

# NEWSLETTER



## INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

Get immersed in this outstanding article about the inter-school athletics championship.

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## ACADEMIC TUTORING

Become a tutor by reading this fabulous column related to understand all the benefits that an adequate couching can have.

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## SCIENCE FAIR

Be a scientist! Join us by checking this report full of activities and exciting experiments. And do not forget to sing with us the sticky science fair jingle of this 2025.

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# From the Editors

Dear

School

Community,



We are excited to present the final issue of this year's newsletter!

What started as an idea has grown into something truly special, made possible by the effort, creativity, and commitment of our students—our talented young reporters. This workshop came at the perfect time to highlight the many wonderful initiatives and achievements taking place at Tabancura.

From the very beginning, our mission has been to motivate and support students to push beyond expectations, guided by curiosity, dedication, and excitement. Every piece included in this newsletter was thoughtfully created, with the intention of fostering connection and sharing positivity throughout our community.

We hope you've taken as much pleasure in reading each edition as we've had in bringing them to life. We are already enthusiastic about launching our third year, carrying forward the same passion and drive. We wish you a happy and restful holiday season and look forward to welcoming you back in March 2026!

Warm regards,  
**Fabrizio Costa & Rodrigo Cuevas**  
Editors-in-Chief



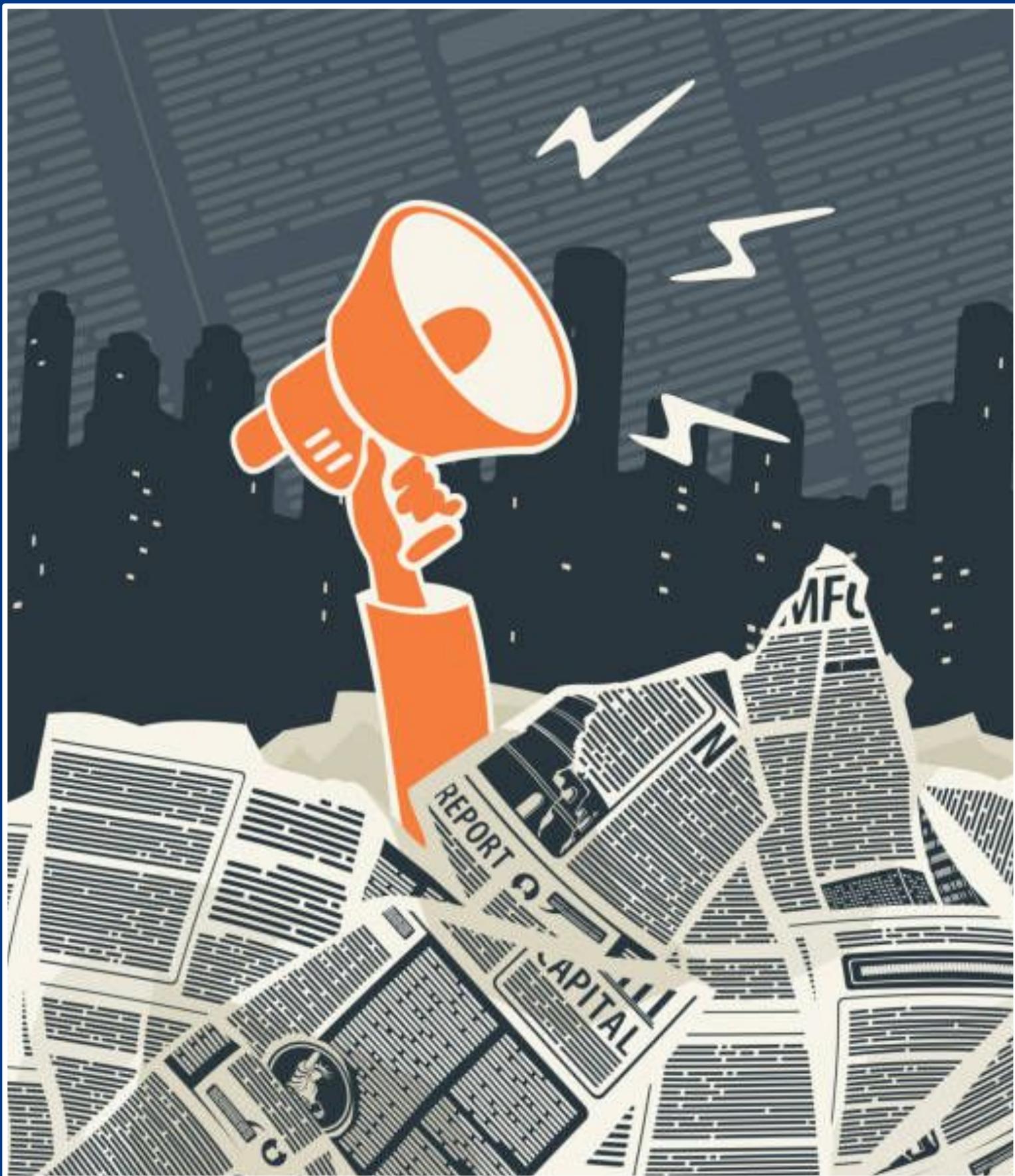
## School Events

- **Last day of School (December 10)**
- **Summer Volunteer Jobs (Dec. 10-14)**
- **Report Card 6 (December 15)**
- **Christmas Mass (Dec 24 - 19:30 hrs)**



**LET'S GO  
PENGUINS!**

# TABANCURA NEWS



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# INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

Los Andes-Tabancura Fan Section

By Tomás Ossa

On October 24th, 25th, and 26th, the final round of the Mario Correa Letelier Inter-School Athletics Championship took place. Our athletes delivered an outstanding performance, proudly earning first place overall.

