah Griffin, Fei Fei Xiao

SECOND ROW: Ms Ellen Marlow (Mentor), Anisha Karunakar, Sophie Clark, Evie Sadler, Emily Anslow, Serena Millin, Emma Wood, Grace Miles, Imogen Forward, Tasha Lillycrop, Isabella Bozikian, Isobel Bagley, Seraphina Vescio, Olivia Arianayagam, Melia Adamian, Lauren Turner, Hallie Whitfield, Natasha Lee, Jazleen Kandola, Ms Jessica Tannous (Mentor)

THIRD ROW: Ms Emma Forbes (Mentor), Sophie Barker, Amy Brent, Hayley Dunbar, Emily Cashin, Marina Rothemund, Tess Lever, Elizabeth Langley, Alyssa Mirezni, Monique Smith, Zara Ong, Annabel McKinnon, Matilda Asher, Gemma Woolley, Olivia Halloway, Sienna Smith, Camila Diaz Cerpa, Tabitha Ferreira, Hollie Johnson, Joanna Darby, Mrs Donielle Gale (Mentor)

FOURTH ROW: Mrs Tiffany Suominen (Mentor), Lila Bromley, Arabella Wallace, Matilda Bridge, Imogen Cochrane, Chloe Walley, Nia Harper, Jessica Gannon, Billie Wadling, Livia Hilton, Leila Alami, Danielle Scroope, Olivia Manojlovic, Jessica Kelly, Imogen Cran, Chloe Lee, Anishka Thakur, Chloe Rienits, Erin Bardone, Mrs Danielle Ballesty (Mentor)

FIFTH ROW: Ms Elle Carroll (Mentor), Zoe Mills, Alice Halpin, Angelina Jurisic, Eliza Zadro, Isabella Keir, Lily Lipari, Lia Van Wyk, Edie Scarf, Charlotte Bensley, Ava Wilson, Emily Lovelock, Charlotte Stewart, Ailee Campbell, Caitlin Dunn, Helena Wilson, Amelia Janoyan, Sienna Severino, Lilah Ogg, Kirra Rebec Smith, Mrs Gina Hudson (Mentor)

SIXTH ROW: Mr Garth Aird (Mentor), Clare Hurford, Gracie Daddo, Jessica Gantvoort, Alexandra Knight, Olivia Higgins, Jasmine Siddall, Kayla Moane, Poppy Smith, Isabella Fisk, Rose Aylmer, Georgia Alden, Ereni Boutsikakis, Alyssa Sorbara, Niamh Flattery, Greer Woodbury, India MacNamara, Alexandra Torbarac, Sienna Beecroft, Mrs Nicola Greig (Mentor)

ABSENT: Mrs Sarah Emms (Mentor), Mr Brett Harrison (Mentor), Mrs Skye Wachter (Mentor), Sophie Cooper, Madelyn Gilio, Stephanie Graeme, Mia Nemeth De Bikal, Hayley Pember, Lauren Procter



Year 12

Year 12 2025 truly brought their theme ALIVE – Authenticity, Love, Inclusiveness, Valiance and Empowerment – bringing these values to life while shaping a year filled with purpose, energy and kindness. Each value was introduced through alumni guest speakers who inspired students to live with meaning and courage, while coloured ribbons were worn as visible symbols of these values. Messages of encouragement were shared widely and reinforced through activities and daily actions that reflected the belief in kindness and inclusion. In support of this, the ‘Queen of the Season’ award was given to staff and students nominated for how they demonstrated each value.

As a year group we continued to build on the idea of Ubuntu, a reminder that our humanity and strength are

found through connection, compassion and community. As a visual representation of this we created a collaborative artwork. Each student wove a piece of material that was then joined with others to create one unified piece. The weaving symbolised how individual threads gain strength when interwoven, just as people become stronger through community and cooperation. It is now on display at the College as a symbol for all to value one another and embrace unity. We are stronger together.

2025 started with a visit from YLead where the spirit of teamwork was ALIVE. Year 12 were authentic with their efforts, showing love through their messages of support, inclusion as they joined hands to get through the skipping rope, valiance as they were not afraid to participate and

empowerment knowing that they were united in the journey.

Their fundraising for Wellsprings for Women reflected the same spirit, with events such as Christmas on the Green, Trivia Night, Founders Day and bake sales showcasing generosity and teamwork.

The Year 12 Retreat, held at Galston, provided a safe space to truly be our authentic selves. We focused on the journey: where we have been, where we are now and where we are going. Combined with the distribution of Year 12 jerseys, some *Just Dance* and a unique dress up trivia night, it was a wonderful time for all.

Carnivals are always fun, but the bar was raised this year, and the themes were embraced by all. There were so many fabulous costumes across all year groups and great participation. The

House Captains were also responsible for some amazing performances in the Christmas Sing-Off and the Founders Day Talent Show – ALIVE in action.

Year 12 were also encouraged to value self-care. They were guided to set achievable goals based on their strengths and to find time to focus on ways to relax. Mindfulness, meditation, journalling, acts of kindness and gratitude all formed part of their journey. Behind every major event were the small, meaningful moments: shared study sessions, lunch on the green, chatter at the lockers and countless acts of kindness that were a defining feature of this group. Whether through major works, performances, or classroom achievements, Year 12 consistently demonstrated creativity, determination and compassion. They led with pride and challenged us all to be ALIVE in 2025.

MRS NYREE LOVETT
YEAR 12 COORDINATOR



Year 12 Graduation



Year 12 Retreat



Year 12 Graduation Mass



Graduation Assembly



1000 Hearts

Year 12

FRONT ROW: Talia Ellis, Anita Vanza, Briella Chung, Alisha Cheng, Alana Gonzalez, Alanna Devlin, Cynthia Ma, Rebecca Bewley, Haylie Dimitropoulos, Annie Zhuang, Emilea Wallis, Mrs Nyree Lovett (Year 12 Coordinator), Mr Shane Hogan (Principal), Caroline Cuda, Madeleine Benson, Jimena Blanco, Grace Osborne, Arianne Wong, Hannah Gill, Megan Jeremy, Lily Parker, Anna Ferguson, Summer Woods, Ryka Chakravorty

SECOND ROW: Mrs Samantha Rae (Mentor), Ms Heidi Holt (Mentor), Ruby Hills, Jasmine Warburton, Amelie Hill, Georgia McDowell, Ashley Gerrie, Olivia You, Cameron Dalzell, Daphne Hudson, Olivia Roland, Rachel Grant, Xiaoqi Zhang, Sofia Little, Rena Hu, Deana Little, Chloe Fleming, Emily Moss, Gabrielle Brooker, Ivy Montgomery, Indigo Lake, Kiara Korompay, Tiana Salhotra, Star Howell, Rosalind Scott, Miss DiAnne McDonald (Mentor)

THIRD ROW: Ms Brooke Alley (Mentor), Elena Rostami, Elleni Turkovic, Kelina Vasquez Buzzolini, Marta Donald, Freya Lugg, Josie Howlett, Olivia Taylor, Alicia Danielian, Sophia Willoughby, Ava Thomas, Isabella Breaden, Georgia Potts, Olivia Dwyer, Ava Joyce, Ava Lenarduzzi, Sydney Wiltshire, Indira Mellers, Charli Marks, Caitlin Wilson, Xinyi Huang, Keilana Stoten, Georgina Thomas, Hannah Della-Franca, Ms Nicole Goodwin (Mentor)

FOURTH ROW: Ms Alison Finnerty (Mentor), Alana Munro, Isabelle Osborne, Tyla Minns, Isabella Cardinale, Emma Walters, Jaime Hamilton, Grace Kennedy, Josephine Crocker, Isabella Ringrose, Kali Day, Allegra Stritt, Jessica Surjan, Paria Shielsar, Alexandra Quirk, Emilia Atkinson-Dicandilo, Ivy Guo, Alyssa Richards, Laura Zawodna, Grace George, Charlotte Fowler, Rory Zhang, Hannah Charlton, Lauren Gordon, Mrs Maria Jackson (Mentor)

FIFTH ROW: Mrs Michelle Skinner (Mentor), Christine Kim, Charli Senanayake, Olivia McGrath, Lucinda Hudson, Amilie Zhao, Imogen Webber, Chloe Byrne, Sofia Encina, Caitlin Sanders, Georgia Benson, Amber Hiscox, Sarah Grimley, Poppy Kopelke, Sarah Lanyi, Summer Rowland-Smith, Daisy-Sky Raaff, Kristen Socrates, Marlia Taylor, Roxanne Hathorn, Matilda Saunders, Jocelyn Lockyer, Holly McKee, Dr Jillian Sinke (Mentor)

SIXTH ROW: Mrs Sharon Cimen (Mentor), Mr Christopher Rutherford (Mentor), Sigrid Veidners, Ella McSweeney, Georgia Luca, Lily Wearne, Alice Brown, Olivia Hackwood, Ariel Simonsen, Neve McGregor, Isla Randle, Hannah Baxter, Scarlett Miles, Mia Links, Mikayla Chown, Chloe Weber, Jacinta Williams, Nieve Binns, Paige Kerfoot, Georgia Hackwood, Ophelia Odell, Charlotte Kentwell, Bridget Howell, Mr Mar Escorrido (Mentor), Mr Greg Johns (Mentor)

