# CLASS OF 2025 GRATITUDE MORNING TEA FOR STAFF & KLAS THANK-YOU SPEECHES 16 September 2025

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## College Principal - Mrs McGahan

**Olivia:** Mrs McGahan on behalf of the graduating class of 2025 we would like to say a big and sincere thank you.

Your leadership has shaped not only our school but also each of us as individuals. You have guided us with wisdom, encouraged us to take on challenges, and reminded us that learning extends beyond the classroom. Under your leadership, our school has felt like a community where each and every student is valued and supported.

We, as students, have been given countless opportunities to grow, whether through academics, faith, sport, the arts, or service, and that would not have been possible without your vision and dedication.

**Sophia:** You have always inspired us to strive for excellence and to reach our full potential, reminding us that success is not an option but an expectation and to put that towards everything we do. You encourage each of us to discover our passions and to bring dedication and work ethic into every opportunity, no matter how big or small. This has motivated us to not only aim higher but also to believe in ourselves and what we can achieve.

What stands out most is the genuine care you show for each student and their dreams. Whether it's celebrating our achievements, or encouraging us through tough times and stressful exams through your inspirational emails, you remind us that education is about more than just results, it's about building character and resilience.

On behalf of all the students, we say a big thank you for believing in us, investing in us, and guiding us. We will carry the lessons you've instilled with us into the future.

Thank you			

# **College Assistant Principal - Mrs Vassallo**

**Jessica:** Today, as we gather to reflect on the people who have shaped our final year at Domremy, it's only fitting that we take a moment to honour someone who, despite only

joining us recently, has brought an incredible presence to the College, our Vice Principal, Mrs Vassallo.

From the moment she stepped onto campus, Mrs Vassallo has embodied the charism of the Presentation Sisters, the very spirit that defines Domremy. She doesn't just talk about values like compassion, inclusion, and service, she lives them. Whether it's through her warm smile in the hallways, her genuine conversations with students, or her tireless involvement in school life, she has shown us what it means to lead with heart.

She's inclusive, committed, and always approachable the kind of person who makes you feel seen and heard, even on your worst day. Her empathy is not just a trait, it's a gift. She listens with intention, cares deeply about how others feel, and brings hope and encouragement when we need it most.

**Olivia:** Mrs Vassallo brings light into every room she enters. She uplifts, she empowers, and she keeps the Domremy spirit alive in everything she does. She's not just a vice principal. She's a role model. A guiding light. And someone we are deeply grateful to have had with us during this pivotal year.

So on behalf of Year 12, thank you, Mrs Vassallo. Thank you for your warmth, your wisdom, and your unwavering belief in us. You've made a lasting impact, and we'll carry your lessons with us long after we leave these gates. You are truly amazing. Thank you.

#### **Administration Coordinator**

Thank Mr Thomas for everything he's done to support Year 12 this year. From organising our timetables and scheduling to coordinating events, his work has kept us on track and made our final year run smoothly.

Mr Thomas has also been the driving force behind debating setting it up, running it, and giving us the chance to grow as thinkers and speakers. Most recently he has created a sense of community with the addition of musical bell tunes. His leadership in administration has been steady, thoughtful, and deeply appreciated.

On behalf of all of us, thank you, Mr Thomas, for your dedication, patience, and the countless hours you've given to make this year a success.

## **Business Manager**

As we approach graduation, I would like to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to someone who has played an enormous role in making our years at Domremy truly memorable, our Business Manager, Mrs. Barnsley. Throughout my time here, she has been a constant source of support, patience, and guidance.

From the countless meetings where we worked together to move budgets around and plan events, to the moments of stress where I wasn't sure how everything would come together, Mrs. Barnsley was always there with reassurance and practical advice. Thanks to her dedication, what I believe was the best Domremy Day ever became a reality. She showed me that behind every successful event lies careful planning, teamwork, and the willingness to adapt.

