

A young boy with dark hair and a bright smile is the central focus. He is wearing a dark navy blue zip-up jacket with three white stripes on each sleeve. A black backpack strap is visible over his right shoulder. He is looking slightly off-camera to the right. The background is a blurred school hallway with other students and greenery visible through the windows, creating a warm and positive atmosphere.

GROW FORTH!

SAN DOMENICO SCHOOL

Exceptional Education and a Sense of Purpose





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THE SD STUDENT . . .

→ Asks **big questions** guided by innate wonder and curiosity.

→ Celebrates the **journey** of learning as much as the destination.

→ Enjoys a **healthy balance** of academics, arts, athletics, and leadership.

→ Engages in **service learning** to build a more just and equitable world.



study reflection community service



What do we mean by “Exceptional Education and a Sense of Purpose”?

Since 1850, San Domenico has placed exceptional education, meaning, and purpose at its core. Our rigorous curriculum supports the traditional measure of academic success, yielding entrances to top universities around the globe. However, at SD, we firmly believe that developing one's sense of purpose is equally important, as it increases well-being, resilience, creativity, and self-confidence. And ultimately, when students find meaning and purpose at school, their academic engagement increases. Each day, our students are inspired by essential questions and innovative academics that motivate them to find their passions, explore relevant issues, and give back to their community. This progressive and inquiry-based approach is infused with our core values; from study comes reflection, which inspires service that is practiced and reinforced in community. To this end, SD is leading the way in redefining the metrics of achievement and graduating students equipped to create a better world.

Our values

Study We believe that education doesn't stop at the simple acquisition of facts and figures. In pursuit of academic excellence, students take ownership of their learning, learn to think critically, and become impassioned, lifelong learners.

Reflection Whether taking a mindful moment in the Garden of Hope or blogging about a class, it is through reflection that one learns self-awareness and resilience.

Community Through athletic and performing arts events, assemblies, and K-12 collaborative projects, our students, teachers, coaches, and families celebrate and support each other every day.

Service It isn't enough to talk about making the world a better place; one must study, engage, and work toward change. Through service, our students deepen their connection to their community while adding purpose to their own lives.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE





Grow Forth!

Kindergarten–Grade 8 Curriculum and Instruction

As California's oldest independent school and Marin County's only K-12 school, we are proud to offer both day and boarding options for our high school students and a robust day program for our K-8 students. The confluence of SD's diverse community of international and domestic students, our bucolic 515-acre campus, and our rich heritage of exceptional education creates an unparalleled environment for students to grow, learn, and find their purpose. In the pursuit of creating lifelong learners, our educators pride themselves on designing hands-on projects that engage students' senses, ignite their imaginations, and expand their thinking.



Whether peering into a Middle School science lab or observing Kindergartners collecting and counting seeds for a math lesson in the garden, you'll witness close student-teacher connections, thought-provoking discussions, and lively debates.

Our faculty develops meaningful curriculum based on relevant, real-world topics that motivate students to become active citizens and agents of change.

SD's state-of-the-art academic facilities, including our 3D Makers Lab, music conservatory, athletic center, dance and art studios, new aquatics complex, and one-acre organic garden, provide an unparalleled space for students to find their purpose and follow their curiosity.





Textbooks are just a small part of the way in which students learn.

On any given day, you might find a sixth grade history class with their hands in the earth designing an irrigation system inspired by the ancient Mesopotamians or a third grade class meeting in their literature circles discussing self-authored poems. Learning by doing is a hallmark of an SD education and the key to students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 loving school!



Curriculum Snapshots

Education becomes meaningful and memorable when students experience topics across disciplines. Hands-on learning allows students to explore ideas from different perspectives, deepening and enriching their understanding.

Kindergarten ANIMAL DAY

Kindergarten Animal Day celebrates the culmination of an integrated S.T.E.A.M. project in which students research an animal of their choice and study its natural environment. They design and construct their animal's habitat and, dressed in costume, students share their expertise with families and classmates.



Third Grade Marin Field Research

Studying their immediate surroundings, students investigate Marin's cultural history, map local landforms, observe flora and fauna, and learn about government and community. In addition, students conduct a comparative study of Marin, past and present, reflecting on factors that have shaped where we live today and how they may impact tomorrow. As part of this research, students interview local supervisors about community issues. In culmination, they use design thinking to tackle challenges such as lack of access to transportation, housing, and health care. Students are proud to present their proposals to their classmates and local politicians.



First Grade BUSTING STEREOTYPES

In first grade, students explore the questions *How do I see myself?* *What qualities do I share with others?* *What qualities are unique to me?* and consider common human needs—belonging, acceptance, and purpose—regardless of similarities and differences. After reflecting on their unique identities, students examine gender stereotypes and discuss how toys are marketed differently for boys and girls. They learn that everyone is free to play with the toys that make them happy, regardless of gender stereotypes. Students then work in groups to design a toy store organized by categories of interest rather than gender and they showcase their inclusive toy store designs to the class.

Curriculum Snapshots



Fourth Grade Honoring Growth

Imagine walking into your classroom and, to your surprise, finding it aglow with neon and filled with games and activities. This unforgettable moment begins a daylong celebration of the students' collective achievements over the past year, underscoring our commitment to reflection, joyful learning, and social-emotional growth.





Fifth Grade Early Settlers SIMULATION

The fifth grade Early Settlers Simulation brings learning to life in a tangible and meaningful way. Students discuss the political, religious, economic, and social roots of the early settlements in the Americas, create original skits and advertisements promoting their “colony,” and meet at the student-created “inn” to discuss the pros and cons of each colonial territory. In a culminating event, students go back in time to the colonial days for candle making, weaving, calligraphy, fabric dyeing, and cooking over an open fire in the Garden of Hope.



SPOTLIGHT ON MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE: SD TAKES FIRST PLACE IN CALIFORNIA

National Geographic GeoChallenge

San Domenico's **Middle School science program** empowers students to solve real-life problems through the annual National Geographic GeoChallenge. The most recent challenge called on students to investigate plastic pollution in our waterways. Teams designed, presented, and ultimately competed on a national level to create innovative solutions to a current environmental challenge.

