

25 June 2025
Issue 9

Bright P-12 College Newsletter

PREP & Yr 5 BUDDIES

Prep and Year 5 students enjoyed some winter sunshine, reading books together. The Buddy Program offers numerous advantages for younger and older students. For Preps, the program offers the opportunity to have an older role model and fosters a sense of belonging. For Year 5 students, it develops leadership skills, promotes responsibility and enhances their social and emotional development. See page 7 for more photos.



PIRATE DRESS-UP FUNDRAISER

Our school was transformed into a sea of stripes, eye patches and bandanas as students and staff dressed up as pirates to raise funds for children's brain cancer. The event brought the school community together in a fun and meaningful way, helping to shine a light on a serious cause while encouraging empathy and action. We raised \$396 to go towards research to find less harmful and more effective treatments for the disease, which takes over 120 children's lives in Australia each year. Kicking off the day with an exciting treasure hunt that had students eagerly scouring the school grounds for their designated items to receive a canteen gift voucher, the day started with energy, fun and a hint of competitiveness, as well as chocolate gold coins for dressing up. A big thank you to everyone who participated and donated, as well as the school captains and SRC for their organisation of the event. See page 5 for more photos.



Official
Facebook
page



Ph: 03 5755 1166
E: bright.p12@education.vic.gov.au
www.brightp12.vic.edu.au





Principal's Message

Dear students, parents and carers,

Well done to everyone involved with Pirate Day, a fundraiser for Childhood Brain Cancer Research. A huge 'thank you' to Peter Gargiulo and SRC students for organising the day.

Our Secondary students recently marked an important milestone, with exams across all year levels, including the GAT (General Achievement Test). The GAT is a key part of the VCE journey and our senior students took part in a number of preparation sessions over recent weeks to help them feel confident and ready for the exam. Congratulations to students for their mature approach to their exams.

Preparation, including practice exams, play a crucial role in developing essential skills such as time management, organisation, problem-solving under pressure and self-reflection. They also provide valuable feedback for both students and teachers

about areas of strength and areas needing improvement.

Semester 1 reports will be published for all students on Wednesday 2nd July. I encourage you to read school reports with your child. They present a useful opportunity to review your child's progress and discuss their academic and personal growth.

Jean Olley - Principal

NOTE: ALL CALENDAR EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE CHECK COMPASS FOR MOST UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR

COLLEGE CALENDAR

JUNE

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 27 APR-28 JUN | Yr 9 Marlo Leadership School |
| 26 JUN | School photo day |
| 27 JUN | Primary incursion - Flying Fruit Fly Circus |

JULY

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1 JUL | Yr 7/8 Interschools Sport |
| 2 JUL | Reports published |
| 3 JUL | Yr 9-12 Interschools Sport |
| 3 JUL | Yr 3-12 State Cross Country |
| 3 JUL | 6:30pm P-12 Soiree, Bright Community Centre |
| 4 JUL | Celebration of Success Assembly, Bright Community Centre |
| 4 JUL | Last day Term 2 - 2:30pm finish |
| 21 JUL | Term 3 starts |
| 30 JUL | 5pm Yr 11 in 2026 parent & student VCE Subject Expo & Info Evening |

AUGUST

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 4 AUG | 6pm Yr 10 in 2026 parent & student Info Evening |
|-------|---|

NEXT PUPIL-FREE DAY: Thursday 28 August

SCHOOL PHOTOS: Thursday 26 June

BREAKFAST CLUB

Breakfast Club won't be running in the last week of Term 2 (Tuesday 1st July) or the first week of Term 3 (Tuesday 22nd July). We'll be back on Tuesday 29th July, from 8:15am in the Secondary cooking room. There will be a range of food available including toast, cereal, milo, fresh fruit and fruit cups.

A big 'thank you' to Woolworths and the Beechworth Bakery, who provide the food for our Breakfast Club.

All students from Prep to Year 12 are always welcome!



03 5482 3190
admin.mrr@msp.com.au
www.msp.com.au



Bright P-12 College

Photo Day 2025

Date: Thursday 26th June

To Order Photos:

Order via the Compass Portal.

Order your School Photos before midnight 2nd July

Late Orders can be accepted after 3rd July by ordering online via the Compass Portal or by contacting 03 5482 3190. All late orders incur an extra \$20 for postage and handling.