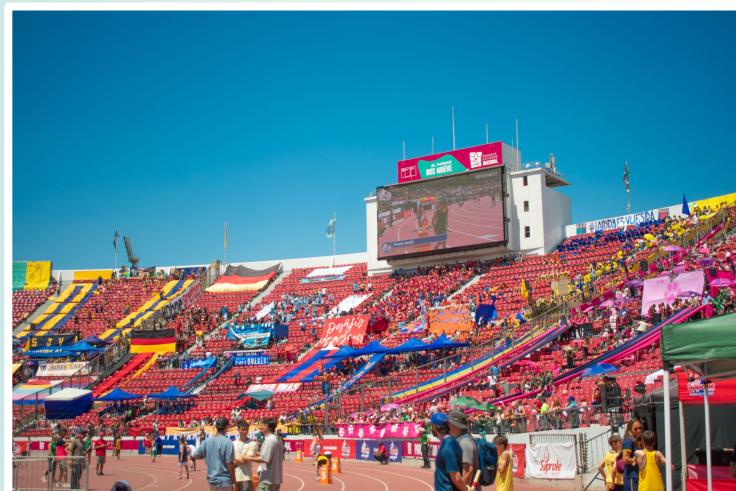
However, this time we will not focus on the athletes themselves, but rather on a remarkable group of students whose energy and enthusiasm make a true difference — the Los Andes-Tabancura Cheer Squad.

The Los Andes-Tabancura cheer squad represents a long-standing and powerful alliance between Los Andes School and Tabancura School. Many students describe this bond as unbreakable, a symbol of friendship and mutual support that transcends each competition. Beyond this partnership, several other alliances also bring life and spirit to the Inter-School event — such as Barra Los Alerces-Huinganal and Barra Cordillera-Huelen, among others. One of the most memorable collaborations in past years was the so-called “Triple Alliance”, formed by the schools Huelen, Cordillera, and Los Alerces. This year, however, the alliance was amicably dissolved to open the door for new friendships and renewed teamwork among schools.

Colegio Los Andes earned second place in the on-field presentation competition, while our own cheer squad proudly ranked among the top five in the Cheer Contest. These results highlight not only dedication and creativity but also the deep sense of community and school pride that defines our students.

In summary, it was an extraordinary weekend — one filled with well-deserved victories, unforgettable moments, and a contagious spirit of motivation.

Our athletes gave their all, and the fans matched their energy from the stands, embodying the unity, effort, and passion that make the Inter-School Championship such a meaningful tradition.



# INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

## Records

By Santiago Smith and Pedro Morello

During the 2025 Mario Correa Letelier Soprole Interescolar, numerous records were broken, surpassing the previous mark set in 2016. In total, 12 new records were achieved: 5 by women and 7 by men.

In the women's competition, Roxana Ramírez from Los Conquistadores set a new record in the Intermediate 100-meter dash during the qualifying round, stopping the clock at 11.84 seconds. That same day, in the Children's Pole Vault, Margarita Kaltwasser from Los Andes cleared 3.15 meters to make history. Sofía Contreras from Santa Úrsula achieved a historic 6.06 meters in the Superior Long Jump, and to close the day, Elisa Aguado from San Benito equaled Martina Weil's 2017 record in the Superior 400-meter dash with 55.26 seconds.