SEVENTH ROW: Zia Hylton, Alyssa Goodall, Sienna De-Fina, Olivia Belger, Claire Cornes, Olivia Lisle, Chloe Cogan, Madison Grice, Chelsea Bannister, Elle Seaglove, Mia Walsh, Sabrina Mulhearn, Audrey Draper, Jessica England, Zara Leslie, Cleopatra Westley, Marilla Gategood, Olivia Carson, Daniella Grantham, Georgie Calleia

ABSENT: Alexandra Anderson, Ava Dear





Senior Captains

FRONT ROW: Briella Chung, Emilea Wallis (College Captain),
Mr Shane Hogan (Principal), Caroline Cuda (College Vice Captain), Summer Woods

SECOND ROW: Roxanne Hathorn, Lucinda Hudson, Olivia Lisle, Olivia Carson,
Sienna De-Fina, Josephine Crocker



House Captains

FRONT ROW: Indira Mellers, Caitlin Wilson, Mrs Nyree Lovett (Year 12 Coordinator),
Charli Marks, Daisy-Sky Raaff

SECOND ROW: Megan Jeremy, Matilda Saunders, Elleni Turkovic, Star Howell



Year Ambassadors

Mrs Nyree Lovett (Year 12 Coordinator), Amelie Hill, Emilia Atkinson-Dicandilo,
Olivia Belger, Kelina Vasquez Buzzolini, Anna Ferguson



Daughters of Alumni

Olivia Taylor, Sienna De-Fina, Poppy Smith, Olivia McGrath, Inez Taylor, Olivia Roland



Cocurricular Captains

FRONT ROW: Georgie Calleia, Christine Kim, Talia Ellis, Hannah Charlton, Georgia Potts, Mr Shane Hogan (Principal), Georgina Thomas, Keilana Stoten, Deana Little, Grace Osborne, Arianne Wong

SECOND ROW: Ruby Hills, Jaime Hamilton, Isabella Ringrose, Alicia Danielian, Ava Thomas, Sigrid Veidners, Freya Lugg, Sarah Lanyi, Charli Senanayake, Imogen Webber, Jessica Surjan, Jimena Blanco

THIRD ROW: Summer Rowland-Smith, Mia Links, Lily Wearne, Claire Cornes, Audrey Draper, Chloe Cogan, Georgia Luca, Scarlett Miles, Georgia Benson, Marta Donald, Olivia McGrath



04 Academic Teaching and Learning

This year has seen important work undertaken to introduce and embed our Learning and Wellbeing Framework into classroom practice. This framework supports students to:

- be **Ready** with the organisation, wellbeing and mindset required for success
- **Grow** by participating actively in lessons, engaging deeply with tasks and challenging themselves to take thoughtful risks that extend their thinking
- **Measure** their progress using evidence and feedback
- **Reflect** on achievements, setbacks and the strategies that drive improvement.

This common language and cycle of learning creates clarity around expectations and empowers students to

take greater responsibility for their academic growth. Staff professional learning has further strengthened implementation, ensuring the framework is visible in goal-setting practices, assessment feedback and classroom pedagogy across the College.

This shift has contributed to significant improvements in learning culture and academic confidence throughout 2025. An example of this ambition has been our decision to accelerate all Year 10 students into Studies of Religion. By giving every student access to a Stage 6 experience, we have raised expectations, strengthened higher-order thinking and built the study skills that underpin success in senior years. The commitment demonstrated by our Year 10 students in both the 1 and 2 unit Studies of Religion courses has been very pleasing.

Major project learning is another powerful expression of our Ready-Grow-Measure-Reflect framework in action, enabling students to plan thoughtfully, take risks, analyse progress and refine their work to a professional standard. We are extremely proud that our HSC students have received record levels of recognition with an extraordinary number of showcase nominations: 54 for OnSTAGE (Drama), 20 for Callback (Dance), seven for Shape (Textiles and Design), two for Shape (Design and Technology), three for ENCORE (Music) and two for ARTEXPRESS. These achievements reflect not only exceptional student talent, but the high-quality teaching, mentoring and feedback that underpin success in major projects.

In 2025 our Year 12 students have modelled the attributes we seek to nurture in all learners – curiosity, capability, confidence, courage and compassion. Their leadership in academic effort and aspiration has positively influenced younger students and contributed to a culture where striving for personal best is both valued and celebrated.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to deepening the impact of our Learning and Wellbeing Framework, ensuring every student is equipped to flourish in their learning, now and into the future.

MS LEONE SMYTH
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
TEACHING AND LEARNING

Academic Enrichment and Philosophy

The Academic Enrichment Program in 2025 offered students meaningful opportunities to extend their learning beyond the classroom through independent inquiry, ethical reasoning and creative problem-solving. Centred on the Creative Intelligence and Design Thinking streams, the program encouraged students to explore complex questions, develop original projects and present their findings through viva voce presentations.

This year, Brigidine participated in both the Senior and Middle Years Ethics Olympiad competitions. Of special note was the success of the Middle Years team – Veronica Scully (Year 10), Alexis Theodorides (Year 10), Adele Scully (Year 8), and Emma McLean-Johnston (Year 8) – who advanced to

the International Round, engaging with issues such as AI in schools, geriatric parenting and fast fashion. The team received an Honourable Mention and placed twelfth overall. A further highlight was Veronica's recognition in the Ethics Olympiad Case Writing Competition for her piece 'Truth Teller or Traitor', exploring the David McBride whistleblowing case and the ethical tension between institutional loyalty and moral responsibility.

The Café de Flore workshop, run this year by The Ethics Centre, offered another rich learning experience. Aligned with this year's Kildare Ministries theme of 'Hospitality', students considered the ethics of how we treat strangers and the boundaries of moral obligation.

The Philosophy program in Years 10 and 11 also continued to foster deep thinking and civil discourse. Students engaged with classical and contemporary thinkers through structured inquiry, thought experiments and community of enquiry discussions. As part of their study of political philosophy, Year 10 students visited NSW Parliament House, connecting philosophical concepts to real-world democratic practice.

MRS JANET WALKER
HEAD OF ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT



Year 10 excursion to Parliament House



Ethics Olympiad

Dance

Callback Showcase

In February, our Years 11 and 12 Dance students attended the 2025 Callback showcase, featuring exemplary 2024 HSC works from across NSW. This event gave our students the opportunity to experience outstanding performances from top dancers around the state, inspiring them and providing valuable insight into the high standards and creativity achieved in HSC Dance.

HSC Dance Performance Exams

In August, the HSC Dance Class of 2025 undertook their performance exams, demonstrating their hard work and focus. We were thrilled to celebrate their incredible success, as they received 20 nominations to Callback, showcasing their exemplary HSC works. This achievement was a record for Brigidine, with every student in the cohort receiving a nomination for Callback. It reflects their dedication and the high standards of our Dance students.

Years 9 and 10 Composition unit

In the Composition unit, Years 9 and 10 Dance students explored their creativity through choreography and performance. Year 9 worked together to create group-devised pieces, developing skills in collaboration and experimenting with movement ideas. Year 10 expanded on their skills by focusing on solo compositions, giving them the chance to express their own style and ideas through dance. This unit was a great opportunity for students to engage with the creative side of Dance and build confidence in developing and performing their own choreography. Exemplar works were showcased in our Dance Performance Evening at the end of the year.

Year 10 Performance unit

In Semester One, Year 10 students focused on their performance unit, with an emphasis on safe dance practices and anatomy. Following their half-yearly performance task, students had the opportunity to use

the Strength and Conditioning Centre to identify and apply specific exercises that directly supported the improvement of their dance technique. This practical experience helped students understand the connection between physical conditioning and technical development, reinforcing the importance of strength, alignment and injury prevention.

Musical Preparation for Year 9

Our Year 9 students had the opportunity to start working on a dance number for the 2026 College musical, *High School Musical*. Being part of this production from a dance ensemble perspective was an enriching experience, allowing them to understand the behind-the-scenes process of choreographing and performing in the development stages of a production.

Performance Opportunities

This year, students across all Dance classes had a range of exciting opportunities to perform and showcase their achievements. Year 10

performed their contemporary class dance at Open Day at the start of the year, proudly representing the Dance program to the wider school community. Year 9 performed at the Academic Assembly, sharing their creativity and classwork with peers and staff. Year 12 took the stage at the HSC Dance Night, celebrating the culmination of their studies and impressive final performances. To conclude the year, Years 9–11 performed their classwork at the Curriculum Dance Night, highlighting their growth, collaboration and passion for dance throughout the year.



Liya Jonker, Year 9



Charli Senanayake, Year 12



Diverse Learning

2025 has been a year of growth, collaboration and continued commitment to supporting our students in our learning community. Our Diverse Learning Department underwent a significant restructure this year, introducing Stage Case Managers to better align support across a wider cross-section of students. This structure has strengthened communication between students, staff and families allowing for more targeted and consistent support with each year group.

In class, support and co-teaching have remained central to our approach with Diverse Learning teachers, Teaching

Assistants and Classroom teachers working side by side to differentiate learning, build student confidence and ensure equitable access to curriculum for all. The impact of this collaborative approach has been evident in improved engagement, participation and learning outcomes.