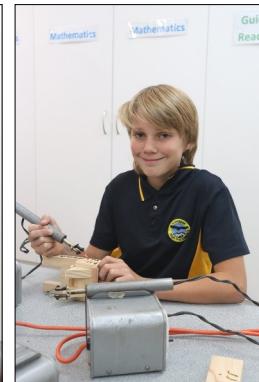
Family Photos - Please order online prior to photo day using the Compass Portal.

Yr 6 WOODWORK



Year 6 students have been designing and constructing a propelled boat. This involved students coming up with some fantastic creative design ideas and, as always with woodwork, lots of sanding. Students designed the top section, glued it together and wood burned the name they have chosen onto their boat. The final finish, clear lacquer, is applied in the Design and Technology room at school within the Secondary area, which provides a great introduction to Year 7 Woodwork. Our Year 6 students have made exceptional boats in terms of design ideas and build quality.

Special thanks to Paul and Fiona at the Bright Post Office, who kindly donated a huge bag of rubber bands for our Year 6 wooden boats which will last us many years. Students made an extra boat 'The Postie' to show their appreciation.



INVESTIGATIONS

What is ‘Investigations’? Investigations is the name we give to our Concept Based Inquiry lessons in the early years at Bright P-12 College. In Term 1, we started off the day with these sessions in our Prep classes, and they now happen three afternoons per week.

During Investigations, students engage with a series of provocations that cover the full breadth of curriculum outcomes, through a negotiated level of teacher directed, scaffolded and student led activities. Students take on various roles, taking turns to be ‘focus children’, working alongside the teacher and presenting their work to the class at share time, as well as being the ‘reporter’ or ‘photographer’, observing ‘Zones of Regulation’ and sharing the work undertaken by the rest of the class.



If you were to walk into a classroom during an Investigations session you would encounter a high level of engagement, a variety of activities and a multitude of students keen to share their work. Developing oral language skills is a key component of this practice, as well as fostering student agency, problem solving skills and resilience. Investigations also aligns closely with developing our college values of respect, effort and collaboration.

In this class, we explored ‘Space’. With a focus on developing their language skills, students investigated the subject through reading, drawing and writing as well as collaborating on group activities. They then further expanded their language confidence by sharing what they’d learnt with their teachers and peers during the review stage.



PRIMARY HUME CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to the Bright P-12 College students who competed in the Primary Hume Cross Country. Results were:

U9/10 Boys: Blake C - 32nd

U9/10 Girls: Aisha S - 8th (Qualified for State Championships)

U 11 Boys: Tommy F - 46th

U12/13 Boys: Nicky H - 25th, Theodor G - 9th (Qualified for State Championships)



FREE SCHOOL DENTAL PROGRAM

The Smile Squad, a Victorian Government free school dental program, is coming to our school. This means ALL students can get a free dental check-up, preventive services and treatment at school.

How to access free dental care. We need your consent before we can provide services.

Consent is usually provided by a parent or guardian. Sign up to Smile Squad at: <https://bit.ly/smilesquadvic>

OR use the QR code. Please complete and submit the consent form by

20/7/2025. Paper copies of the consent form are available. Please contact the school office if you would like to request one. The electronic consent form can be translated into more than 100 languages, and the paper form is currently available in 30 languages.



Do I need to attend my child's appointment?



No, you do not need to attend your child's appointment. You can attend if you would like to, and you can take your child to the community dental clinic if you prefer.

The RFDS Smile Squad look forward to seeing you soon.

PIRATE DRESS-UP FUNDRAISER CTD...



HAWTHORN VILLAGE PERFORMANCE

Earlier this month, students in the Prep-Year 2 Choir and the Ukulele Groups performed at Hawthorn Village to their staff and residents. Well done to all the students involved, you represented the school well and performed with confidence.



DINNER PLAIN CAMPUS

Our Dinner Plain campus is open for the season! Students are loving the fantastic snow conditions and have already been out exploring on cross-country skis. They've also been featured on the Channel 7 Sunrise weather report.



JAPANESE SPEECH COMPETITION

This year Bright P-12 College was host to the North East Regional Japanese Speech Competition. We had 150 students over Primary and Secondary from six schools competing over two days. This was the 20th Anniversary of the Japanese Speech Competition for the region. Our students did an amazing job to stand in front of a large audience and give their speeches in Japanese from memory. Many thanks to Kumi and Keiko-sensei for the hours of practice and writing the speeches. Also thanks to families at home assisting with the practising. Some students will have the opportunity to compete in the Victorian Competition in Melbourne in August. Stay tuned for details.