Among the men, Cristóbal Cortés broke Vittorio Gorziglia's record with a throw of 56.83 meters. On Saturday, our school's Superior 4×100 relay team set a new record with 41.33 seconds. Saint George's also excelled, breaking two records: Alonso Guzmán ran 52.83 seconds in the 400m hurdles, and their 4×200 relay team clocked 1:34.93.

To close the competition, Vittorio Gorziglia surpassed his own Intermediate Discus Throw record, improving from 52.94 to 53.63 meters and securing his place in the history of the Mario Correa Letelier Soprole Interescolar.





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# INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

## 10th Grade Athletes

By Agustín Lavín

Dear Tabancura community, after several years, our beloved Tabancura school has once again won the interescolar competition, with a score of 462. As in previous years, the 10<sup>th</sup> grade students were present, with outstanding performances such as Vittorio Gorziglia's first place finish in discus with a throw of 53.63 meters, Tomás Irarrázabal's first place finish in long jump with a remarkable leap of 6.54 meters, and José Kaltwasser's first place finish in pole vault with a mark of 4.30 meters, among others. The segundo medio competitors are very happy with their performance and results.

Now we ask some of the athletes about their experience at the interscholastic competition.

Antonio Rodriguez: Happy to have been selected to compete and always giving my all to bring glory to the school. Gaspar Johnson: Proud to represent the school, happy to be competing and receiving all the support from the fans. Pedro Pablo Mercandino: It was a very close competition, with tough rivals, but is happy to have earned points for the school. Cristóbal Villarino: It was an incredible, very exciting and enriching experience; it's an honor to represent the school. In conclusion, I would like to congratulate our great athletes, thanks to whom we achieved this precious award, and encourage them to train hard to achieve even more.



# INTER-SCHOOL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

## Interescolar teacher interview

By Pablo Saavedra

### Marcelo Orellana:

**Did you think Tabancura was going to win the interescolar competition with the preparation through the year?**

We always have a chance to win, and we believed we had a good team. Also, I personally had a lot of confidence since we had won almost all the tournaments this year.

### What was the preparation like for the interescolar competition?

The same as every year. We have a team with more than 120 athletes from 5<sup>th</sup> grade to the 12<sup>th</sup> grade who train constantly to represent the school.

### Was the effort of each athlete seen on the day of the interescholar competition?

Yes, very much so, because we arrived with almost no injuries, we were only missing 4 athletes, and that allowed us to be almost at 100%. Also, during the tournament, we had no losses, everything went very well for us.

### How does it feel to have won as a teacher?

Very good, because it is a great achievement for the entire team of teachers at the school and the students who constantly train to represent us in the different tournaments in which we participate.

Javier Avila:

**Did you think Tabancura was going to win the interescolar competition with the preparation through the year?**

We were hopeful, especially given the technical and physical work and the dedication of the entire team in training throughout the year. It doesn't always work out, especially due to injuries to our athletes, but with tournaments before the interescolar competition to prepare and the good results, we always maintained hope.

### What was the preparation like for the interescolar competition?

To begin with, the athletes trained from Monday to Friday, and often even on Saturdays, and participated in previous tournaments, which is a chance to see the improvements and the mistakes to work on. Physical work and a lot of work to avoid injuries.

### Was the effort of each athlete seen on the day of the interescholar competition?

Absolutely, they gave it all and more. It was a great effort.

### How does it feel to have won as a teacher?

Winning as a teacher usually feels like a mixture of pride, relief, and gratitude. Pride because your work and effort was recognized, relief because often it's backed by years of dedication and challenges, and gratitude towards the students, colleagues, or family who supported you along the way. It can also inspire you to keep improving, because that recognition reinforces that the effort is worth it.





# CULTURAL WEEK

By Tomás Rojas and Jorge Alvarez

During the next month, there will be an amazing Cultural Week, where all the students can participate and have fun. Lots of activities will be held during the week. Some of these activities will be traditional activities that have been made during past years.