Our students have also thrived beyond the classroom. Many successfully participated in school camps, developing independence, social skills and resilience. Others engaged in both internal and external work experience programs, gaining valuable insights into future pathways and developing practical skills for life beyond the classroom.

The success of our work this year is a reflection of our collective effort. The Diverse Learning team continues to collaborate closely with students, teachers, families and key stakeholders to provide meaningful, individualised support to ensure every student is known, valued and loved.

We are proud of the progress made and look forward to building on these strong foundations in 2026, continuing to champion inclusion and growth for each student in their learning.

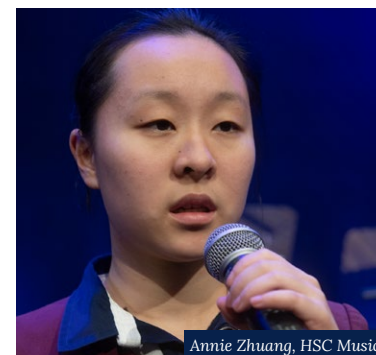
MS GABRIELLE NICHOLSON
HEAD OF DIVERSE LEARNING



Athletics Carnival



Swimming Carnival



Annie Zhuang, HSC Music



College Musical

Drama

Highlights for Drama 2025

- We received a new record of 54 OnSTAGE nominations and one selection for our outstanding Year 12 HSC Drama students this year – an incredible acknowledgement of the brilliant standard of Brigidine Drama queens! This means that our individual and group performances were considered by the examiners among the best in NSW.
- We had an almost sell-out season of the Year 11 play, *The Small Poppies* which featured many of our Drama students
- Our Term 4 Drama Showcase Evenings featuring individual and group performances from our Years 9, 10 and 11 Drama students allowed our parents and friends to support some of the outstanding assessment performances from their classwork including theatrical styles such as non-realism, playbuilding, Brecht, Verbatim and Theatre of the Absurd.

- Drama students were fortunate to attend critically acclaimed performances this year at the Sydney Theatre Company – Year 12 attended OnSTAGE, Year 11 viewed the powerful and poetic *Picnic at Hanging Rock* and Year 10 attended the multi-award winning RBG: *Of Many, One*.
- Whole school assemblies provided the opportunity for many of our Years 10 and 11 Drama students to perform group and individual performances
- Cocurricular Drama Club continued to provide junior students with creative activities during Friday lunchtimes
- Both senior Drama teachers were involved in HSC Trial marking in a number of different schools including Shore, Knox, Abbotsleigh, Ravenswood, St Augustines, Barker, Turramurra High and Loreto Normanhurst
- Miss McDonald is a key member of the Teacher Advisory Board at the Sydney

Theatre Company and advisor to NESA. She was also invited as a keynote speaker to the Drama NSW Conference. Mr Rutherford continued as a Drama advisor to AIS.

A special thank you to the fabulous team within the department – Mrs Michelle Casiglia, Mr Gareth Edey, Mrs Teneill Loneragan (Terms 1-2), Ms Cinzia Marrocco, Mrs Katrina Rennie (Terms 3-4), and Mr Chris Rutherford.

Congratulations to all the amazing drama queens we work with every day – you truly make us believe that, as Shakespeare once said, all the world is our stage!

MISS DIANNE MCDONALD
HEAD OF DRAMA AND CURRICULUM DANCE



Individual Performance by Angie Ho, Year 10



HSC Drama Promotional Design by Rena Hu



Year 12 HSC Drama Group Performance, *The Deal*



Year 11 Group Performance



Year 12 HSC Drama Group Performance, *Greener Pastures*, selected for OnSTAGE

English

In 2025, the English Department focused on providing meaningful opportunities for students to engage more deeply with their learning and reading. A key development this year was the introduction of drop-in tutorial sessions, where students could attend any teacher's session to seek feedback, ask questions or workshop ideas. These sessions were well attended throughout the year, indicating that students valued the flexibility and access to targeted support.

A key driver of student engagement with reading this year has been the *Drop Everything and Read* sessions, held during the first ten minutes of every junior English lesson. This consistent, structured time for reading has helped

normalise the practice as part of the school day and contributed to some of the highest borrowing rates the library has recorded. The library's reading challenges further supported this growth, encouraging students to explore a wider range of texts. A visit from bookseller and reading advocate Paul Macdonald added an important dimension to these efforts, prompting students to consider how reading shapes empathy, broadens perspective and connects us to the experiences of others.

Creative writing opportunities continued to expand in 2025, giving students meaningful avenues to express their ideas beyond the classroom. *The Lamp* remained an important platform for students to publish

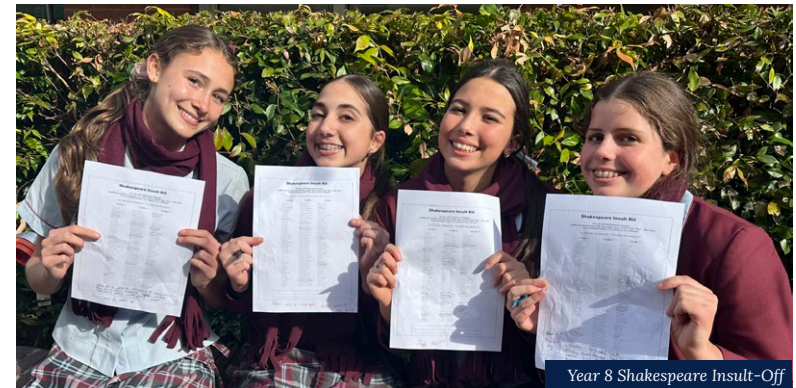
and share their work with a wider audience, celebrating a diversity of voices and styles. The Creative Writing Club offered a more informal space where students could experiment with form, develop their confidence and receive constructive feedback from peers.

As the year concludes, these steady, student-centred initiatives reflect an ongoing commitment to creating spaces where students can engage with language and literature in meaningful ways. We look forward to building on these initiatives in 2026.

MRS JANET WALKER HEAD OF ENGLISH



Paul Macdonald visit



Year 8 Shakespeare Insult-Off



Year 12 Advanced English with Mrs Janet Walker

History

The History Department has had a very successful 2025 calendar year. Our team of dedicated teachers have been involved in a range of activities for our students, inspiring our love of history. We welcomed our Year 7 students, exploring the Ancient Past focusing on Ancient China and Ancient Rome, whilst learning the basics of archaeology. During History Week in September, we were able to engage our Year 8 students with Medieval Day. Students learnt archery, historical dancing, tried on some armour and feasted away on a Medieval-themed lunch.

This year we have also had a small group of Year 8 students running the History Club during lunchtimes where we have mummified bananas, completed World War II code-breaking puzzles, designed historical memes and enjoyed many other fun historical activities.

As part of the Year 10 History course, our students study the Holocaust. To create meaningful connections, we sent our girls to the Sydney Jewish Museum where they had the opportunity to have a personalised tour of the Museum and the honour of listening to Holocaust survivors explain their experiences

during the Holocaust and their journeys. This was very moving and a wonderful opportunity for Brigidine students to engage with oral histories, especially as the last generation who will be able to engage with Holocaust survivors.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fabulous team of History teachers who demonstrate their professionalism and care for their students and their passion for this subject in every lesson.

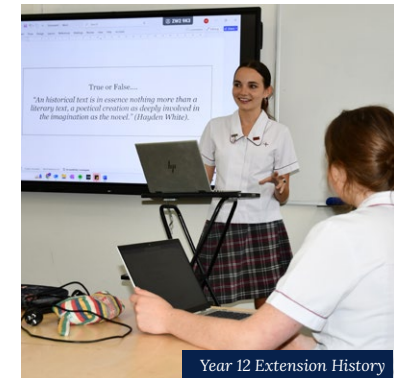
MRS SAM RAE
HEAD OF HISTORY



Year 12 Modern History with Mrs Nyree Lovett



Year 8 Medieval Day



Year 12 Extension History



Year 8 Medieval Day

Languages

This year has been an exciting one for Languages at Brigidine, filled with cultural learning, enrichment activities and authentic experiences.

The Year 11 Italian class enjoyed a cultural immersion day in August, when they explored *le passioni italiane* in Haberfield and Leichhardt. The day began at Papa's Pasticceria, where the smell of freshly baked dolci indulged our senses. At IGA Haberfield, students searched for authentic Italian products such as Barilla, Lavazza and San Pellegrino, connecting classroom learning with real-life culture. A visit to Cerrone Jewellers offered insight into Italian craftsmanship, where students met Nicola Cerrone and heard his inspiring story. The day

ended at Bar Italia with pizza, gelato and lively conversation, embracing the Italian value of *convivialità*, the joy of being together.

Also in August, the Year 11 French class visited the Alliance Française to strengthen their language skills through interactive workshops. Afterwards, students enjoyed an authentic French lunch at The Little Snail, immersing themselves in French cuisine and culture while practising conversation.

In preparation for their HSC, Year 12 students attended HSC Study Days and participated in Mock Speaking Sessions to refine their language and communication skills.

This year we also welcomed two Italian Speaking Assistants, an initiative funded by the Italian Government to support teachers and students studying Italian in Australian schools.