Her tireless effort in managing finances and her commitment to every school event have not only created opportunities for celebration, but also taught me valuable lessons in organisation, resilience, and leadership. More than that, she has allowed me to grow, learn, and flourish in ways that I will carry with me well beyond graduation. Whilst Mrs Barnsley is on leave we would also like to extend a message of gratitude to Mr Ephraums who has been looking after us in her absence.

On behalf of myself, Year 12 and the Domremy Community, thank you.

#### Canteen

Thank you to some of the most hardworking and caring people in our school, our amazing canteen ladies. Every single day, you never fail to greet students with a warming smile and make sure we're fed and ready to learn.

From early mornings to busy lunch and recess breaks, you work behind the scenes to prepare meals, handle the rush, and still stay patient with us.

It is more than just food, it's the kindness, the small chats at the counter, and the effort you put in. You really do look after us in your own special way.

So, from all of us students, we thank you. We appreciate everything you do. You truly are the heart of our school, and we thank God for the blessing to have you!

#### Careers

Ms Mathers - Aside from being our talented drama teacher, you have also been our dedicated careers advisor. The weekly emails with newsletters, openings and opportunities have given everyone as many chances as possible to find pathways which are tailored to our interests.

Our careers appointments have been very helpful in deciding which courses are right for us and you have given us the necessary information to pursue our passions. We know that guiding us towards our future is no easy task, but you have done it with patiences, and genuine passion for helping us to succeed.

Thank you so much for the time you have dedicated to helping us choose what is best but most importantly what we are most passionate about. We are so grateful for all of your efforts and hard work. Thank you

#### Counsellor

We would like to sincerely thank our incredible school councillor Akua for everything she's done to help us and our community. Your support has gone beyond simply doing your job. You've listened, guided, and made a real difference in people's lives. The time, care, and effort you put into understanding our concerns and taking action shows how much you truly care about us.

You've not only been there for us in difficult moments but have also celebrated our successes with us. You've made people feel heard, supported, and even managed to make us laugh when we needed it most. Your dedication and kindness have touched so many of us, and it's something we will always remember.

Thank you for your dedication, your care, and for the moments you've made us smile. Your efforts don't just help us. They inspire us, and we're truly grateful. Thank you, Akua, for being such a positive influence and for all the ways you make our school a better place.

## **Diverse learning**

There are people in this world who leave such a profound and beautiful mark on others life that a simple "thank you" could never capture what they mean to you. For me, and many others in Year 12 those people are the Diverse learning teachers.

Since Year 7, they've walked beside us, not just as an educator, but as a constant source of light, strength, and belief.

They didn't just teach us, they lifted us. They reminded us, day after day, that we were capable and worthy. And now, in year 12, with your support we will reach the finish line.

To the Diverse learning teachers: you've changed our life. You've helped us find our voice in a world that once felt silent. You've shown us that support isn't about fixing someone, it's about walking with them, hand in hand, until they can stand tall on their own.

You are the reason we are here today, proud of who we've become. And though words will never be enough, we hope this moment shows you just how deeply grateful we are.

Thank you, from the bottom of our heart.

## **English Department**

Hello everyone, I am here to say a massive thank you to the department that has done so much for me, and for all of us. To our wonderful English department, thank you for your patience, time and support. Obviously, English is compulsory in the HSC, and although most of us think NESA is despicable for the structure of paper 2, we are so grateful for the extensive hours you spent unpacking Woolf's stream of consciousness, the cryptically symbolic poetry and the most difficult essay questions, so that we were as confident as we could be.

I apologise on behalf of our year for our collective human experience of illegible essay handwriting, and your individual human experience of attempting to read it. Thank you for pulling out the props and acting your way through... I think I'm up to 5 Shakespeares now!

Although I was not specifically taught by every single one of you, I've felt your support as I undertook public speaking, debating and especially year 12. To the teachers who don't teach us and still read our essays, to those who read my E2 major work even when you didn't know me, and to those who supported me through those stressful debating rounds, I see you, and we appreciate all your hard work.