Round table contests will be held by the School's Primero Medio. The Segundo Medio Final Debate will also take place. For the first cycle, there is going to be a chess tournament in the library. A "reader's picnic" held by Tercero Medio students will be given to the school's little students, where they will go to the Home Skills workshop to read. This year's literary magazine will be published in digital during Cultural Week, and a contest to design the literary book's front page will be held. In some unfortunate news, this year's Book Fair will not take place during Cultural Week due to no time available for it. And the university fair will also not take place, as that depends on the IV

This year there will be many talks for different audiences; there will be one for parents after school hours in the library, there will also be some for students, but depending on the speakers who come, are their targeted audience.

There will also be an Artificial Intelligence Congress held by SEDUC. This congress will happen on Wednesday, November 12th. More information about its speakers will be published during the coming weeks.

We are all invited to enjoy this year's Cultural Week. An important note is that all students will have a specific time for going to the activities divided by courses and not by generations.



# ACADEMIC TUTORING

By Santiago Cruz and Jorge Prieto

For many years, one-on-one tutoring sessions have been very important in our school. At the beginning of every year, each student must choose their tutor from among the head teachers and one or two additional teachers. Throughout the year, there are 6 sessions per student, 1 per informative, but this can change if you have a special topic to talk about with your tutor.

To write about this topic, we spoke with teacher Benjamín Prieto, who is in charge of the tutoring and is one of the teachers with the most tutoring sessions in the school

The objective of tutoring is the personal improvement of the student. It aims to help the student grow in every area: academically, study habits and time management, but also in personal life, especially in the development of virtues. It also helps the teacher to know better about his students personal life, and vice versa.

A tutoring session is like a normal talk between teacher and student. They speak about things the student wants to talk about, like school marks, study habits, or which subjects are more difficult. Sometimes they also talk about personal things, like friends or family problems. With older students, the tutor can talk about risky things like alcohol or drugs.

When tutoring is made regular and serious, it becomes like a kind of coaching that makes real improvement. For example, if they talk about study technique or time management, the student tries it and gets better. Also tutoring helps to make the school plan real. The values like good work, help others, good coexistence, sport and art, become more personal for every student.



# ACADEMIC TUTORING

By Santiago Cruz and Jorge Prieto

As we said before, another big benefit is the real friendship that grows between teacher and student. It's not the same as friendship between classmates, but a different one, unequal but true, based on wanting the best for the other person. The tutor is not only a teacher of subjects but someone who really cares about the student's well-being.

This friendship helps the student be themselves and talk about their problems. The tutor can give advice and help them think and grow. In this way, friendship helps build good character.

About the challenges tutoring has, there are mainly two. The first one is not having enough time. A good tutoring needs time to talk without distractions and to be there when the student needs it. Teachers have many things to do, and even if tutoring doesn't look urgent, it is very important. So one of the problems is to learn how to use time better and give priority to what really matters.

The second problem is the tutor's preparation. Just listening is not enough, the tutor needs to know how to guide and give good advice. This means to be updated about teen psychology, young people culture and social problems today, so they can give real and on-time help.

In the future, tutoring can still get better. Some years ago it was not common, but now students have it more often. This gives more help and order. The next step is to make tutoring not only often, but more deep and useful.