Design Thinking

In our 3D Makers Lab, students produced prototypes to address water pollution issues.

Mathematics

Students conducted field tests in the campus creek and collected numerical data to make projections in assessing the efficacy of their prototypes.



Reflection

Students evaluated themselves and discussed their academic and collaborative performance with their peers.

National Awards



Two SD students received the prestigious Ambassador Award and the National

Award for Best Field Testing, respectively.

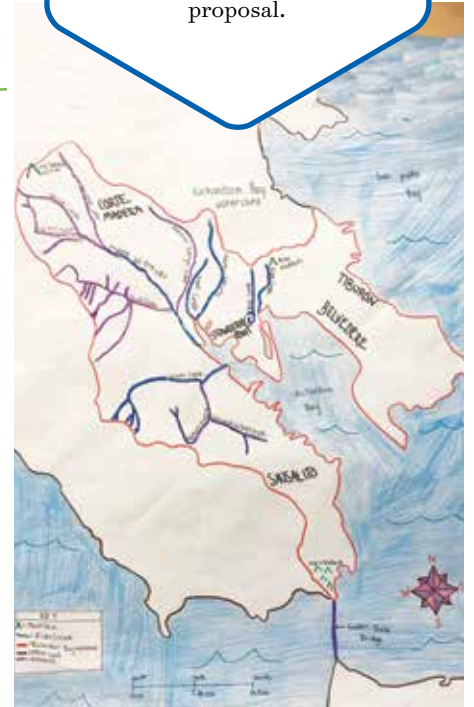


Research

Students cited primary and secondary sources, conducted interviews with public officials and policy makers, and critiqued the validity of online information.

Geography

Students designed watershed maps featuring the impact of pollution and offered a restoration proposal.



Public Speaking

Students presented work to a panel of nationally renowned scientists, who interviewed them and provided feedback on their prototypes.

Social Justice

Students examined inequities in communities where pollution disproportionately impacts underserved sectors of the population. They considered solutions that foster engagement for the health of local ecosystems and communities.

Digital Filmmaking

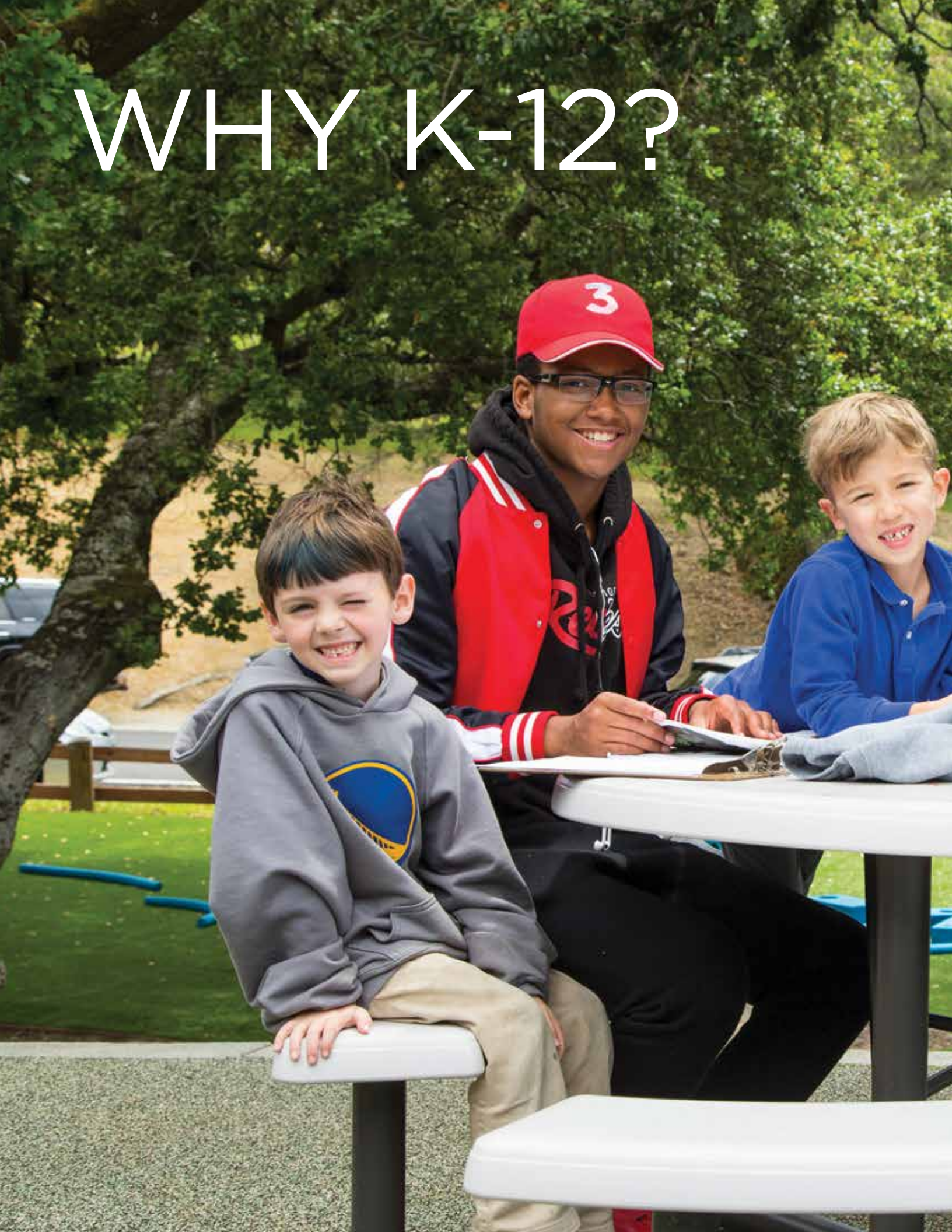
Students produced and directed films documenting their projects.