Most of all, thank you for believing in all of us. Thank you for all the times you reminded us of our potential, for pushing us for that 10% improvement, for reminding us we are always welcome to hand in an essay for feedback or stop by for a chat before trials and HSC. English has been a constant in my schooling journey, so I can attest that it is one of those subjects where I have seen the most growth, and I know that this wouldn't have been possible without all of you. (Elodie Atherton)

#### Groundsman

When I was asked to thank the groundsmen, I thought to my self they are more than just groundsmen. They are integral parts of our community working behind the scenes to ensure that the school not only well kept but also fully functional.

If it weren't for Bruno's effort and patience, our netball team wouldn't have made it to the finals. And if it weren't for Tim, we wouldn't have even made it to netball, thanks to his patience driving our noisy teams to and from competitions.

You've both been an integral part of our school life, whether through a simple "hello" or a more detailed conversation. As we leave, we want you to know that the future Domremy girls will have the most wonderful duo to support them in all their ventures, from excursions and sports to their daily school life.

Thank you for everything, big and small.

## **HSIE Department**

I'd like to take a moment to express my gratitude to the HSIE department for everything you've done for us during our time here at Domremy. Your dedication, patience, and encouragement have shaped not only our learning but also the way we see the world around us. You've taught us history, geography, and all the rest, but you've also taught us how to think, question, and survive those marathon exam essays.

The time and effort you put into every lesson, every discussion, and every bit of feedback has never gone unnoticed. One of my favourite memories has to be the Year 11 Geography fieldwork trip to the Blue Mountains. Between the complaints about the steps on the way out of the canyon, making slime in the common room, and a visit to the infamous Yellow Deli Cafe, it was such a mix of learning and laughter, and a reminder that school is about experiences as much as lessons.

As we approach graduation and the HSC, we carry with us the knowledge, confidence, perspective, and values you've instilled in us. On behalf of the class of 2025, thank you for being such an important part of our journey.

# Languages

As the Languages Prefect of 2025, representing a department that has not only shaped how we communicate, but how we connect with each other, with culture, and with the world - has been an honour.

To the incredible teachers in the Languages Department, thank you. Your passion, patience, and persistence have opened doors for us far beyond the classroom. You've taught us that language is more than vocabulary and grammar it's a bridge to understanding different perspectives, histories, and ways of life. Whether it was Italian, Japanese, or French, you've challenged us to think globally and express ourselves confidently.

You've made learning languages feel like an adventure. From embracing and encouraging student participation in Harmony Day and encouraging families to host exchange students, to the incredible opportunity of visiting Italy which I was fortunate enough to experience. You've brought the world into our school. And for that, we're deeply grateful.

So, to the Languages Department: thank you for your dedication, and your belief in us, thank you for encouraging us to become more empathetic, open minded citizens of the world. You've given us the tools to speak, to listen, to understand and most importantly, to share.

# **Library Staff**

On behalf of the students, we want to extend a huge thank you for making the library a welcoming and inclusive space for all of us.

Your efforts have been invaluable, especially during our preliminary and trial exams. You ensured we always had a quiet space to study and focus on our learning. The resources you provided, the afternoon snacks and Milo, and the fact that you stayed back late to be there for us made all the difference.

Your care and support have not gone unnoticed, and we are so grateful for the time you've invested in our success.

Thank you for all that you do and we hope the future Domremy students appreciate you.

#### Maths

To the greatest common factors of our success: Our Maths Department.

Since year 7, all of us have had 8 periods of math per cycle, approximately 40 weeks out of the year spent at school. That's about 8 multiplied by 20, multiplied by 6 for each year at school, which adds up to 960 hours. Of course, I'm excluding the outliers of those who dropped maths and those who picked up more, because I learnt from the best.

From this calculation, our maths teachers have spent around 40 straight days across all of our years helping us learn quadratic equations, trigonometry, financial maths and all these other great topics we all love. We will always be appreciative of the help with the rough algebra, the response to frenzied emails and repeated questions. So, on behalf of everyone, I thank you from the bottom of our hearts for teaching us the language of the universe with patience and passion. In a world of unknowns, you've been our constant.