Scopa Club and Languages Club continued to bring together students through games, food and cultural activities.

A big thank you to Mrs Alexandra Caruso, Ms Elle Carroll and Ms Cinzia Marrocco for making the Languages Department such an inspiring and dynamic team.

MRS MARIA JACKSON
HEAD OF LANGUAGES



Library

This year has been an exciting and productive one for Kinkead Library, filled with opportunities for students to read, learn and connect. We launched two new initiatives – Senior Study Sessions for Years 10–12 and Homework Help for Years 7–9. Both have quickly become very popular after-school programs, providing quiet, supportive spaces for focused study and tutoring. Run by recent Brigidine alumni who have recently graduated, this initiative will continue in 2026 and parents are encouraged to support their daughters' attendance.

Our whole-school reading events brought the community

together once again. The *Write a Book in a Day* challenge inspired teamwork and creativity, while our Reading Challenges, including the *Principal's Reading Challenge* and the *Premier's Reading Challenge*, saw record participation across all year levels. Students and staff enthusiastically embraced the 2025 Book Week, theme 'Book an Adventure', with many dressing up as their favourite book character. Students in Years 7 and 8 enjoyed a visit by Amy Doak, author of *Eleanor Jones is not a Murderer*, our current set text for Year 8.

Another initiative we introduced this year is the

Classics Literature Challenge, encouraging students to discover timeless works and develop a deeper appreciation of literary history. Thanks to funds raised from last year's Trivia Night we purchased new desks, creating a more comfortable and modern study environment for everyone.

The library continues to be a lively hub of inspiration, curiosity and connection, and we look forward to building on these successes in the year ahead. Many thanks to the Library staff, Ms Tracey Byrne, Ms Anna Konkol and Ms Zara Nockles for their hard work this year.

MRS LEANNE MILLER
HEAD OF LIBRARY SERVICES



Book Week (Year 7)



National Storytime



Year 12 study session

Mathematics

The Mathematics Department has enjoyed a dynamic and rewarding year, with students across all levels engaging deeply with new concepts and building strong foundations for future study. The full implementation of the updated NSW Mathematics K-10 syllabus saw Years 8 and 10 transition smoothly into the new framework, which strengthens links between stages and promotes reasoning, problem-solving and real-world application.

Year 7 students embarked on their algebra journey, discovering how mathematical language describes patterns and relationships. Year 8 explored Pythagoras' Theorem and the constant π , applying these ideas to real-life contexts. Year 9 focused on financial mathematics, earning, interest and consumer decision-making,

while Year 10 tackled parabolas, quadratics and logarithms, honing analytical thinking.

Senior students developed advanced skills: Year 11 studied calculus and radian measure, while Year 12 applied integration and trigonometric techniques to complex problems. Extension students explored logic, vectors and complex numbers, developing intellectual resilience for tertiary study.

The Accelerated Mathematics program thrived, with students mastering advanced content ahead of schedule. Year 9 completed most of Stage 5, Year 10 finished the Year 11 course, and Year 11 sat their HSC before advancing into Extension studies. Mr Clive Meyers' Year 8 class completed Stage 4 and explored trigonometry in preparation for acceleration next year.

Looking ahead, the new HSC Mathematics syllabuses begin in 2026, streamlining content and strengthening pathways from Stage 5 to senior courses.

Our students achieved outstanding results in the Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers competition, earning numerous Distinctions and Credits. Special congratulations to Mr Francis Fu, nominated for a Teachers' Guild of NSW Award.

From the World of Maths workshop to classroom challenges, students of all abilities demonstrated creativity, collaboration and curiosity. 2025 has been a year of growth, achievement and enthusiasm for Mathematics.

MS ANGIE OLVER
HEAD OF MATHEMATICS



Music

Brigidine Music was in full swing in 2025! We kicked off the year with a guest appearance (and performance!) from our very own industry-professional and Brigidine alumni, CXLOE (Chloe Papandrea, Class of 2011). Chloe shared her chart-topping compositions and inspired our students to write their own music. Furthermore, our inaugural *Women In Music* forum shone a light on the various career pathways available through music, experienced by some incredible Brigidine alumni. The panel included Zoe Gougousidis (Class of 2019), Annelise Hall (Class of 2017) and Priscilla Pek (Class of 2003). It certainly was an inspirational and insightful evening for our budding musicians.

This year also saw the launch of our Stage 5 Elective Music Evening where Years 9 and 10 Music classes presented a showcase of performances and compositions. Highlights included a musical retelling of *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* and witnessing the political

power of music with *We Shall Overcome*. It was a fabulous evening for parents, offering a rare insight into the rich music-making that happens daily in our classrooms.

Our Senior Music program was brought to life with an excursion to ENCORE (a showcase of the best 2024 HSC major works in NSW), the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and *MJ the Musical!* with our very own Mr Timothy Crow in the pit. Of course, this was all in addition to the annual curriculum events, such as our Music Performance Evenings, HSC Showcase Evenings and in-class composition workshops.

Our Brigidine students are very fortunate to work with such passionate and dedicated Music staff, whose continued commitment facilitates these incredible opportunities. Thank you also to our Brigidine Music parent body, who loyally support our program – we couldn't do it without you! Together, we continue to nurture this unique community, growing our girls into strong and gentle musicians.

MRS NICOLE GOODWIN
HEAD OF MUSIC



PDHPE

In 2025, the PDHPE Department continued to create dynamic and meaningful learning opportunities that stretched far beyond the classroom. Through a mix of excursions, practical workshops and visiting experts, our students engaged with experiences that built their knowledge, skills and confidence in authentic ways.

Senior PDHPE students once again had the chance to gain fully accredited First Aid qualifications, an important credential that will serve them well both academically and in everyday life. They also participated in an inspiring Sports Science excursion and lectures at ACU Blacktown to kick off the new Health and Movement Science course.

For Years 11 and 12 CAFS, hands-on learning was at the heart of the year. Students took part in a number of excursions. Year 11 attended Integricare Preschool St Ives to investigate socialisation across the lifespan. Year 12 visited Sport4All, a company linked with the 4titude group, collaborating

with adults with disabilities to deepen their understanding of Groups in Context. They also visited Dom's Place, where they were able to link course concepts to lived experiences around homelessness, making their studies both relevant and impactful.

PASS students embraced a wide variety of physical challenges across the year. Year 10 students hit the waves during a Learn to Surf course and worked on their golf skills under the guidance of a professional coach. Year 9 students took ownership of their learning by designing, implementing and evaluating their own training programs, putting theory into action at the annual Brigidine Year 9 PASS biathlon.

Across Years 7–10 PDHPE, the focus was on broadening students' physical literacy through movement and recreational experiences. Years 8 and 10 students showcased their creativity and coordination by tackling an energetic Jazz dance routine as part of their Dance unit. Other

highlights included bushwalking adventures and fitness sessions led by external professionals, while Year 9 students enjoyed the chance to connect socially with peers from St Pius X during a lively Ceroc dance day.

Recreational activities added colour and variety to the program. Year 10 students participated in boxing fitness and Zumba classes, building endurance and strength while exploring fun approaches to maintaining health and wellbeing. Year 9 students further extended their sporting repertoire by training alongside GWS Giants players in an AFL skills session, a unique opportunity to learn from elite athletes.

The year finished on a high with the much-loved Year 7 Aquatics excursion to Palm Beach. Students developed their water confidence through surfing lessons, learned important survival skills and strengthened their awareness of beach safety – a fitting conclusion to a year of growth, resilience and enjoyment.

Throughout 2025, the PDHPE Department has remained dedicated to nurturing the whole student. By offering diverse and enriching opportunities, we have sought to empower students to not only meet curriculum outcomes but also to carry valuable life skills and memorable experiences with them into the future.

MR JOSH HOLMES HEAD OF PDHPE



Religious Education

2025 has been a significant and enriching year for the Religious Education Department, marked by academic innovation, spiritual growth and deep student engagement across all year levels.

A major highlight was the acceleration of the entire Year 10 cohort into the Preliminary Studies of Religion course – a first for our school. Despite the increased expectations and academic rigour, students embraced the challenge with resilience and dedication. Over the year, they developed essential skills in short answer and essay writing while exploring the beliefs, values and worldviews of various religious traditions. This not only strengthened their academic foundation but also broadened their cultural and spiritual awareness.

At the end of Term 3, Year 10 students sat their Preliminary examination, marking a key milestone in their senior studies. In Term 4, they began their HSC Studies of Religion course, demonstrating strong

readiness and commitment as they transitioned into Stage 6 learning.

For our Years 11 and 12 students, Studies of Religion continues to be a vital subject – one that fosters critical thinking, empathy and ethical understanding. In an increasingly diverse and interconnected world, the ability to engage with different religious beliefs and cultural perspectives is more important than ever. Through the study of a wide range of spiritual traditions, students are equipped with the tools to approach the world thoughtfully, respectfully and compassionately.

Our Year 12 students also experienced a dynamic and enriching year. In Term 1, they attended a lecture on Jewish marriage, which provided valuable context ahead of their Judaism Depth Study. Their enthusiasm for the topic was evident, with many classes actively engaging in role plays and reflective discussions that brought the material to life.

Their commitment to the course has been commendable and reflective of a genuine interest in the subject matter.