Persuasive Writing

Students wrote to local politicians to advocate for policy change regarding the use of plastics in our community.

WHY K-12?





WHY K-12?

A comprehensive K-12 education provides students academic and social-emotional continuity and stability that is unparalleled in most school settings. Young people who experience a cohesive curriculum over time are able to integrate and retain what they have learned without the disruption of moving from school to school. For some students, changing schools can result in curricular content gaps, achievement loss, and significant stress. SD students, on the other hand, are comfortable taking academic risks, confidently immersing themselves in classroom activities and community traditions.

As students progress through the grades, their increasing sense of belonging allows them to find their voice and develop trust with teachers, mentors, and peers. Under these ideal conditions, students are motivated to achieve at their highest potential.

The pro-social culture that our K-12 environment fosters

over the course of 13 years at SD is a true differentiator; our older students recognize that they are role models for younger children, and our younger students look up to their outstanding student mentors. While each school level has its own developmentally appropriate physical spaces, we create intentional opportunities for multi-age interaction and learning. Kindergartners might partner with our High School students for a chemistry lab, while sixth grade students could participate in a dance class led by ninth graders. In addition, our international boarding program creates unique opportunities for cultural exchanges across grade levels. With opportunities such as these, our students develop an authentic understanding of many cultures and benefit from learning alongside students of all ages. We are proud that these experiences ultimately create culturally competent global citizens and leaders.





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that our K-12
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Spotlight on K-12 World Languages

SD offers both Mandarin and Spanish beginning in Kindergarten and continuing through High School, where students have the option to enroll in Advanced Placement language courses. At the youngest grade levels, our joyful and interactive approach to language acquisition includes learning through stories, songs, acting, and games. Over the course of their studies, students master oral and written language while developing the cultural competency to communicate with native speakers from a range of cultures around the world.

Our exceptional World Language faculty teach these skills through a comprehensive curriculum that builds from Kindergarten through High School and includes relevant and immersive lessons, consistent practice, and engagement with authentic resources and materials. In the foundational years, our faculty prioritize interactive communication and oral presentations over explicit grammar instruction and drills. As language acquisition increases, more complex and nuanced grammar, writing techniques, and literary analysis are introduced into the curriculum. The end result? Students who are not only competent speakers, readers, and writers, but young people who are passionate about the culture, traditions, and perspectives of Mandarin - and/or Spanish- speaking people. Add our international high school student body to this equation, and we witness, year over year, our students easily and authentically creating life-long friendships that span continents. Summer and school holiday trips to Southeast Asia and South America are not uncommon in the high school years, when students choose to “go home” with international classmates.





A DEEPER LOOK AT

Multi-Grade Collaboration

At San Domenico Lower, Middle, and High School students connect frequently through events, projects, and activities. These valuable experiences allow our oldest students to mentor our youngest while developing empathy and leadership skills. In turn, children in the early grades benefit from strong role models who guide their growth.



Seniors and Second Graders: HUMAN BIOLOGY WORKSHOP

In sync with Valentine's Day, our Human Biology students lead second graders through a series of Heart Lab activities, constructing polyurethane foam hearts, analyzing their own resting heart rate, and observing blood being pumped through a model heart. Our seniors also teach our second graders about heart-healthy food while making sushi and playing a good old-fashioned game of heart bingo!

Seniors and Kindergartners: COW EYE DISSECTION

Each year the Kindergarten class participates in a collaborative dissection project in the High School Science Lab with their Senior Buddies. Wearing goggles and lab coats, and with guidance from their buddies, Kindergartners use dissection instruments to examine a cow's eye and learn about vision.



High Schoolers and Eighth Graders: CAPSTONE PROJECT

Meaning and purpose are the nexus of a San Domenico education. SD's partnership with Stanford University provides our High School students access to Stanford's Project Wayfinder curriculum, which equips them with the tools to create purpose-driven lives, both in and out of the classroom. Through innovative activities, the transformative concepts of meaning and purpose become accessible to our High School students, who in turn work with our eighth graders to infuse purpose into their Capstone Service Projects. These multifaceted projects combine social justice action with writing, visual art, and oral presentation skills, all of which pave the way for our students to become change makers.

Fifth Graders: STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Fifth grade students participate in a School Leadership Program, where each student is assigned to a leadership group with a range of responsibilities. Students take turns hosting assemblies, serving as recess/game monitors, and running the Lower School Recycling and Sustainability Program. Students build leadership skills while forming relationships with their younger peers.



High School and Middle School: BIOMEDICAL ETHICS DEBATE

Each spring, our High School Biomedical Ethics class moderates and leads an Oxford-style debate for the entire Middle School.

Beforehand, Middle School students are coached by their High School mentors on debate techniques, protocols, and how to develop an argument.

Seventh and Second Graders: OWL STUDY Our seventh and second grade science classes team up for this fascinating activity while learning about the interconnectedness of life and predator-prey relationships. Younger students partner with their older buddies to sort and classify the bones of rodents consumed by owls, learning about ecosystem food chains.

Third Graders and Kindergartners: BIOMES STUDY

In their science classes, third graders and Kindergartners learn about diverse plant and animal communities known as biomes. They learn about ecosystems, study plant and animal adaptations, and explore the rich biodiversity of their chosen biome. In culmination, third graders teach their younger buddies about the habitat they researched.