#### **Curriculum Coordinator**

On behalf of the Class of 2025, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Mrs. Clarke.

Your dedication and support during our senior years have been invaluable. Your endless patience and effort, from guiding our subject choices to organising exams, you helped us manage stressful times with clarity and confidence. We always knew we could count on you for an answer, which made all the difference when we felt like giving up.

You went above and beyond to ensure every student had the resources and guidance to achieve their potential and meet NESA requirements. Your commitment to our success has left a lasting impression. As we prepare for graduation, we want to thank you for helping us make the most of our time at Domremy and for setting us on a path to a world of opportunities. (Antonia Carbone)

# **Leader of Pedagogy**

As we gather to celebrate our graduation, I would like to acknowledge the incredible support and guidance that myself and fellow peers have received from our Leader of Pedagogy, Mrs Silva.

Throughout our time at Domremy, you have not only been a wonderful English teacher but also a mentor who has shaped and supported our learning journey.

As an overseas student who just arrived two years ago, English is not my first language and lack of English proficiency can make adjusting to a new environment challenging. Mrs Silva, your support in EALD, thoughtful feedback and patient guidance both in English and other subjects has made a huge difference and I am truly grateful.

We will always remember the moments when you pushed us to refine our work, reminding us that every draft could be stronger and every idea could be expressed more clearly. Those lessons have not only helped us at Domremy but will continue to guide us beyond school.

On behalf of myself and my peers, I want to sincerely thank Mrs Silva for your time, effort, and genuine care. Thank you.

## **Leader of Learning**

Dear Mrs Smit, we want to thank you for the impact on our learning and decisions. We speak not just on behalf of our SAC class but on the behalf of every student who has had the pleasure of being taught and supported by you.

We will carry your inspiration with us as we go from our shallow pool of high school to our deep diving pool of post schooling adventures.

Your guidance extended far beyond the classroom, especially in helping many of us navigate the world of applying for scholarships, your support has opened doors we didn't know were possible.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your continuous words of encouragement and motivation leading up to graduation.

Thank you for your continuous encouragement and motivation, especially as we approach graduation. Your positive energy and lasting support will stay with us long after we leave these school gates.

#### **Music and Drama**

On behalf of the graduating Class of 2025, I'd like to give a heartfelt thank you to our incredible Music and Drama Departments.

To the **Music Department**, thank you for being the heart and soul of music at Domremy. You organise everything for us, from choir and orchestra to the rock bands. Your willingness to play anything on the piano and add a little improv makes every rehearsal special. Although it's a 50/50 on whether we'll land a perfect cadence,(I'm always hoping it will) it's always an unforgettable experience. Thank you for being a great influence and for ensuring that every performance is heard and enjoyed by the entire school community.

To the **Drama Department**, thank you for your incredible guidance. Getting up to perform on our own was one of the scariest things we've ever done, but you saw us at our most vulnerable and pushed us to achieve excellence. Your years of experience and impeccable taste have not only improved us academically but have also helped us find our voice. For all the hours you spent listening to us scream and preparing for productions, thank you for keeping the arts alive and for bringing us together to bond over our shared passions.

To both departments, you have been more than teachers; you have been mentors who have challenged us, supported us, and believed in us. We are forever grateful for your dedication and guidance. Thank you.

#### **PDHPE**

On behalf of Year 12, I'd like to thank the PDHPE department for the incredible support we have received during our time at Domremy. Your patience, support and enthusiasm both in and out of the classroom have taught us the importance of not only hard work but also teamwork. As we graduate, we carry with us valuable knowledge that will continue to benefit us well beyond school. Not only as young graduates but also as young adults, we can appreciate and reflect that PDHPE is not only theory and practical lessons, but has equipped us with many real-life skills that we will use in the future.

Furthermore, we'd like to deeply thank this department for ensuring that every carnival is scheduled and running, that every sports team trial is held, and that every Thursday runs smoothly. We are extremely grateful for the endless opportunities and flexibility to choose sport and activities that we enjoy, and we will never forget whenever we would knock on your door to change our ASP just to be with our friends.