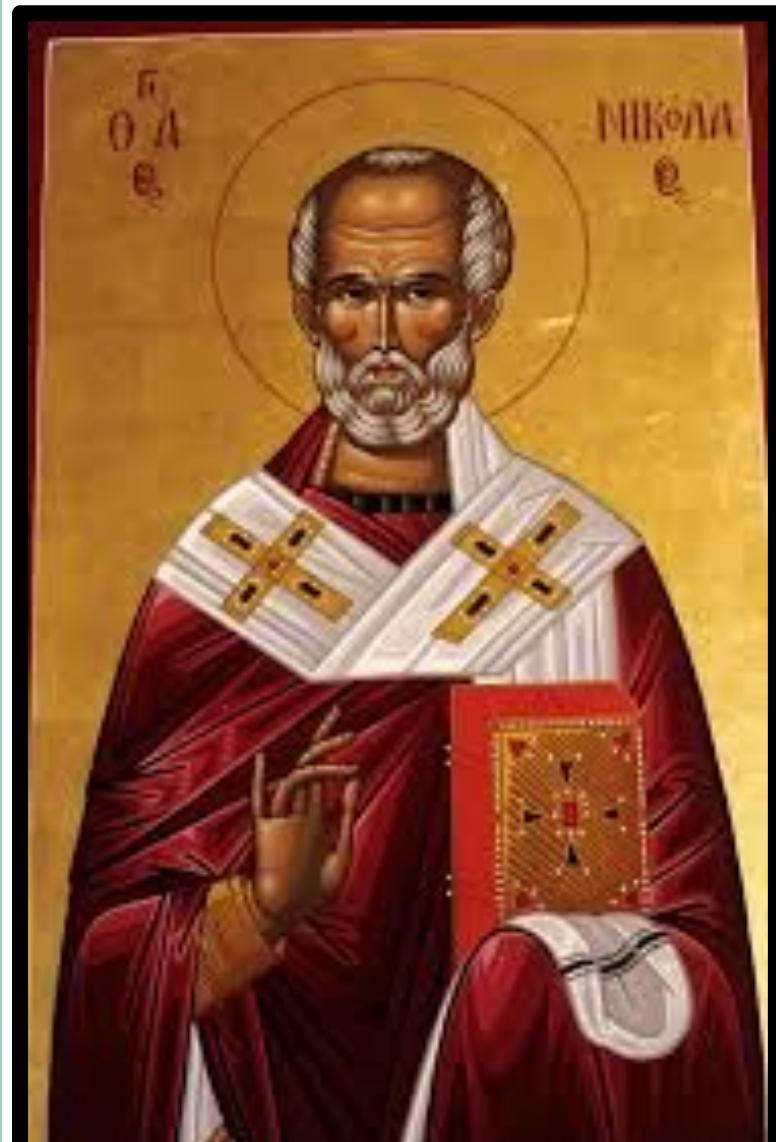
# Who is Santa Claus?

By Eduardo Errázuriz

Santa Claus was inspired by Saint Nicholas, a Christian bishop who lived in the 4th century in what is now Turkey. Saint Nicholas became famous for his kindness, generosity, and deep compassion, especially toward children and the poor. Many stories tell how he secretly gave gifts to kids who needed help, leaving coins or small presents during the night so no one would know it was him. Because of these acts, he became a symbol of selfless giving.

As his legend spread across Europe, different cultures adapted and transformed his story. In the Netherlands, he became known as Sinterklaas, a figure who arrived by boat from Spain and gave gifts to children on December 5th. When Dutch immigrants moved to the United States, they brought the tradition with them, and the name Sinterklaas eventually evolved into Santa Claus.

Over time, writers, artists, and later companies helped shape the image we recognize today. Brands like Coca-Cola popularized the modern look: the red suit, white beard, friendly face, and warm, cheerful spirit. Santa Claus became not just a character, but a global symbol of celebration, generosity, and holiday joy.





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# SCIENCE FAIR

By Santiago Aristía and Sebastián Fuenzalida

The Tabancura School Science Fair returned this year with even more energy, creativity, and community spirit. Students from several schools including Los Alerces, Los Andes, Saint George and Huelén presented impressive projects in areas such as biology, engineering and technology, all showcased in an atmosphere that was both welcoming and inspiring.

A highlight of the event was when Professor Cristóbal Bersezio, from the science department, surprised everyone with a creative remix of a popular song, which lifted the mood and became an instant hit among students and teachers. Later, José Ignacio González, head of the Science Department, awarded the prize for Best Project, praising the high level of research and effort displayed.

For the first time, the fair also featured specialized talks in different classrooms, led by professionals in medicine who shared insights about their work and inspired future scientists. The result was a successful and memorable science fair that strengthened curiosity, learning, and collaboration across schools.

For us, the best experiment was made by Eugenio Bénitez, that measured your emotions, with a technology that was impressive. But that is also for us, because they didn't get nominated.

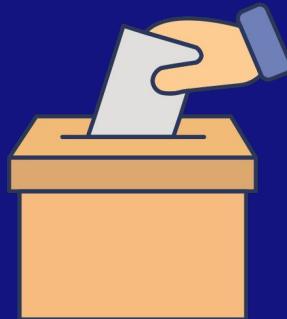
With the success and enthusiasm shown this year, the Tabancura Science Fair has set the bar higher than ever. The organization, the creativity of the students, and the commitment of the teachers proved once again that science is alive and thriving in our community.

And this is just the beginning, next year is expected to be even bigger, with more schools participating and even better, more ambitious experiments on display. The spirit of innovation is growing, and the 2026 edition promises to take the fair to a whole new level.





