

# DOMINIC COLLEGE

*A Catholic School in the Salesian Tradition*



20<sup>th</sup> April, 2015.

## **Year 9 - The Rite Journey – ‘The Departure’, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2015**

Dear Parents/Guardians

In early term 1, during the Rite Journey parent information night, we discussed a ceremony which required parents/guardians to come into the school with some gifts to acknowledge their son/daughter’s childhood and to formally recognise their transition into young adults. This ceremony is called the ‘Departure’ and is a crucial part of the Rite Journey program that is being undertaken by all Year 9 students.

As part of the ‘Departure’, we ask you to come into Dominic with approx. 5 things that represent your son/daughter’s childhood. For example, a favourite teddy or blanket, photos, favourite toy or something that may evoke a strong memory.

On **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May**, we will have tables set up in the Savio Centre (Gymnasium). When you come in, we ask you to choose one of these tables and set it up with these items. Your son/daughter will then come into the Savio Centre and we encourage you to then have a 5 minute discussion with them about why you picked these significant mementoes to recognize their childhood. You may have special stories or memories that you can share during this period.

Once this has been completed, your son/daughter will have the opportunity to speak with you about their childhood. Some students may have written some things down to share with you at this time.

The purpose of this exercise is for students and parents to celebrate their childhood and also recognize that physically, socially and mentally they have started to develop into young adults. We hope parents would acknowledge Year 9 and 15 years of age as a significant moment in their lives when they need to start taking more responsibility for their actions and start acting appropriately.

At the conclusion of the 'Departure' some students and families may feel emotional which is completely natural. We hope this will be an experience which solidifies the bond between students and their families. A BBQ will be cooking outside and you and your son/daughter are invited to stay around for 15 minutes or so, share some food and reflect.

# DOMINIC COLLEGE

*A Catholic School in the Salesian Tradition*



Due to the number of students in Year 9, this experience will be completed in blocks. On the attached return slip, please select a time that is appropriate for you and your work/life situation.

If, for any reason, you are unable to attend, it is vital that you contact your son/daughter's Pastoral Program teacher.

Time Slots:

**TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY**

Parent Set-Up	Students Arrive	BBQ
4pm	4.10pm	4.25pm
4.30pm	4.40pm	4.55pm
5pm	5.10pm	5.25pm
5.30pm	5.40pm	5.55pm
6pm	6.10pm	6.25pm

As your child journeys through the year, we hope that the discussions they are having at school may also stimulate conversation in your own homes, and we trust that you and your child finds The Rite Journey a positive, rewarding and transformative process.

Sincerely,

Miss Nicole Millikan, Mrs Joanna Jeffery, Ms Alexandra Olejniczak,  
Mr Cameron Golding, Mr Andrew Pritchard & Mr Aaron Davey.  
The Rite Journey, Year 9 Pastoral Team.

---

## **RITE JOURNEY 'THE DEPARTURE' RETURN SLIP – TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY**

(Please return by Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April).

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Rite Journey Teacher (please circle)**

Miss Millikan

Mrs Jeffery

Ms Olejniczak

Mr Golding

Mr Pritchard

Mr Davey.

Preferred Time Block for the 'Departure' (please circle)

4:00pm

4:30pm

5:00pm

5:30pm

6:00pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_