So from all of Year 12, thank you.

## **Religious Education Department**

On behalf of the Year 12 graduating class, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to the Religious Education faculty. This year, you have been a constant source of guidance, encouragement, and faith. Your wisdom, dedication, and compassion have truly helped shape us not only as students but as young people growing in faith.

Whether it has been through morning prayer, retreats, Bible studies, or the many religious initiatives throughout the year, your commitment has left a profound impact on our spiritual journey. You have been role models of faith and strength, and for that we are truly thankful. To each member of the RE faculty, thank you for your unwavering support and for always going above and beyond for our school community. As we graduate, we carry with us the values, faith, and lessons you have instilled in us.

I would like to end this with a prayer,

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the gift of our religious faculty, for their wisdom, their faith, and their heart to serve.

We ask that You bless them. May the Holy Spirit shine through them in all they do, guiding their words, their teaching, and their example.

Continue to strengthen them as they use the gifts You have placed within them. May their work bear fruit, and may they always feel Your presence walking beside them.

Venerable Nano Nagle, Pray for us.

# **Religious Education Coordinator**

Mrs Morizzi, although you have only been at our school for a term, you have contributed such a vibrant energy and a deep sense of commitment to our school community. Through your expertise and experience, you have shown not only your dedication to your role but also your genuine care for our school.

I would like to thank you personally for our short but meaningful time together planning, organising, and collaborating to innovate our Domremy religious traditions.

Your time and dedication to familiarising yourself with our school traditions, whether it's through brain storming ideas for the chapel, the beautifully displayed sacred space or personally washing our alter server garments, you show your unwavering loyalty and support to our school, for which I am extremely grateful for.

Thank you for embracing our community so wholeheartedly, and for making such a lasting impact in such a short time. Your presence has truly been a blessing, and I am deeply grateful.

## **Science Department**

I would like to thank the Domremy Science Department for guiding us through the long and often very daunting journey of high school. Thank you for trying your best to teach us, even when we were so mentally overloaded that your words started to sound like a foreign language.

Thank you for never giving up on us, even when we were in year 7 and clearly not paying attention, all the way to year 12, where you put every ounce of effort into teaching us and making sure we had all the resources we could ever need.

Thank you for helping us learn how to make a scientific report for the first time, helping us do experiments in the labs, and for the bunsen burner licenses that we were promised but unfortunately never given. Despite this, thank you for teaching us how to use them safely.

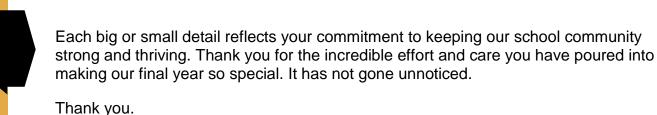
The entire cohort and I are grateful for everything you have done, for it has not gone unnoticed. It has helped us grow, and will continue to help us as we move beyond our higher schooling, so thank you.

## IT Support, Front office and Support Staff

On behalf of the entire Year 12 cohort, I want to express our deepest gratitude to the support staff.

Your tireless work, often behind the scenes, is the reason our school runs so smoothly and why every event is a success. We want you to know that your hard work, while not always visible, is always felt and deeply appreciated.

Your contributions are truly indispensable, from coordinating social media, Open Days, and enrolments to managing finance and IT. You handle everything from processing NESA forms and organizing awards to coordinating printing and fixing our technical issues.



#### **Student Office**

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Ms. Singh in the student office. Your calm and friendly demeanour, even when faced with high-pressure situations, creates a welcoming and supportive environment for all students.

We are especially grateful for your patience and kindness. Whether we're feeling overwhelmed, sick, or simply having a difficult day, you provide a safe space where we feel heard and supported. Your quiet dedication and hard work behind the scenes do not go unnoticed.

Thank you for everything you do.

# **TAS and Hospitality**

On behalf of the graduating Class of 2025, I would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the incredible Technology Department, our Design & Technology, Food Technology, Textiles and Hospitality teachers, who have all been such an important part of our journey here at Domremy.