# CAT 2026



By

Agustín

Lavín

Dear Tabancura community, a few weeks ago, as is the case every year, elections were held to determine the student council (CAT). This time, List 1, comprised of Antonio Rodriguez (President), Manuel Rabat (Vice President), Gaspar Johnson (Sports), Nicolas Cruzat (Social Action), Max Darrайдou (Student Life), Santiago Cruz (Secretary), and Eugenio Benitez (Culture), faced off against List 2, comprised of Juan Diego Hoyl (President), Sebastian Fuenzalida (Vice President), Jorge Prieto (Secretary), Santiago Cuadra (Sports), Martin Hurtado (Student Life), Tomas Irarrázabal (Culture), and Jose Tomas Barroilhet (Social Action).

Both lists presented themselves with great ideas; List 2 proposed winter and summer projects, a council of presidents, a central notes library, collaboration with foundations, and a food drive. While List 1 proposed winter and summer projects, a solidarity Saturday, celebrating the teaching assistant, a central notes office, a 7th and 8th grade soccer league, tennis and padel tournaments, and a school ball collection, among a long list of other initiatives. But their main project was the Cat App, an application they created to help all the students in the school. After a tough election, List 1 was elected with 60% of the vote.



# The Most Holy Month of all: The Month of Mary

By Tomás Rojas and Jorge Álvarez

The time period between November and December is special to all of the students at Tabancura. Not only because it's the last phase of the school year, with everyone worried about final (or missing) assignments, tests, and their grades, but because it is also the month where we all come together as one to pray to the Holy Mother of God: the Virgin Mary.

The Month of Mary is a period of full devotion and reflection in Her honor. The Tabancura School celebrates it by doing activities, such as the daily prayer that occurs every morning at 8:20 am from November 8th (this year occurred on November 10th, as the 8th was a Saturday) until December 8th, the Day of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. The daily prayer is attended by classes and their fathers starting from 6th Grade to 12th Grade.

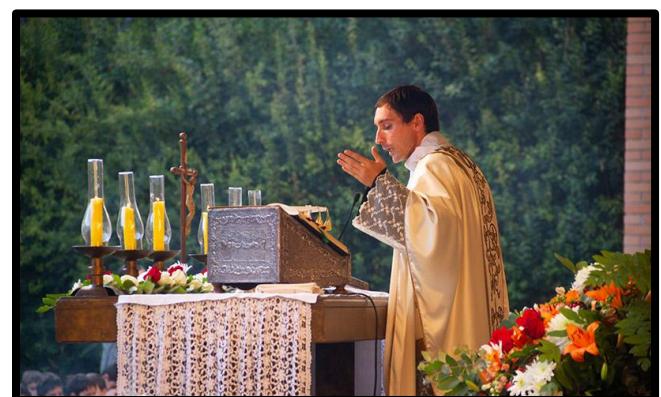
In the daily prayer every kid can bring flowers and put them in front of an image of the Virgin Mary at the final of the party (when we sing).

The daily prayer begins with the opening prayer of the month, then (sometimes) a short text is read and prayed, then to finish the closing prayer of the month is said and we end with a song.



A veneration of the pilgrim image of the Virgin of Carmen was also hosted in the School's Oratory.

All of these celebrations, including also a Mass celebration, want to create a moment for students to thank Mary for Her presence in their consequences and actions, and to reflect about the role that the Virgin Mary has in our lives.





# 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GRADUATIONS

By

Santiago

Cruz

Last Thursday, November 20th, we celebrated our traditional graduation of the fourth year of high school in the elementary school courtyard. The event started at 8:00 in the afternoon, and ended around 10:30 pm, so it was a large celebration. The students who graduated were accompanied by their parents and brothers.

The ceremony began with marches featuring the majority of the teachers who had accompanied the students throughout their time at the school. Followed by this, the big bells of the school started to ring, and the students, separated by class and with their respective head teachers. They entered and sat in chairs assigned by their list number, surrounded by their parents.

To start the ceremony our school's jazz ensemble began by playing two songs. It was directed by Alfredo Abarzua and accompanied by some students from the school, some of whom were graduating. The show lasted about 30 minutes and was very symbolic of the artistic work done by these students of IV.

To continue with the graduation, teacher Ariel Concha, who led the ceremony, gave way to Eduardo Fernández, from IV°B, who made an awesome speech. It was an emotive and deep speech recalling his time at the school, accompanied by the great generation of 2025. He mentioned classmates from his generation and told anecdotes about them.

Then, we move to the most important part of the ceremony, the awarding of diplomas. The students went up on stage to receive their graduation certificates.