Fourth and First Graders: POLAR EXPRESS ADVENTURE

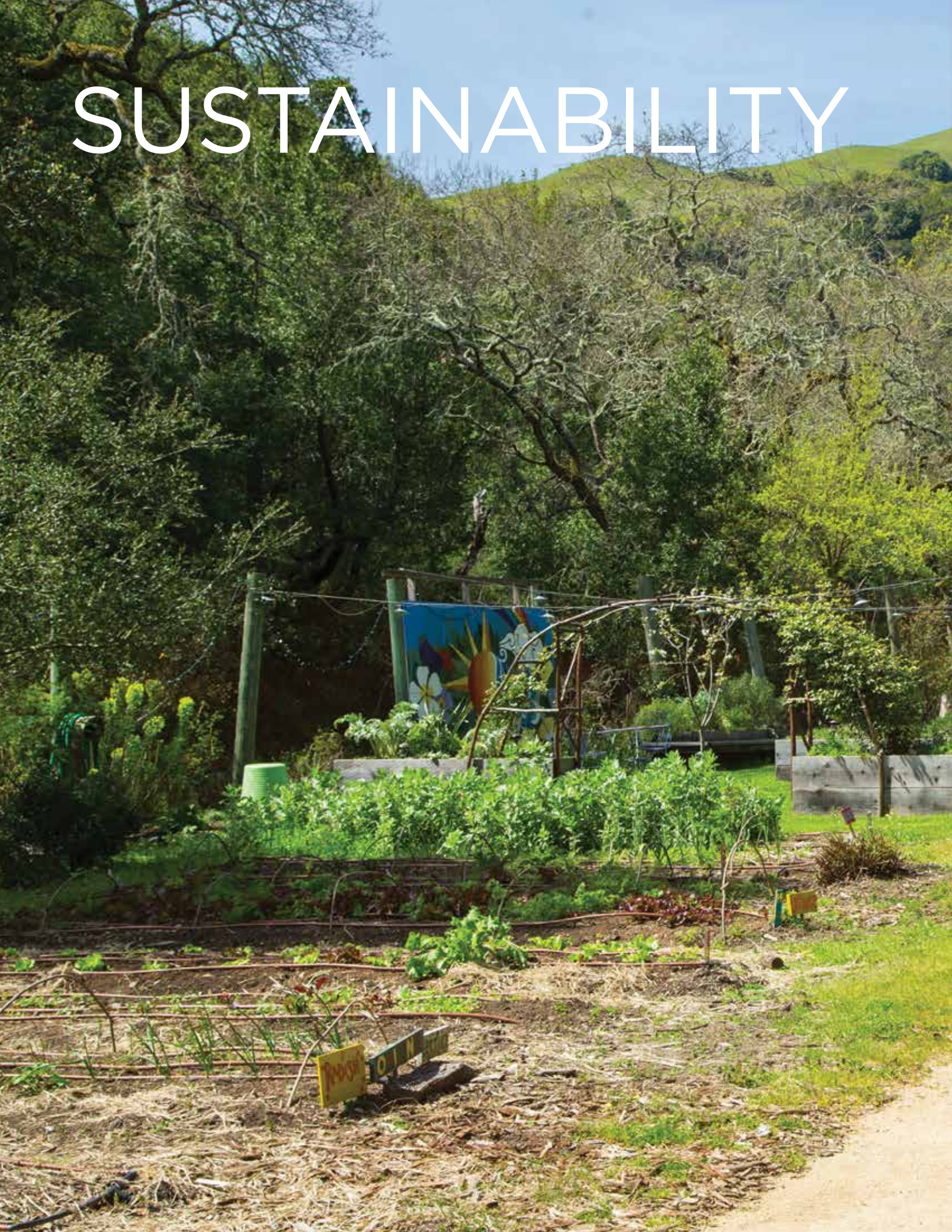
Fourth graders escort their first grade buddies to the "North Pole Train Station," complete with ticket booths, train tracks, and a lighted pathway. Smiles abound as students enjoy hot cocoa and participate in a series of creative activities designed by the fourth grade class.



Seventh and Fourth Graders: SAND MANDALA

A ceremonial art form, the sand mandala is made with colorful grains of sand carefully placed to create a temporary sacred design, evoking mindfulness and impermanence. In their Philosophy, Ethics, and World Religion classes, fourth and seventh grade students study Tibetan Buddhism and work together to complete a sand mandala for the whole school to admire. After its completion, students sweep the sand into our creek to experience the meaning of impermanence.