In Years 7–9, Religious Education continued to lay strong foundations in both faith formation and academic learning:

- Year 7 students explored The Life and Times of Jesus, Early Christianity, and the Brigidine Tradition, gaining a deeper appreciation for compassion, community and the legacy of St Brigid. These topics inspired students to live out their faith through acts of service, justice and kindness.
- Year 8 students were introduced to Judaism,

providing a foundational understanding of its core beliefs, practices and history – preparing them for more detailed study in their senior years.

- Year 9 explored Hinduism and Buddhism, gaining valuable insights into diverse religious worldviews, ethical systems and cultural traditions. These studies encouraged students to appreciate the richness of global spirituality and reflect on universal values such as peace, compassion and self-discipline.

A special moment in Term 2 saw students from each year level share their reflections and experiences of Religious Education during a school

assembly. Their meaningful presentations showcased the personal impact and enthusiasm the subject continues to foster.

2025 has truly been a productive and meaningful year for the Religious Education Department. We are incredibly proud of our students' achievements and grateful for the opportunity to guide them on their academic and spiritual journeys.

MISS AMANDA CAMPBELL
HEAD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (ACTING)



Year 11 studying Shintoism



Year 12 learn about Jewish weddings

Science

Highlights of 2025 in the Science Department have included the introduction of the new Stage 4 and 5 syllabuses for Years 7 and 9, which will be fully implemented for Years 8 and 10 in 2026. The new syllabuses introduce a revised structure, whereby Depth Studies are now undertaken each year, incorporating five hours of class time and allowing for the individual pursuit of interests. Data Science is also a stand-alone focus area in Years 8 and 10 – an important addition that modernises the teaching of Science and better prepares students for their senior studies.

Once again, it is wonderful to see so many of our Year 12 students from Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Science Extension classes intending to continue their studies in tertiary science fields in 2026 and beyond. While Science courses may be challenging for the HSC, they provide an excellent grounding for future

studies in areas as diverse as engineering, medicine and mechatronics, to ecology, psychology and physiotherapy. This year, our three Science Extension students submitted Scientific Research Reports on topics ranging from whether measles causes deafness, to the probability of binary star systems having planets orbiting them, to how radiation from space affects global cloud formation. Such high-standard, university-level research makes these students' pathways into their chosen tertiary fields of study all the more promising.

Our Science Club has around 25 keen and curious members who, each Friday, enjoy a wide variety of science-related activities – from dissecting cows' eyes to engineering challenges such as bridge-building and tower-making. These enrichment experiences provide students with opportunities to further their interests in many different directions.

Once again we have had very engaging and successful excursions for Year 11 Biology, Year 10 to Luna Park and Year 7 exploring the rock platform ecosystem at Palm Beach, combining their day with the aquatics component of PDHPE. Such hands-on experiences are never forgotten and make teaching Science that much more fun too! Science Week this year involved our girls participating in several competitions, both school-wide and within Science classes, with the winners joining the Science Club to enjoy a special pizza lunch to celebrate.

MR ROB FARR
HEAD OF SCIENCE



Science Club



Year 10 excursion to Luna Park



Year 7 excursion to Palm Beach



Year 11 Biology excursion

Social Science

Throughout 2025, the Social Science Department has continued to build upon the strong foundations of previous years. Drawing on the expertise and enthusiasm of the Brigidine community, we have strengthened our fieldwork experiences and developed targeted strategies to refine students' analytical and writing skills in preparation for the HSC.

Drawing upon the valuable contributions of parents, alumni and staff, students engaged in a range of authentic learning experiences. Year 11 Geography students participated in a Sustainability in the Fashion Industry presentation, exploring the environmental and ethical implications of businesses. Year 12 Legal Studies students met with a former police detective

member of staff to gain insight into criminal investigation and trial processes. Meanwhile, Year 9 Commerce students once again presented innovative business ideas to alumni judges in the Shark Tank challenge, gaining real-world feedback on entrepreneurship.

Fieldwork and excursions continued to enrich learning beyond the classroom. Year 10 Geography students explored coastal management at Collaroy and Long Reef, while Year 11 Legal Studies students observed proceedings at the NSW Supreme Court before attending a workshop at the NSW Parliament. These experiences deepened students' understanding of how classroom learning applies in broader contexts.

Throughout the year, staff used the new Brigidine College *Learning and Wellbeing Framework* to guide their work. A clear focus on supporting students' readiness to learn each lesson, alongside collaborative planning, professional learning and school holiday HSC workshops demonstrated the faculty's commitment to developing confident, capable and curious learners.

MRS EMMA FORBES
HEAD OF SOCIAL SCIENCE



Year 10 Geography fieldwork



Year 11 Geography fieldwork



Year 12 Geography fieldwork



Year 11 Legal Studies excursion to NSW Supreme Court and Parliament

Technological and Applied Studies (TAS)

At Brigidine, Technological and Applied Studies (TAS) subjects form a vital part of the curriculum, providing students with practical skills across Design and Technology, Food Technology, Textiles, Digital Technologies and Enterprise Computing. These courses foster creativity, build problem-solving abilities and develop critical thinking through engaging, hands-on projects that link directly to real-world experiences.

2025 Highlights:

Textiles and Design: Adele Clarsen (Class of 2024) deserves congratulations for her selection in the NSW TEXStyle exhibition.

Our 2025 Year 12 Textiles and Design class celebrated seven Brigidine College nominations for SHAPE. Congratulations to Amelie Hill, Olivia Lisle, Holly McKee, Allegra Stritt, Jessica Surjan, Marlia Taylor and Cleopatra Westley.

Years 9 and 10 Textiles students crafted professional quality garments and pillows, honing

skills like appliqué, dyeing and embroidery.

Food Technology: In Year 9 Food Technology, students explored international cuisines by creating a variety of dishes, while Year 10 focused on baking and decorating professional-quality cakes. Year 11 investigated flavour combinations through sensory testing, and Year 12 focused on consolidating their knowledge and skills in preparation for the HSC.

The annual Year 9 Food Trucks event, themed 'Super Foods', was a highlight in the Quadrangle, with *Spinach and Feta Love Triangles*, *Brigo Bowls*, and *Lemon Tart Cart* crowned the 2025 winners.

The highly anticipated Year 10 Cake Decorating Showcase introduced a new award in 2025: the Principal's Choice, won by Caitlin Millar. The People's Choice Award went to Ruby Ryan, while Claire Mahon was named runner-up, and Amelie McGuire and Evelyn Mai took home the Packing Prize.

Design and Technology: Our Textiles and Design Year 12 class celebrated two Brigidine College nominations for SHAPE 2025. Congratulations to Jocelyn Lockyer and Elleni Turkovic.

Year 9 Design and Technology students explored design thinking through The Gifting Lab, where they developed practical skills using a variety of materials, from resin and timber to acrylic and 3D printing. Building on these skills, they took on the Upcycling unit, creating innovative projects such as custom-made furniture, letterboxes, tables crafted from old records and mosaic surfboard tables.

Year 10 Design and Technology students were excited to immerse themselves in architectural projects, further developing a wide range of design skills. They enthusiastically engaged with real-world design challenges, particularly through their Vivid lighting installations inspired by this year's theme, 'Dreaming'. These projects showcased diverse abilities, from CAD-

based designs to intricate textile creations. Students should feel proud of their remarkable growth and creativity over the past two years.

The 2025 HSC Design and Technology class has shown exceptional creativity, innovation and perseverance, producing a diverse range of Major Design Projects that highlight their individual interests and skills. From finely crafted furniture and innovative lighting to digital products and architectural models, each project reflects a strong balance of aesthetic vision, functional design and problem-solving ability.

Enterprise Computing: This course offers students the opportunity to develop and apply their understanding of enterprise computing systems, and the girls have enjoyed putting their newly acquired skills into practice. Year 12 students continued to build on these foundations, further refining their knowledge and applying advanced concepts in preparation for the HSC.

Technology Mandatory: In Year 7, Engineering students assembled model planes, while Digital Technology students designed apps and applied their coding skills. In Year 8, Food Technology students focused on preparing nutritious meals for teenagers to strengthen their cookery skills, and Textiles students gained confidence on the sewing machine by producing pyjama shorts and tops featuring applique embellishments.

MRS BROOKE ALLEY HEAD OF TAS



Year 7 Design and Technology

Visual Arts

Visual Arts students have thrived this year, embracing the opportunities they received in their Art class to explore new ideas, refine their skills, and extend their creativity beyond the classroom.

Our gallery spaces were alive with student artworks from Years 8 to 11, presented through a series of dynamic exhibitions that captured the individuality, imagination and growth of each class. These displays celebrated students' experimentation with materials, techniques and ideas across a range of expressive forms.

As part of the 'Bridgies' unit, Year 10 Visual Arts students visited the Art Gallery of New South Wales to view the Archibald Prize exhibition. Seeing the finalists' portraits up close offered valuable insight into how artists construct meaning through paint, composition and expression. Back in the studio, students

applied these observations to create expressive portraits of Brigidine staff, which were exhibited at the annual Bridgies People's Choice Exhibition.