They were ordered by class number and grade, starting with IVA and ending with IVC. The graduates first went up with their parents and had their picture taken with the school principal, then they stayed on stage for a group photo of the entire class.

Finally, Mr. Daniel Poblete, the school's director, took to the stage to address the graduating students. In his speech, he emphasized the importance of following God's path and stressed that while many things in their lives would change, they must remain true to their values and to what the school had instilled in them.





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# AFUTCOP Championship

By Pedro Morello and Santiago Smith

The last 19 of November, Tabancura faced against Cumbres School in the semifinal of the AFUTCOP tournament, Tabancura had a great start but Cumbres managed to score first but after a talk in the locker rooms Tabancura entered the second half scoring 2 goals in 15 minutes, when there were 5 minutes remaining Cumbres scored the 2-2 in an agonizing way, this result lead the match to a penalty shootout. The Tabancura penalty shooters were: Fuenzalida, San Francisco, Mackenna, Besa and Johnson.

For our luck, all the Tabancura shooters managed to score and the keeper Santiago Smith saved one penalty that led Tabancura in advantage, an advantage that was taken by Gaspar Johnson who scored the final pen for a 5-3 win.

The last Thursday, November 27th our school played the final of this incredible cup against San Benito's school in the "Santander field club" located in Peñalolen, the match took place at 3:30 o'clock and it didn't start the best way.

Around the fifteenth minute, San Benito stroked first, with a complicated center from the right of the keeper that the striker converted with a simple touch.

Things got tough for Tabancura, but the team didn't give up. After a great midfield play, Santiago San Francisco scored the equalizer and later added another goal before halftime, giving the team confidence and control.

The second half was intense and very physical due to the pressure of the match, but in the final play, during a fast counterattack, San Francisco noticed San Benito's keeper was out of position and scored an incredible goal from midfield. His outstanding performance sealed the victory and earned him the MVP of the match.

With this title the "Intermedia" football team consolidated an amazing year full of success, in which they managed to win the "Octogonal" with the 11th graders, and a year in which they disputed all the finals they had, winning 2 out of 3, not bad.





# OCTOGONAL

By Sebastián Fuenzalida and Santiago Ariztía

As many of you know, our classmates from first, second, and third year of high school competed in the “Octagonal” tournament organized by the Universidad Católica. The prize was qualification for the World Cup in China, and we are here to tell you about the incredible process that led them to win this tournament.

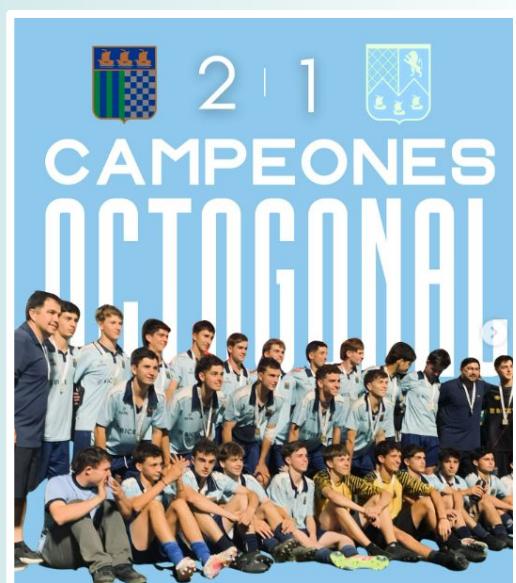
They first played the quarter-finals against San Ignacio del Bosque, which many considered the toughest match of the tournament. San Ignacio was a physically strong team with a very direct style of play, constantly looking for long balls to their dangerous forwards. However, Tabancura’s coaches (Esteban Díaz, Manuel Halty, and Vicente Gil) studied them carefully and prepared an excellent strategy. Our school scored twice in the first half and controlled most of the match. Near the end, San Ignacio pushed hard and created problems, but thanks to a great performance from captain Tomás Merino, Tabancura kept a clean sheet and advanced to the semifinals.

In the semifinals, Tabancura faced Everest. They were slightly weaker than San Ignacio, which gave our team some confidence. An early goal from Ignacio Llona put Tabancura ahead, but that confidence turned into a bit of relaxation, allowing Everest to score a good goal and tie the match 1–1 at halftime. The managers were unhappy with the attitude, so they delivered the best motivational talk of their careers. The team came out determined to “eat the rival,” and it showed: the match ended 4–1 with goals from Cristóbal García, Clemente Guzmán, and Pelayo Hurtado. This victory placed Tabancura in the final and filled everyone with excitement.