SUSTAINABILITY



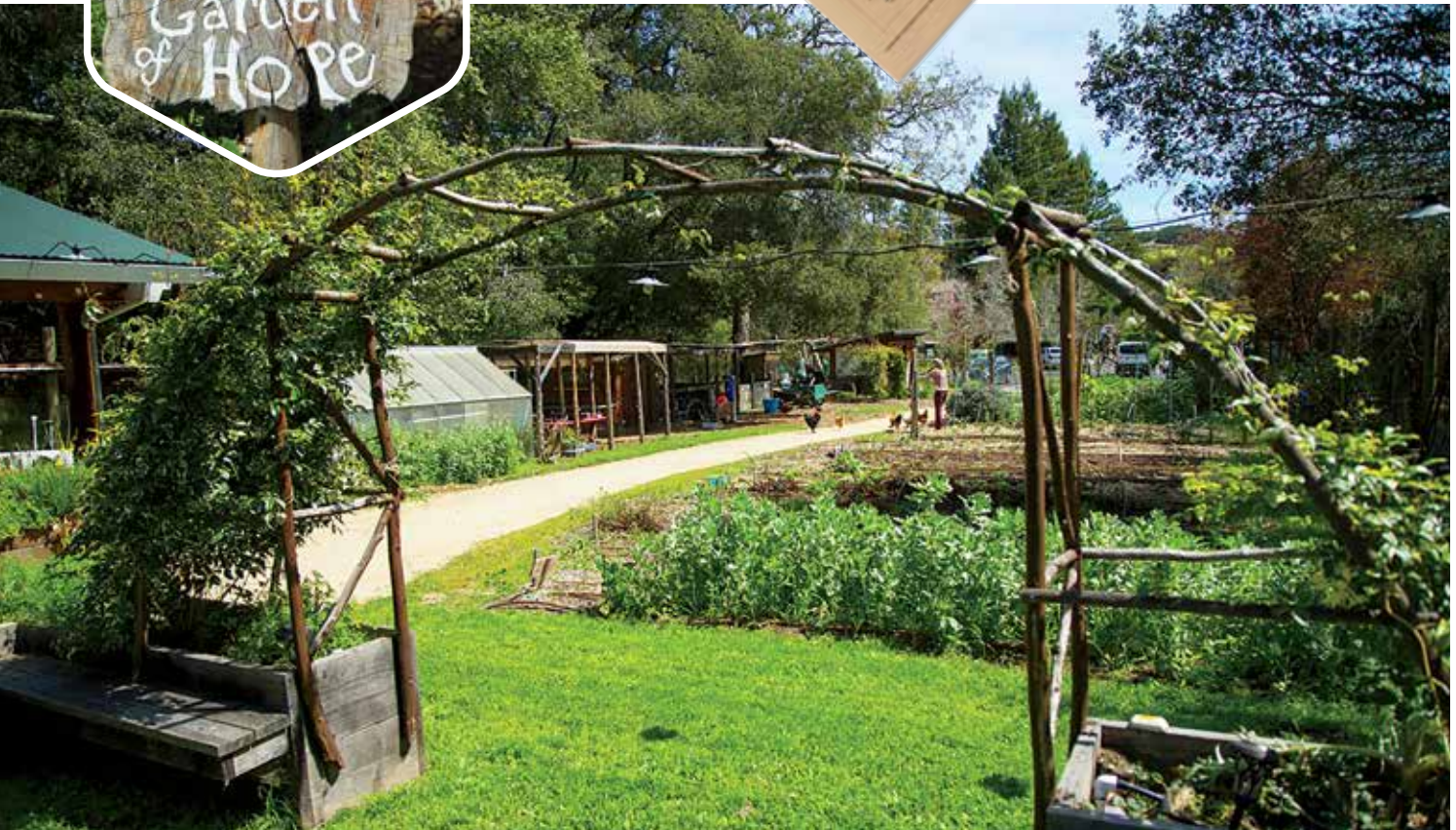


Sustainability

A longtime educational leader in sustainable practices, San Domenico offers a comprehensive K-12 ecoliteracy curriculum that places environmental education and stewardship at its core. Our expansive campus allows students to work and learn outdoors, while naturally developing reverence, respect, and care for the land.

Sustainable School Supplies

Plastic pollution is causing environmental harm worldwide. With roughly ten tons of plastic ending up in our oceans every minute, San Domenico is proud to be doing its part to reduce plastic use by partnering with the Wisdom Supply Company for school supplies. Wisdom Supply's mission is to disrupt the shelf-to-shore pipeline and replace it with systems that prevent plastic and vinyl from entering the local and global waste stream.



Garden of Hope

An on-campus living laboratory, our Garden of Hope is home to a preeminent seed-to-table program, serving as a model for Bay Area schools. The garden includes a fully equipped outdoor classroom and kitchen, pizza oven, chicken coop, pond, and performance space and is the site of our beloved annual Garden Fair.



Organic food

Locally grown, organic food makes student lunches and snacks both delicious and healthy. Our proximity to an array of local farmers and producers, as well as our very own garden, gives our chefs a bounty from which to prepare meals. A daily midmorning soup is a long-standing tradition at SD and is enjoyed by students and staff alike.



FAIR TRADE SCHOOL DESIGNATION

Thanks to the dedication of and collaboration between our High School Social Justice Club,

our Green Team, and our campus culinary team, we recently enjoyed the honor of receiving a Fair Trade School designation. As a Fair Trade School, SD teaches students to drive demand for ethical consumption and to understand the connection between our food supply and the farmers and workers who grow our food. The designation provides a valuable framework to introduce the principles of fair trade, including the stance against child labor, and a chance to explore fair trade's impact on children and communities.



San Domenico is a recipient of the prestigious U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Award

for excellence in sustainability practices and the first Marin school to receive this award. This important recognition is the culmination of nearly 20 years of passion, persistence, and teamwork across our entire school to make sustainable practices an everyday reality on our campus.



Solar panels

A San Domenico High School student's passion for renewable energy, inspired by her AP Environmental Science class and Senior R.O.S.E. (Real Opportunities in Service and Education) project, led to the installment of the 2,358 photovoltaic solar panels that offset our campus's energy consumption costs by approximately 70 percent each year. Our solar panels are a visible reminder of SD's commitment to sustainability and to the forward-thinking ideas of our students.

SERVICE LEARNING





Service Learning

The reciprocal act of service allows students to grow and develop as people, while sharing the school's values and commitment to social justice with the greater community.

Middle School students participate in service learning activities such as the "Gleaning Project," an ancient practice of providing leftover food from farms to those in need. Other activities include book and food drives, environmental cleanup days, and collaborations with eldercare facilities. These experiences help students develop a deep understanding of the social and ecological challenges of our time and empower them to effect positive change.

SD's youngest students bake bread to deliver to organizations that aid individuals experiencing home insecurity, provide a morning of singing, dancing, and poetry at local retirement communities, and grow flowers in our garden to share with their teachers, activities that instill a spirit of generosity and gratitude.



Homeward Bound

An ongoing relationship with Homeward Bound, a center fighting home insecurity in Marin County, provides integrated service learning for students in grades four through eight; our budding fourth grade entrepreneurs create mini-businesses, with the proceeds going to Homeward Bound, while eighth graders spend a day on site working with Homeward Bound staff.

"Helping others has helped me be a better person, and makes me want to find solutions to the world's problems so everyone can have a chance." - SD student



Eighth Grade Capstone Project

BE REVOLUTIONARY! SMALL ACTS, BIG IMPACT



The Capstone Project is a **yearlong service learning experience** modeled after our High School's acclaimed R.O.S.E. program and fosters a sense of agency as students implement their own plans to serve our economically and culturally diverse communities. Essential questions include *What are the needs in my community? What passions and talents can I offer? What small actions can I take to make an impact in my own community?*

Projects range from volunteering at the Marin County Youth Leadership Institute and Youth Court to students utilizing their talents as musicians to bring joy to elders in long-term-care facilities. The Capstone Project is uniquely San Domenico and is yet another way in which we live out our values of study, reflection, community, and service.