Year 10 Photography and Digital Media students took part in an Urban Photography Workshop with Master Photographer, Daniel Linnet from Sydney Photographic Workshops. Exploring Circular Quay, Customs House and The Rocks, they developed confidence using manual camera settings while capturing the rhythm, light and texture of Sydney's cityscape. Their photographic bodies of work showcased their growing technical skill, creativity and confidence behind the lens.

The creativity and dedication of Year 12 Visual Arts students were celebrated at the HSC Showcase, where their diverse and resolved Bodies of Work reflected personal stories, cultural perspectives and

sophisticated conceptual understanding. Congratulations to Gabrielle Brooker and Laura Zawodna who were nominated for possible inclusion in ARTEXPRESS, a showcase of outstanding major works by HSC Visual Arts students in NSW.

A highlight of the year was the exciting news that Year 11 student Camila Díaz Cerpa's application was accepted into the National Art School's Intensive Studio Practice in Life Drawing. Camila embraced the experience with enthusiasm, extending her observational and technical drawing skills as she prepares for her HSC Body of Work next year.

Camila reflects on her experience below:

Participating in the HSC Intensive Studio Practice course at the National Art School (NAS) was one of the most rewarding experiences of my art journey

so far. Immersed in the life drawing studios at NAS, I was surrounded by a community of passionate, like-minded students who shared a dedication to their artmaking. Learning from practising artists pushed me to see the human form in new ways, not simply as a subject but as a living expression of movement and emotion. The course strengthened my observational and technical drawing skills and gave me a newfound confidence that continues to guide my HSC Body of Work. A real highlight was exhibiting my pieces in the NAS Showcase, where I could see my growth displayed alongside so many inspiring young artists. I would strongly encourage any future Visual Arts students to apply, as it is a transformative experience that truly connects you to what it means to be an artist. - Camila Diaz Cerpa

MRS ALISON FINNERTY
HEAD OF VISUAL ARTS



Alice Halpin (Year 11) with Ms Peta Dzubiel



Jemima Draper and Indigo Vale (Year 8) with Ms Monique Bobanovic



Genevieve Tod (Year 10) with Mr Shane Hogan

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

The Vocational Education and Training (VET) program has continued to flourish throughout 2025, highlighted by the growth of our Year 9 classes and the milestone achievement of our first group of Stage 6 Early Entry Hospitality students completing their HSC examination.

Our Year 9 students have embraced the theme of Café-style food and beverages, creating an impressive range of sweet and savoury dishes while developing their barista skills through the preparation of mocktails and espresso coffees. These practical experiences have helped students gain confidence and refine their hospitality techniques in a fun, hands-on learning environment.

Partnerships with local hospitality venues have continued to strengthen, providing invaluable opportunities for students to complete industry work placements. These placements allow students to experience real workplace environments, understand

professional expectations, and develop essential employability skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, creativity and time management.

A particular highlight this year was Inez Taylor's (Year 10) placement at Bennelong Restaurant, an outstanding opportunity in one of Sydney's premier dining venues. Other students also completed their placements at respected establishments including Garfish and The Greengate Hotel.

The College was proudly represented by Nieve Binns, Charlotte Fisk, Scarlett Pratt, Inez Taylor, Scarlett Gerke and Ella Bruce in the Catholic Schools Broken Bay *Battle of the Chefs* competition. Competing against other schools from across the Diocese, our Year 10 students showcased exceptional creativity and teamwork as they prepared a two-course meal from a mystery box of ingredients. Their professionalism and composure under pressure earned them a

commendable fourth place in this highly competitive event.

Our Year 11 Hospitality students also successfully completed the Provide First Aid course, delivered by trainers from Surf Life Saving Australia. This qualification has equipped them with vital knowledge and confidence to respond effectively in emergency situations – an important skill both inside and outside the workplace.

Throughout the year, Hospitality staff and students have continued to demonstrate professionalism, enthusiasm and teamwork in the preparation and service of food at numerous College events. Their positive attitude and commitment to excellence have been recognised and greatly appreciated by the wider College community.

MR GARTH AIRD
HEAD OF VET



Careers

Expanding Opportunities and Building Aspirations

In 2025, most Year 12 students submitted university applications through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC), with 74 students also applying via the Schools Recommendation Scheme (SRS). Students pursued a wide range of courses for 2026 entry, reflecting the breadth of their interests.

Course preferences included Society and Culture (51), Human Health (40), Management and Commerce (44), Creative Arts (27), Education (17), and Natural and Physical Sciences (22). Smaller groups pursued Architecture and Building (13), Engineering (8), Information Technology (6), Agriculture and Environment (2), and Hospitality and Food Studies (1). This diversity demonstrates the holistic education and encouragement students receive to explore multiple pathways.

Careers Events 2025

Gap Year and Language

Exchange Mini-Expo: Students explored global experiences through volunteering and exchange programs.

Year 7 Brigo Time Careers

Session: Helped students discover career pathways and personal strengths.

Rural Pathways Medical

Excursion: Years 9–12 attended the Rural Health Pathways Showcase at ICC Darling Harbour, exploring careers in rural medicine, nursing, allied health, midwifery and Aboriginal health through hands-on activities and discussions with professionals and graduates.

Women in Construction

Work Experience: Seven senior students explored opportunities in a traditionally male-dominated field.

Morrisby Career Profiling: Year 10 students used this tool to

identify interests, aptitudes and potential career matches.

University and Industry Engagement

In-school sessions strengthened links with tertiary institutions and industry partners.

Representatives from the University of Sydney, UTS, Macquarie University, UNSW, ACU and the University of Newcastle visited the College. A UAC Application and Early Entry Presentation supported students' understanding of tertiary admissions processes.

Work Experience and Vocational Pathways

Practical learning remained a highlight. Students undertook work experience in zoos, veterinary surgeries, construction, early childhood education, retail, small businesses and Women in Engineering programs. One student completed her first year as a School-Based Apprentice

in Baking, while 13 students undertook TVET (TAFE) studies in Screen and Media, Beauty Services, Automotive, Salon Assistance, Floristry, Entertainment, Business Services and Animal Care. Several Year 10 students applied for 2026 TVET programs, reflecting ongoing interest in practical, skill-based pathways.

Highlights and Supports

Key achievements included Women in Construction Work Experience and the Rural Pathways Medical Excursion. The Gap Year and Language Exchange Expo was popular, reflecting growing interest in global citizenship. Combined with university visits and personalised guidance, these initiatives supported informed decision-making.

Senior students received individual career counselling, tertiary application workshops, and, where needed, resume and interview skills development.

The Brigidine *Careers News* newsletter provided timely updates on universities, TAFE courses, scholarships and industry opportunities, keeping students and parents informed and engaged.

Looking Ahead to 2026

Priorities include expanding local industry engagement, alumni mentoring and strengthening tertiary sector connections.

Acknowledgements

We thank the universities, employers, parents and alumni who partnered with us throughout 2025, enriching student learning and supporting Brigidine graduates to step confidently into the world with curiosity, integrity and purpose.

MS MICHELLE COOPER CAREERS COUNSELLOR



06 Cocurricular

2025 has been another remarkable year for Brigidine's Cocurricular Program. For a non-compulsory program, student participation has been exceptional, with students engaging daily and weekly in teams, ensembles, clubs and activities that allow them to thrive beyond the classroom.

A highlight of the year was the unprecedented success of our Debating Program. Our Senior Team was crowned IGSA Archdale Debating Champions – an achievement never before realised in the College's history. This was complemented by a Junior Team victory in the SDN Debating Competition and rising standards across all divisions.

The Performing Arts also shone brightly. Major events such as the College musical

Mamma Mia!, the Year 11 play *The Small Poppies*, *Dance Spectacular* and *The Festival of Music* showcased the depth of talent and creativity within our community. This year, Brigidine introduced the Contemporary Music Program and strengthened its partnership with St Augustine's College. Our Girls in Black production, AV and technical crews continued to deliver exceptional work, ensuring professional standards in every performance.

This year marked the second construction phase of our new Sports Centre. Despite challenges of alternative venues and adjusted schedules, our Sports Program continued to flourish. The new Cill Dara Sports Centre will open in the final weeks of 2025, signalling a new era for sport at Brigidine.

Amid these transitions, sporting success was abundant. The College achieved back-to-back IGSA Division 1 Premierships in Junior Netball and Junior Football – an extraordinary accomplishment reflecting our strong sporting culture. Success extended beyond these flagship sports, with outstanding performances at the National Sports Aerobics Championships in Tasmania, growing Hockey participation, and Brigidine now fielding more players in the NSW AFL Independent Girls Competition than any other Sydney school.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Program also transitioned to a new partnership with Black Diamond Adventures, introducing innovative expeditions featuring abseiling and caving alongside traditional

“The new Cill Dara Sports Centre will open in the final weeks of 2025, signalling a new era for sport at Brigidine.”

hiking and canoeing. Their 2026 Gold Program – traversing the Larapinta Trail and visiting Uluru, Kata Tjuta and Kings Canyon – promises to be a highlight of next year.

Clubs in Drama, Creative Writing, Science, Languages, History and Social Justice continued to thrive, supported by dedicated staff and enthusiastic student leaders.

Finally, I extend my sincere thanks to all staff who supported our Cocurricular Program throughout the year. Your commitment and generosity of time and spirit continue to enrich our students' lives and strengthen the Brigidine community.