Finally, the day of the great final arrived against one of our classic rivals: Cordillera School. For many players, this was revenge for last year’s final, which Tabancura had lost on penalties. The motivation was incredible, and with the amazing support of our classmates (La Banda del Pingüino), this final felt impossible to lose. Tabancura started strong and dominated from the beginning. In the 7th minute, a great combination between Pedro Arteaga and Gaspar Johnson ended in a magical finish that opened the score. Ten minutes later, a perfect assist from Pelayo Hurtado allowed León Eguiguren to make it 2–0 at halftime. In the second half, both teams played well, and Cordillera scored a great goal in the 20th minute, giving them some hope. But Tabancura didn’t let them grow, controlled the match, and secured a 2–1 victory.

¡¡Our team won!! ¡¡WE ARE GOING TO CHINA!!

The World Cup will be held in October 2026 in China. We want to congratulate the team and the coaches for their tremendous effort; they have deserved this for a long time.



# TABANCURA SCHOOL LIFE



# INTERVIEWING PATRICIO SERRANO

By Pedro Vergara

Mr Patricio Serrano is a Spanish teacher and expert in Greek culture and books, who has taken time to answer for some of our most asked questions.

## What is the main purpose of the readings the Iliad and the Odyssey?

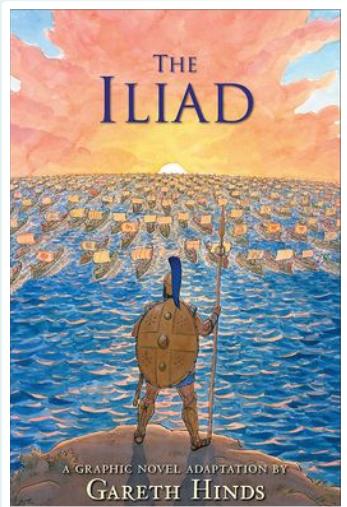
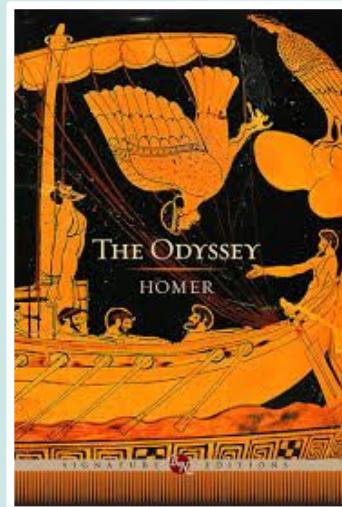
"The ultimate purpose of the readings of the Iliad and the Odyssey is related to the depth of human humanity, and by human humanity, I mean everything that has to do with our deepest realities—such as fear, suffering, virtue, and death, among other possibilities."

## What do you think students today can learn from these ancient texts?

"Well, if we consider that the Iliad and the Odyssey depict the deepest aspects of human existence, this learning transcends time. In other words, Homer and the poet of the Odyssey wrote these works because of the timelessness they represent. They portray humanity without distinction from what is inherently human, and that is why they are timeless works: because they always touch upon the depth of humanity."

## Do you believe that reading classical works contributes to improving reading comprehension or critical thinking?

"Well, yes, because reading classical works helps develop critical thinking and improves reading comprehension."



# INTERVIEWING NICOLÁS VALENCIA

By

Pedro

Vergara

Nicolás Valencia is a teacher at Tabancura and also a specialist of the Second World War, and he took time to answer some of our questions:

## What value do the lessons of the World Wars hold for the students of Colegio Tabancura today?

“The lessons are valuable because they teach us that conflicts are not resolved through violence, but through dialogue, thus preventing the devastating consequences that occurred in both wars.”

## How can the World Wars help understand current global and school-related conflicts?

“By examining the World Wars, we can understand that violence and arms races lead to negative outcomes on a large scale, and that it’s crucial to resolve conflicts through dialogue both globally and within the school environment.”

**What methods can be used to help students truly understand history rather than just memorizing facts?**

“It’s important to use examples, videos, contextualization, and critical analysis so that students can truly grasp the significance of historical events and relate them to the present day.”



# NEWSLETTER



## SUGGESTIONS?

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us with any ideas or suggestions you may have. Your input is invaluable to us, and we are always eager to hear from you.

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