THE ANNUAL THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

San Domenico is the second-largest contributor to the Marin Food Bank, outranked only by Safeway.

Every year, K-12 students, faculty, and staff work together, celebrate, and practice the values of service and community through our Thanksgiving Food Drive. Students go door-to-door collecting donations, and they study the issues of hunger, food insecurity, and injustice. They learn that one of life's greatest joys comes from serving others. The loading of the Marin Food Bank trucks on the final day of the drive is truly a sight to behold; our entire community forms a human conveyor belt to load approximately 50,000 food items. As we say often at SD, "Sometimes miracles are not extraordinary things. They are ordinary things done with extraordinary love."



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT





Character Development



An awareness that social-emotional growth and academic achievement are inextricably linked informs our curriculum at every grade level. We help students grow by emphasizing not just academics, but also a deeper understanding of self and the relationships we have with others. Educators call this “social and emotional learning.” We call it “education on purpose.”

Through frequent team meetings and check-ins, our counselors and teachers work together to ensure seamless support for every child. We bolster collaboration skills, promote creative expression, and discuss responsible digital citizenship. In an approach drawing upon nationally acclaimed programs such as Second Step, Playworks, Mindfulness, No Bully, and Responsive Classroom®, students examine social and emotional concepts such as empathy, emotion management, resilience, and problem solving. Depending on the grade, Middle Schoolers also participate in Unity Week, Advisories, and Guidance classes, focusing on how people treat each other. These proactive approaches to social and emotional learning help guide students and families through a period of significant change and growth.



Character Development Programs

No Bully
Second Step
Responsive Classroom®
Mindfulness
Parent-Counselor Chats
Playworks

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

We recognize that diversity is a relative and complex idea to define and quantify. We value the full representation and engagement of individuals whose differences include but are not limited to age, ethnicity, family make-up, gender, learning style, physical ability, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status. In addition, we embrace a diversity of thought, culture, philosophy, and all that may be unseen but may also subject a person to preferential or disadvantageous treatment.

As a community, we are steadfast in our commitment to modeling for our students to advocate for social, racial, and environmental justice. Our faculty and staff continually seek to expand K-12 student understanding of the guiding principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion in developmentally appropriate ways. As a community we believe that this important work is a collective and ongoing process that requires a willingness to challenge our assumptions and biases, to be patient and honest with ourselves and others, and to exercise a growth mindset.

SD's faculty, staff, and students are working on campus, around the Bay Area, and on the national level to listen, learn, and better live out our mission to celebrate diversity and respond with integrity to the needs and challenges of our time. Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion director works closely with our teachers, students, Board of Trustees, and families to daily embody our social vision statement: "San Domenico is a community of belonging where students, staff, and families are dedicated to inclusion and respect for all."



Paramount to our diversity, equity, and inclusion work is professional development. Recent topics of discussion and workshops we attended include:

Affinity Spaces: Anti-racist Classrooms by Design with Blink Consulting founder Alison Park

Welcoming Schools: LGBTQ+ Inclusive Environment for Our Students, Families, and Community

Pollyanna Conference: How to Combat Implicit Bias in Our Schools

Unpacking and Respecting Pronouns

Microaggressions

Community Read: *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving

NAIS POCC – People of Color Conference

Diversity and Governance Roundtable

Socioeconomic Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Bay Area with Blink Consulting Founder Alison Park

"The Intersectional Ally" with Tara Fleming

ATHLETICS





Athletics



Our Physical Education and Athletics programs help students both master the game and learn enduring life lessons. **Wins and losses aside, the character-building that occurs on the field, trail, or court is invaluable.** From sportsmanship, collaboration, and leadership skills to the camaraderie born from working together for a common purpose, SD sports provide a healthy way to play, grow, and learn.

LOWER SCHOOL

Physical Education in Lower School focuses on sportsmanship, cooperative teamwork, listening, and the joy of play. We concentrate on the development of greater physical control and gross motor skills that will serve students as they grow athletically. The curriculum includes organized games such as soccer and basketball as well as instruction in tennis, swimming, dancing, tumbling, catching, throwing, and other activities that develop important physical skills.

Intramural Athletics begin in fourth grade and offer students a chance to experience team sports during the school day.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

The Middle School Physical Education program continues to foster character, athleticism, and teamwork, and students have the opportunity to participate in physical education five days a week during the school day. Specialized offerings include tennis (for an additional fee) and dance, while our traditional PE classes include basketball, badminton, martial arts, self-defense, swimming, and more.

We also offer a wide array of after-school choices, as we believe that middle school is a time for students to expand their horizons and try new activities. To this end, we have a “no-cut” policy for all students. **Even those who have never played a sport before find that our supportive coaches and inclusive student body make sports at SD a fun way to “step out of your comfort zone.”** The benefits of joining one of our teams are many, from the pride students feel in representing the Panthers to the sense of well-being gained from staying active. And while winning is always a thrill, our ultimate goal is to teach our students the power of teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship.



K-5 After-School Sports

Fall	Winter	Spring
Cross Country	Basketball	Swimming
Volleyball	Tennis	Soccer
Soccer		Tennis
Swimming		Track & Field
Mountain Biking		
Tennis		
Baseball		
Basketball		



Grades 6-8 After-School Sports

Fall

Cross Country
Flag Football
Volleyball
Tennis
Mountain Biking
Baseball

Winter

Basketball
Tennis

Spring

Swimming
Track & Field
Soccer
Tennis
Water Polo

THE ARTS





The Arts

Lower School Visual Arts

Our teachers understand that artistic growth does not develop automatically; it is fostered through guided practice and instruction. The Visual Arts curriculum introduces traditional concepts, elements, and techniques while cultivating individual expression as students explore the magic of art-making. Inspired to push beyond their perceived creative boundaries, Lower School students acquire foundational drawing, painting, and sculpting skills as they experiment with diverse artistic styles. During the Lower School years, our young students become increasingly adept at articulating complex feelings and ideas in visual form. They routinely design, create, and discuss their art with one another, allowing them to experience new perspectives. In this respect, the Visual Arts program cultivates much more than creative expression; it promotes critical thinking, self-awareness, empathy, and joy.