MR OWEN VALE
DIRECTOR COCURRICULAR



Senior Debating team crowned IGSA Archdale Champions

Cocurricular Dance

Our 2025 Dance year has been one of exceptional growth, creativity and achievement. With 22 classes, 230 students, 11 dedicated teachers, and participation in five competitions, the Brigidine Dance program continues to flourish and uphold its reputation for excellence.

All three of our Company Eisteddfod teams placed at every eisteddfod they were entered in, maintaining our high standard of performance across all competitions.

We are especially proud of several standout accomplishments this year. Elsie Ord (Year 10), achieved an outstanding result, winning

first place in the Intermediate Traditional Contemporary Solo at The Australian Classical Grand Prix. Our Eisteddfod students also represented Brigidine with excellence at the Australian Dance Festival. In addition, Gemma Barkhan (Year 11) and Sophie Senanayake (Year 9) were selected to perform at the IGSA Sydney Dance Company Workshop, a remarkable opportunity that highlights their talent and dedication. Most importantly, our annual *Dance Spectacular*, held in September, once again exceeded expectations, continually levelling up each year with captivating performances from all Dance students in Years 7 to 12.

At the heart of our success is the inclusive and supportive culture that defines Brigidine Dance. Whether in class, on stage, or at competitions, we take immense pride in watching our students shine and grow as performers and as individuals.

A massive congratulations to all our talented dancers and teachers for their hard work, passion and commitment throughout the year.

We look forward with excitement to another inspiring year of Dance in 2026.

MISS SHANNON RILEY DANCE CONVENOR



Year 7 Wednesday Jazz



Senior Lyrical



Greer Woodbury (Year 11)



Lucy Fitzpatrick (Year 10), Company Jazz

Cocurricular Music

2025 has been another remarkable year for the Brigidine College Cocurricular Music Program, filled with outstanding performances, community engagement and musical growth across all ensembles. From the concert halls of Bathurst to our very own theatre, our musicians have continued to embody the Brigidine spirit of creativity, collaboration and excellence.

The year began with great energy as our ensembles returned to regular rehearsals, eager to prepare for a busy calendar of performances. They didn't have to wait long as the Stage Band represented the College at the Wahroonga Food and Wine Festival in February, and the Senior Vocal Ensemble was selected for a broadcast on 2MBS in March.

Term 2 saw the Stage Band travel to Bathurst for the annual Big Band Blast Festival where they performed alongside schools from across the state. The weekend was filled with workshops, masterclasses and exhilarating performances that inspired our students to push their musical boundaries.

Throughout the year, our ensembles enriched College life through a series of memorable on-campus performances. Our Music Performance evenings offered a platform for soloists and small groups to shine whilst the Music Showcase evenings highlighted the incredible breadth of talent across our choirs, bands and string ensembles. These nights were also a fitting way to farewell and celebrate the outgoing Head of

Cocurricular Music, Mr Charlie Lovelock.

Our ensembles performed at numerous school events including Chapel, Pioneers Day, Alumni Day, Mother's Day and Father's Day Liturgies, College masses and assemblies. These experiences not only developed performance skills but also fostered teamwork, confidence and leadership among our students.

Congratulations to all of our students for an outstanding year of music-making. Your hard work, creativity and joy in performance truly reflect the heart of Brigidine's cocurricular spirit.

MR TIMOTHY CROW
HEAD OF COCURRICULAR MUSIC



College Musical

Bursting with energy, laughter and heart, *Mamma Mia!* was a celebration of love, resilience and community. Through ABBA's timeless music, the production explored self-discovery, independence and the importance of embracing life's uncertainties. The College musical brought together a dedicated team of staff, students and alumni whose creativity and passion made the production truly unforgettable. From the dazzling choreography and vibrant set to the powerful vocals and passionate performances, every element reflected months of commitment and collaboration.

Behind the scenes, an extraordinary team worked tirelessly to ensure the show's success, reminding us that the magic of musical theatre lies not only in the performance, but in those who make it happen. The dedication and joy of this year's cast was exceptional and we can't wait to see what next year brings!

MS ELIZABETH TROHA
DIRECTOR



Year 11 Play

Big School

Set in 1985 when everyone is wearing a *Choose Life* T-shirt, it's about to be Clint's first day of school and he doesn't want to be there. His best friend Maria is about to move away and Clint is terrified of the school bully, Shane. Clint's mum has a new boyfriend, Theo is obsessed with kangaroos, while the school principal, Mr Brennan, is struggling to work out the newest innovation, a computer.

Our 2025 Year 11 play, *The Small Poppies* by David Holman, was a hilarious and wholesome glimpse into the rite of passage of starting "big school".

Utilising the multicoloured crates on stage offered us the ability to create and craft the multiple theatrical worlds

demanded by the play. We traversed from Clint's house and garden to a refugee camp in the war zone of the Cambodian border, a Qantas flight, through to the inside of a kindy classroom. The primary colours of the crates reflected each of the three children's backgrounds – Theo's blue reflected his Greek heritage, Lep's red represented the Cambodian flag and the bloodshed left behind, and Clint's yellow reminded us of his sunshine and optimism of life in Australia.

In addition, the projections of our cast on their own first day at school, aged five, added humour and poignancy for our audience.

We had 61 incredibly enthusiastic and talented Year 11 students on stage in this production and dedicated choreographers, a technical crew, and hair, make-up and costume assistants working behind the scenes. It gave many Year 11 students the opportunity to perform on a stage for the very first time and demonstrated that 'big school' is the best place to be, as they embark on their own 'big school' adventure approaching the HSC year.

MISS DIANNE MCDONALD
DIRECTOR



Duke of Edinburgh

In 2025, the Brigidine Duke of Edinburgh program underwent exciting changes with Black Diamond Adventures joining us as the new provider for the Adventurous Journeys, introducing new destinations for our students. New activities have also been added – including caving, abseiling, and rock climbing – bringing greater challenge and variety to the expeditions:

- Bronze: Royal National Park and South Coast NSW
- Silver: Royal National Park and Bungonia National Park
- Gold: participants will undertake a combined practice and qualifying journey at Kosciuszko National Park in December.

Continuing the success of last year's inaugural trip, the Gold Residential Project was once again held at Saltbush Balnarring Beach in September. Saltbush is one of Kildare Ministries' community works

and offers respite holidays to individuals experiencing medical or financial hardship. They needed help maintaining the gardens surrounding the houses, so our students made a meaningful impact by assisting with garden maintenance, creating native gardens and supporting LandCare volunteers in planting trees. They also completed various odd jobs such as cleaning outdoor furniture, assembling flat-pack furniture and creating floral bouquets to welcome visitors.

A highlight of the week was welcoming 30 guests from Wellsprings for Women and the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project to Saltbush for a shared lunch. Students and guests connected through stories and laughter, making it a truly memorable and meaningful day.

Overall, it was a fulfilling week in which students made a real difference.

Congratulations to the graduating Class of 2025 Gold Duke of Ed recipients:

Georgia Benson, Georgie Calleia, Isabella Cardinale, Ryka Chakravorty, Claire Cornes, Sofia Encina, Charlotte Fowler, Grace George, Jaime Hamilton, Daphne Hudson, Lucinda Hudson, Megan Jeremy, Grace Kennedy, Christine Kim, Poppy Kopelke, Olivia Lisle, Jocelyn Lockyer, Olivia McGrath, Tyla Minns, Isabelle Osborne, Grace Osborne, Lily Parker, Emilea Wallis and Rory Zhang.

Thank you to the outgoing Duke of Ed Captains, Jaime Hamilton and Grace Osborne, for their outstanding commitment and leadership.

MISS ELLE CARROLL
DUKE OF EDINBURGH
COORDINATOR



Approaching Marley Beach on the Bronze Practice



Silver Qualifying



Connecting with children from Wellsprings on the Gold Residential Project

Sport

AFL

This year, we had the most teams entered of all schools in the Independent Girls' Schools AFL competition, with nine teams! Three of our teams won their grand finals – Brig 1 (Open Div 2), Brig 2 (Open Div 3) and Brig 9 (Junior Div 4).

Four Brigidine students – Ava Thomas, Caitlin Wilson, Charli Marks (all Year 12) and Rose Aylmer (Year 11) – were selected to represent Sydney North against Sydney City in the annual representative match. Our Senior 1sts coach, Miss Elle Carroll, was also chosen as the coach of the team.



Sydney North representatives Ava Thomas, Caitlin Wilson, Charli Marks (all Year 12) and Rose Aylmer (Year 11) with coach, Miss Elle Carroll

Athletics

This year was our first competing in the CGSSSA carnival, after moving across from Broken Bay. Seven of our athletes were then selected to represent CGSSSA at the NSWCCC carnival. Sofia Ehnбом (Year 10) and Miranda Yu (Year 7) both had very successful seasons in long jump and the 800m respectively, each going on to reach the finals or place at the NSW All Schools Championships in their events.

Cross Country

This year was our first competing in the CGSSSA Cross Country competition. It was exciting to experience a new course at Homebush, where two of our students – Mia Links (Year 12) and Miranda Yu (Year 7) – medalled in their age groups. Six students were also selected to represent CGSSSA at the NSWCCC Carnival.