Your dedication has gone far beyond the classroom. From supporting us through long hours on projects and folios, to ensuring lessons, practicals, and school events ran smoothly, your commitment has been invaluable. You taught us resilience when deadlines felt impossible, reminded us that setbacks are part of the process, and encouraged us to keep going.

As we graduate, we want to acknowledge the impact you have had on our lives. You have been more than teachers, you have been mentors who have challenged us, supported us, and believed in us. For that, we are truly grateful. So, on behalf of the graduating Class of 2025, thank you all, for everything you have done. Your dedication has shaped not only our education, but also the people we are becoming.

# **Visual Arts Department**

On behalf of all the students, we want to express our deepest gratitude for your incredible support and the opportunities you've given us throughout our journey. The many gallery visits you've organised, especially our unforgettable trip to Tasmania, have helped us not only grow as artists but also as individuals.

We are so thankful for your unwavering commitment. You have always gone above and beyond staying back late and even giving up holiday time for workshops. That kind of dedication has helped us improve our work and motivated us to keep going, even during the most stressful times. We know we may have added a little extra stress for you, but we are truly grateful for the patience and care you've shown in return.

You never just taught us art; you gave us resilience, inspiration, and confidence. Your support has meant more than words can express, and we will carry what we've learned from you far beyond the classroom. Thank you for everything.

# **Wellbeing Officer**

**Alyssa:** Thank you Mrs Gabrael for all the time, effort, and patience you have given to us during our time at Domremy even though you haven't been here for long your support has made a real difference in our journey academically and personally.

Thank you for always encouraging us to do the right thing and never give up, even when it can be difficult or scary. Amidst this pivotal point in our high school journey, I truly admire how you always remind us that your door is always open for us for any reason. When we are facing challenges at school or navigating our own personal lives.

Along with all of this, we are most grateful for the little things, the things as simple as a warm smile and hello on the playground paired with your always stunning clothes and jewellery, which I know has brightened mine and I'm sure many of our days.

On behalf of myself and all of us year 12's, Thank you, for your guidance and dedication to us which has helped us grow in confidence, resilience, and empathy. You have had a lasting impact on our time at Domremy, which we will carry with us beyond these school gates.

**Scarlett:** I'm normally not good with speeches but I couldn't miss out on an opportunity to thank someone who has left fingerprints on the hearts of everyone here.

Mrs Gebreal, you are so much more than a wellbeing coordinator for so many of us. You are the person we run to when the world feels too heavy. You have watched so many of us in our most vulnerable moments, from crying because of grades, to shaking in fear thinking that we couldn't move forward, and you've never once let us walk out the same

way we came in. I have entered your office in shambles and left with a smile more times than I can count and I'm sure that everyone here has a similar story.

And yes we all laugh about how you're never in your office, sometimes I think you are teleporting around, but the truth is it's because you're always out there helping someone.

The Bible says in Isaiah 41:10, "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand". And in so many ways, that is exactly what you've been for us. You've been God's hands and heart in this school, lifting us when we couldn't lift ourselves.

On behalf of the whole school, and everyone who's had the pleasure of meeting you, thank you. Thankyou for the words you've said, and the hearts you've touched. We will carry your kindness and grace with us for years to pass. Thank you for every smile you helped us find when we thought we lost it forever.

We cherish you so much, mrs, god bless you. Thank you

**Charlize:** On behalf of our grade, I'd like to take a moment to thank someone very special Ms Gebrael.

Ms Gebrael, you've done so much more than just teach us Business. You've been the person who always checks in on us, makes sure we're okay, and gives us the space to vent when we need it most. You've been our support system, our listener, and someone we know genuinely cares about us.

Your kindness, patience, and constant effort to look after our wellbeing have made such a difference in our year. We are so grateful to have had you by our side, and we truly appreciate everything you do for us.

Thank you for always going above and beyond, not just as a teacher, but as someone who has really looked out for us.

The end