MIDDLE SCHOOL VISUAL ARTS

San Domenico's Middle School Visual Arts program continues to foster students' creative sensibilities, skills, and visual literacy, beginning with honing technique in sixth grade and then examining art across cultures in seventh grade and finding one's unique vision and voice in eighth grade. When possible, art assignments are integrated with other classes such as history, foreign language, and science, providing a meaningful framework for deepening art awareness across cultures. Students enjoy creating in a wide variety of mediums, including painting, drawing, printmaking, collage/assemblage, ceramics, and sculpture. Visits to local museums as well as written and oral presentations about influential artists and art history complement the studio experience.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

Students have many options to explore dance in Middle School, from in-school dance classes to the after-school Junior Advance Ensemble and the Spring Musical. In-school classes are yearlong, with the first semester focusing on foundational skills and techniques in contemporary dance, ballet, and creative movement and the second semester focusing on choreography. For their final performance, students choreograph and perform their pieces onstage for the community.

Lower and Middle School Arts in Action

Each spring, Lower and Middle School families are treated to an evening of visual and performing arts at our beloved Arts in Action showcase. The event is the culmination of students' yearlong creative endeavors and allows each artist to shine both on the stage and on the gallery walls. Student performances include dance, music, and singing in our state-of-the-art theatre. Simultaneously, our spectacular Hall of the Arts Gallery is filled with student art, including paintings, drawings, prints, multimedia sculptures, and ceramic pieces.



K-12 DIGITAL ARTS

San Domenico is proud to have one of the most extensive Digital Arts programs in the San Francisco Bay Area. Our courses in digital animation, digital music, photography, and game design provide students with the skills to bring their aesthetic vision to life as they hone their creative ambitions. Additionally, our four-year film program offers college-level opportunities in narrative and documentary filmmaking and advanced opportunities in 2D/3D visual effects, music composition, cinematography, and screenwriting.

Through the use of the latest technology and by applying the grammar of digital media, students produce both individual works that convey their personal interests and collaborative pieces that synthesize their learning into larger productions. Signature to this practice is our Children's Book & Animation experience, where students across grade levels and art disciplines collaborate to write, illustrate, and produce a children's book and accompanying animation, with original voice acting, editing, and music.

Digital Arts courses emphasize both core and personalized learning, teaching the concepts, skills, and nomenclature that professionals use in the field. While we are proud that our Middle and High School students frequently have their films accepted into festivals across the country, ultimately our students' personal growth, agency, and newfound creative expression are the greatest rewards of all.

The Arts

Music

San Domenico has long been synonymous with exceptional music instruction. Our renowned Music Conservatory employs over 25 professional music faculty members and draws students from both SD and the community at large. As an SD student, a child will benefit from music instruction at least two times weekly. Depending upon the grade, students may choose from lessons in wind, strings, piano, percussion, and voice training, which are available in a variety of ensembles, from chamber orchestra to rock band and chorus. In addition, students may take advantage of fee-based private lessons conveniently scheduled before, during, or after school.



Lower School Music

Since San Domenico's inception, students have benefited from the joy of making music together while developing their musicality and musical literacy. We believe that active music training at a young age has profound and lasting effects. Not only does it enhance academic achievement, but it also lays the foundation for a lifelong appreciation for the arts. Students from Kindergarten through fifth grade enjoy music instruction where they use their voices, rhythm instruments, ukulele, and movement to create music, hone their skills, and develop an appreciation of global musical cultures. Beginning in fourth grade, students can take instrumental music lessons as a part of the school day, including violin, cello, viola, bass, flute, clarinet, and saxophone.

In addition to regularly held music classes, the Music Conservatory offers a wide array of after-school options for Lower School students, including lessons in strings, piano, and woodwind instruments. Whether students are just beginning an instrument or are at an advanced level, the Music Conservatory faculty skillfully places everyone in lessons and ensembles that serve their own unique musical needs. Conservatory students participate in recitals throughout the school year.

Middle School Music

Elective Music Classes: The Music Conservatory expands musical horizons across a broad continuum, from students who have never played an instrument to those who have been studying music from an early age. Elective offerings include string orchestra, wind ensemble, chorus, group guitar, and rock band classes. Students can also opt to use the elective period for private music lessons or to practice independently in the Music Conservatory studios.

Wildcat Bands and Advanced Vocal Ensemble: In addition to electives, students may choose to play in our Wildcat Bands or join our Advanced Vocal Ensemble. Both are featured in our annual Day on the Green, as well as other schoolwide performances.



Special Programs

SD is also home to the nationally recognized High School **Virtuoso Program**, which is our specialized track for advanced classical strings studies. Focusing on orchestral and chamber music repertoire, the program offers merit scholarships to our High School students pursuing music at the pre-professional level. While the program is open to grade 9-12 students only, the caliber of our Virtuoso Program student musicians inspires our youngest community members as they attend Virtuoso performances throughout the year.

The **annual Middle School musical production** is one of the most beloved events of the year and involves about a third of the Middle School student body. It is truly a community project, with parents and students participating in all aspects of the production, from making costumes, props, and sets to running the lights and sound and working backstage. Many cast members and parents alike have called this the highlight of the Middle School experience.

The School Bus

As part of San Domenico's commitment to sustainability, we provide one of the most extensive school bus systems in the Bay Area, including service to San Francisco and the East Bay and throughout Marin County. **The bus is available to all students and riding is included in yearly tuition.**

To ensure a smooth and welcoming arrival at school, teachers greet students each day as they get off the bus. At the end of the day, teachers walk our youngest students to their buses, escorting them all the way to their seats.



SD is an Emerald Green Award winner with the National Center for Safe Routes to School.