Basketball

With 12 teams entered in the IGSA competition, Brigidine had a strong presence on the courts, highlighted by Brig 2 winning their division. Mia Soghomonian (Year 10) was also selected for the IGSA 16 & Under representative team, competing at the NSW CIS Championships. We're looking forward to returning to our own home courts in 2026, once the new Sports Precinct is complete!



Gemma Elliot (Year 9), IGSA Cross Country

Football

Brigidine had 12 football teams in the IGSA competition and continued the success of 2024, with our J01 team once again winning the IGSA competition – making us back-to-back premiers in the top IGSA Junior Division. We also entered the Bill Turner Trophy for the first time, reaching Round 3 before going down to a very strong Mackellar Girls side.

Madison Gabila (Year 9) was successful in her selection for the IGSA Opens team and was also chosen to represent at the Emerging Matildas Championships in the U15s team, where she was named in the Team of the Tournament.

Hockey

Brigidine entered three hockey teams in the IGSA competition, with our Senior 2nds progressing to the semi-finals. Ava Ellis (Year 8) was selected in the IGSA U15s Hockey team for the second consecutive year and was also chosen for the U14 NSW Blues team, competing at the National Hockey Championships in Brisbane.



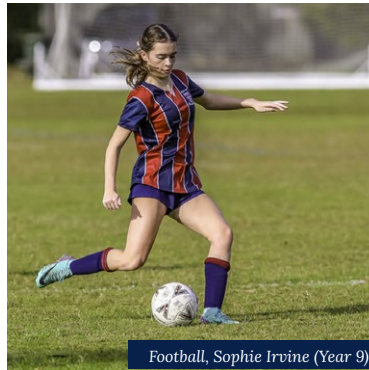
Madison Gabila (Year 9)



AFL, Georgia Benson, Year 12



Rugby 7s Inters with Mr Owen Vale



Football, Sophie Irvine (Year 9)



Bri02 Hockey semi-finalists with coach, Mr Owen Vale



NSWCCC Water Polo Championships



Poppy Smith (Year 11) at the CGSSA Swimming carnival



IGSA Touch Football, Charlotte Bensley (Year 11)



Bri06 Football team



Basketball IGSA Trials



Junior 1sts Netball with Head of Sport, Mrs Claire Hatherell



Intermediate Relay swim team



Sofia Encina and Emilea Wallis (both Year 12) at Tildesley Tennis

Netball

Of the 26 Brigidine teams competing in the IGSA netball competition, 13 progressed to the semifinals and six reached the grand finals – with all six going on to win their respective matches. A special mention goes to Brig 12, who won the IGSA Junior 1sts division against Pymble in extra time, scoring a goal after the final buzzer and becoming back-to-back J01 Grand Final winners in the IGSA J01 division.

Clodagh Carroll (Year 10) was selected for the IGSA Opens representative team, competing at the CIS Championships.

Rugby 7s

This was Brigidine's fourth year competing in Rugby 7s. We entered four teams in the Chloe Dalton Secondary Schools 7s competition. This year, our girls also trialled for IGSA, with Paulena Moran (Year 10) being selected and then going on to represent NSW CIS. Samantha Shaw (Year 10) was selected for the NSW U16s 15-a-side team and competed in a tri-series against Victoria and the ACT.

Softball

This year, our Senior team competed in the Invitation Independent Schools Softball Competition (IISS). The team included players from Year 7 to Year 12, making it a mix of year groups this season. The girls progressed to the semifinals, narrowly losing to Pymble in a close game. Sophia Benson (Year 10) and Georgia Benson (Year 12) were selected to represent NSW CIS.

Swimming

Brigidine competed at the CGSSSA carnival for the first time this year. Five of our students were selected to represent CGSSSA, with our Intermediate 4 x 50m Freestyle team going on to compete for NSWCCC at the NSW All Schools Carnival.

Snowsports

In 2025, eight students represented Brigidine at the Interschools Snowsports Championships held at Perisher. Throughout the week, the girls competed in a variety of events, including Ski Cross, Alpine, Snowboard Cross and Giant Slalom. Congratulations to our Ski Alpine B Team, who placed 10th, and Team A, who finished 14th. We also achieved an impressive 6th place in Ski Cross.

Ava Wearne (Year 10) placed 9th in the Snowboard Giant Slalom as an individual, while Sabrina Mulhearn (Year 12) and Lily Wearne (Year 12) achieved 3rd place as a team.

Tennis

Brigidine had 14 teams entered in the IGSA competition in Term 1. We also entered the Tildesley event, with Emilea Wallis and Sofia Encina (both Year 12) advancing to the fourth round in doubles – an excellent achievement!

Touch Football

This year, Brigidine had 19 teams entered in the IGSA competition. Earlier in the year, Charlotte Bensley and Tasha Lillycrop (both Year 11) and Mia Links (Year 12) were selected to represent IGSA, with Charlotte then going on to represent NSW CIS at the National Youth Championships during the September school holidays.

Water Polo

We had a busy year with Water Polo, entering teams in the Pymble Water Polo competition, the NSSWPA mid-week competition and the IGSA competition, winning several divisions, including the Pymble Competition Opens and Intermediate Div 1, as well as the Opens NSSWPA competition. Chloe Cogan (Year 12), Lilah Ogg (Year 11), Isabella Parkes (Year 10), and Nikita Muriti (Year 10) were selected for the NSWCCC team and competed in the Australian Schools Water Polo Exchange in July.



Sports Aerobics

Brigidine's Sports Aerobics teams travelled to Hobart to represent the school at the National School Aerobics Championships. We had 55 students across nine teams and two individual entries. The girls achieved outstanding results, winning three gold medals, one silver and one bronze. Congratulations to Mr Joshua Holmes and the Sports Aerobics team on an amazing 2025!

07 Tours and Immersions

Fiji Immersion

Our students embraced every moment of their service tour in Fiji over the October school holiday break. For the first time, Brigidine College teamed up with St Augustine's for the

two-week 2025 Fiji Cultural Immersion trip, where they supported local communities by painting buildings, planting seeds for future harvests and teaching local students.





Red Dirt Immersion

Over seven days in the Term 2 holidays, a group of Brigidine students travelled to Coonabarabran, Baradine, Coonamble, Brewarrina, Bourke and Dubbo as part of the Red Dirt Immersion. The tour provided participants with a unique opportunity to explore the realities of life for outback communities, particularly Indigenous communities. Students were exposed to different natural environments, people, cultures and local schools, helping to widen and enrich their world view.



08 Community

2025 was a vibrant year at Brigidine, filled with opportunities for students, families and staff to come together and celebrate the life of our College.

In February, we welcomed our parent community to the Welcome Cocktail Party. With the theme 'Starry Night', guests enjoyed delicious canapés and live music as they reconnected with familiar faces and met new families joining our community.

February also continued our tradition of welcoming Year 7 parents through our Mum's Lunch and Supper Groups and Brigo Dads program. It was wonderful to see them settle into the community and begin

forming connections that will last throughout their daughters' time at the College.

One of the highlights of the school calendar remains Founders Day, when the College comes alive with a variety of stalls organised by Year 12 to support their chosen charity. We are especially grateful to parents who volunteer to help with the sausage sizzle, ensuring lunch is served to the whole school.

The P&F Trivia Night continues to be a highly anticipated event for parents. In 2025, the theme 'Stepping Back' supported the installation of amphitheatre seating in the Quadrangle, and thanks to the hard work of the

P&F and the enthusiasm of the community, the event raised \$27,000 towards this initiative.

In September we hosted our annual Alumni Day, welcoming back the Classes of 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, and 2020. Guests were greeted with live music from our Music students, welcome drinks and canapés in the Anita Murray Courtyard. It was a joyful occasion for reconnecting with old friends and staff.

Christmas on the Green was another highlight of the year, bringing our communities together for festive celebration. Guests enjoyed a variety of market stalls, performances from neighbouring schools and

a wonderful evening of music by our own talented students. It was a perfect way to share the spirit of the season.

At the heart of Brigidine is a strong sense of community. In 2025, students, parents, staff and alumni demonstrated these qualities in abundance, making the College a vibrant and supportive place to learn and grow.



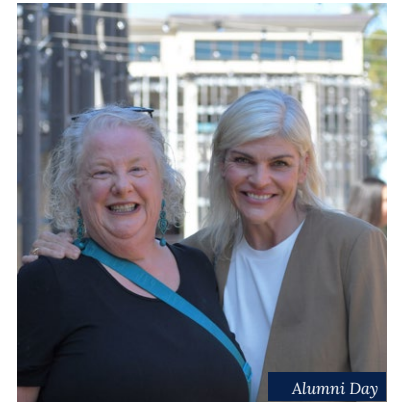
P&F Trivia Night



P&F Welcome Cocktail Party



Founders Day



Alumni Day



P&F Trivia Night



Alumni Day



Pioneers Day



Alumni Day



P&F Welcome Cocktail Party



P&F Welcome Cocktail Party





Our Mission...

We inspire our students to value learning, seek wisdom, act with integrity and to honour their spiritual heritage. We challenge young women to act with strength and gentleness in their own lives and the lives of others.



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