We offer **seven morning routes, seven afternoon routes, three late afternoon routes, and two evening routes**, including:

- Terra Linda, Sleepy Hollow
- San Geronimo, Fairfax
- Corte Madera, Larkspur, Kentfield, San Anselmo
- San Francisco, Mill Valley
- Novato, San Rafael
- Oakland, Point Richmond, Greenbrae, Ross
- Peacock Gap, San Rafael, Sir Francis Drake

EXTra After Care Program

Our after-care program offers Lower School students a safe place to land when the regular school day has ended. We serve children in developmentally appropriate ways and work closely with families to accommodate each child's needs. We allow each student time to explore, play, create, and complete homework in a nurturing environment, as they develop new friendships across grade levels.



PASE (Panther After School Enrichment)

Hours: 3:10 p.m.-5:30 p.m., with flexible pickup time and snacks provided.

In addition to our EXTra program, students can choose from a wide variety of after-school enrichment classes, including:

Art Exploration
Basketball (Grade 5)
Chess Club
Invent & Code
Cooking
Cross Country
Volleyball (Grade 5)

Dance Exploration
Interactive Technology
Garden Explorations
Math Club
Robotics
Lego: Design/Build
Mountain Biking

Music: Private/Small Group
Instruction
Soccer Academy
Swimming
Track & Field
Ukulele Club

What do you aspire to?

SD's High School College Prep Program

San Domenico's K-8 education sets the stage for our rigorous, college preparatory high school experience. Equipped with the confidence and skills to meet new academic challenges and expand their creative horizons, our high school students choose from 130 courses, including 27 honors and Advanced Placement (AP) classes, a wide array of clubs and athletic teams, and innovative programs in S.T.E.A.M., sustainability, the arts, service learning, and leadership.

Imagine collaborating on class projects, discussing current events and politics, tackling environmental and social justice issues, and exploring topics in science, literature, philosophy, ethics, and religion with peers from 25 different countries. Most students don't experience the benefit of learning amid a global community until their college years, but with our international boarding program, our students are immersed in cultural diversity at an early and critical phase of their development. To be a high school student at SD means learning, growing, and living with peers from around the globe. If you are seeking a world-class, exceptional education, SD is the place!



ATHLETICS

- State-of-the-art athletic facilities include a new competition-size swimming pool, gym with fitness center, six tennis courts, baseball and turf fields, and access to 20 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails.
- Competitive Bay County West League (BCL West)
- 14 sports, 29 teams
- Both Boys and Girls Basketball State Champions, with many other sports playing in league championships!

SERVICE LEARNING/R.O.S.E. (REAL OPPORTUNITIES IN SERVICE AND EDUCATION) PROJECT

During your High School Social Justice course, you'll delve into an array of social, political, and environmental issues within local, national, and global communities. As a senior, you'll create a personal action plan to address a concern that resonates with you, unpack the systemic roots of the problem, commit at least 40 volunteer hours to your cause, and present your experience to our High School community. This transformative two-year project puts you well on your way to becoming a global change maker!

VISUAL ARTS & DIGITAL MEDIA

- Photography
- Graphic Design
- Digital Arts
- Ceramics
- Sculpture
- AP Studio Art





SCHOOL SPIRIT

As a High School student, you can look forward to spirit rallies, cheering for your teammates on the courts and fields, holding leadership positions, adventuring to Catalina Island during Spring Discovery Week, and celebrating long-standing traditions together. Expand your horizons and make new friends by joining our many clubs, co-curriculars, and athletic teams. Go Panthers!

PERFORMING ARTS

housed in a professional conservatory

- World-renowned Virtuoso Program for pre-professional classical string musicians
- Over 25 professional music faculty for all levels
- Band Workshop
- Digital Music
- Music Composition and Theory
- Chorus
- A cappella Ensemble
- High-caliber Theatre Program, including musicals, Shakespeare productions, and one-act plays
- Multilevel Dance Program, including ballet, modern, hip-hop, flamenco, and jazz



COLLEGE OUTCOMES

SD graduates attend a wide range of highly ranked colleges and universities, including liberal arts colleges, arts schools, and public universities, both in the United States and internationally. Ninety-four percent of the Class of 2022 were admitted to one of their top five college choices. For a more detailed look at our college matriculation statistics, please visit our website.



Portrait of a Graduate

A graduate of San Domenico School will have cultivated and demonstrated the following qualities:

→ **Effective Communicator** Graduates will be effective communicators, knowing how to use a range of mediums—from spoken word to digital platforms—to convey ideas and stories with clarity and insight.

→ **Global and Community Change Agent** Graduates will be global citizens rooted in a local culture and environment. They will have an ethical framework guiding a sustainable way of living and a pursuit of service.

→ **Strong Sense of Meaning and Purpose** Graduates will be able to identify goals that are meaningful to the self and consequential to the world.

→ **Creative and Critical Thinker** Graduates will have command of interdisciplinary knowledge and be able to effectively analyze information, evaluate sources, and reconcile conflicting perspectives, affording them the skills to think and create in original ways.





Inclusive Collaborator

Graduates will work effectively with and actively seek out the perspective of peers and adults from diverse backgrounds and viewpoints and work together with empathy, sensitivity, and compassion.



Emotional Intelligence and Wellness

Graduates will have the ability to identify and manage their emotions, develop healthy interpersonal relationships, and demonstrate a conscious, self-directed and evolving experience of physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being.

"Through study, reflection, community, and service, through big questions, healthy debate, and thought-provoking conversations, San Domenico students graduate as confident scholars of the world, able to identify their purpose and passion, thereby meeting and exceeding the academic competencies required for success in college and beyond."

– Kate Reeser, Director of Upper School,
Assistant Head of AcAdemics, K-12



SAN DOMENICO SCHOOL
1500 Butterfield Road, San Anselmo, CA 94960

Exceptional Education and a Sense of Purpose
sandomenico.org

In keeping with our mission, San Domenico is a community of belonging, where students, staff, and families are dedicated to inclusion and respect for all. We welcome students, families, and staff of any race, color, and national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. San Domenico does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, or religion in the administration of its educational and employment policies, financial aid programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.