PREP & Yr 5 BUDDIES ctd...



Yr 7 ART

This term Year 7 students embraced the freedom of creative choice in their acrylic paintings on canvas. Their artworks reflect a wide range of styles and ideas, highlighting their individual strengths in design, colour blending, and brush technique. The diversity of outcomes speaks to their confidence and growing artistic voices. Well done to all students for their hard work and imaginative expression this semester!



Yr 11 PSYCHOLOGY

Our Year 11 Psychology class has been leading an inquiry into the relationship between nature and wellbeing in collaboration with our Sustainability Coordinator, Darren Wood. Over 6 weeks, we spent one period each week in the School Garden, engaging in outdoor activities while also exploring psychological research methods and collecting data on our own wellbeing.

Using self-reported measures, we gathered both quantitative and qualitative data. Pre- and post-garden mood ratings (on a scale from 1 to 10) revealed an average mood increase of +2.1 points, or 20%, after spending time in the garden. The most frequent descriptors used to describe our post-garden mood were “happy” “social” and “calm”.

Throughout this inquiry, we developed skills in: Synthesising existing research; Identifying and analysing variables; Applying principles of research methodology; Exploring ethical considerations; Conducting data analysis.



Our findings align with existing psychological theories suggesting that spending time in natural environments has a positive effect on wellbeing. The inquiry not only deepened our understanding of psychological research but also highlighted the wellbeing benefits of green spaces within school settings. We'd like to thank Daren Wood for his collaboration, and as a token of appreciation, we're planning to contribute a meaningful plant to the garden, symbolising the growth of our learning.



SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICESHIP / TRAINEESHIP

Year 10 student Coby W is reaching new heights - literally and figuratively - as he begins his Head Start-supported School Based Apprenticeship (SBAT) in Certificate III in Arboriculture. Working with Tom's Rural Tree Services based in Porepunkah, Coby is stepping into a career that combines physical skill, environmental care and technical precision.

Coby is demonstrating the focus and resilience required in the arborist trade. Whether it's learning safe climbing techniques, identifying tree species, or working with equipment like chippers and chainsaws, he is immersing himself in the demanding yet rewarding world of professional tree care. Balancing his SBAT with school commitments and Wodonga TAFE training, Coby thrives on the variety his week brings - from classroom theory and TAFE workshops to real-world applications high up in the canopy.



Coby shared that one of the highlights so far has been getting the green light to operate a chainsaw under supervision - an important milestone in his training: “It felt like a real step up, being trusted with that responsibility. You learn quickly how important safety and technique are out here,” he said. Tom Nicholson, owner of Tom's Rural Tree Services and a former Bright P-12 College student, is proud to support local youth through Head Start: “It's great to see young people like Coby coming through. He listens, he works hard, and he's already proving to be a valuable part of the team. It's rewarding to be able to offer opportunities like this to young locals and watch them grow,” Tom said.

Congratulations to Coby. We're excited to see where this pathway leads!

ALUMNI

After hearing from alumni Lachlan Hore about his pathway since leaving school, we caught up with another alumni, Krista Brandon. Krista graduated from Bright P-12 College in 2024. She received an Award for Academic Excellence from VSV (Virtual Schools Victoria) thanks to her high marks in VCE Drama and she was invited to perform her Drama solo at The Melbourne Recital Centre and in Traralgon.

Q. What did you study at Bright P-12 College?

A. In Year 12 I took English, Maths Methods, History and Chemistry at Bright and studied Drama through Virtual Schools Victoria (VSV). I also fast-tracked Theatre Studies in Year 10 Bright and finished Unit 3/4 in Year 11 with VSV.



Q. What have you been doing since leaving school?

A. Since finishing school, I've embarked on my travels around the world. I started the year with a ski trip in Japan with my Dad and friends for a couple of weeks in February. Once I got home, I performed my Drama solo at The Melbourne Recital Centre. In March, I travelled to Vietnam for few weeks. In April, I had another Top Class performance in Traralgon, and two days later I flew out to London, starting my three months of backpacking through Europe. The time I had at home was spent working and saving money for my travels.

Q. Can you explain a bit about your Top Class and VSV awards and what they mean to you?

A. Last year I achieved high marks for Drama. This was reflected in my award from VSV for Academic Excellence and my offer to audition and being selected to perform my Drama solo exam for Top Class Drama. Top Class is run by VCAA to display high scoring creative exams to show upcoming students what is expected for high marks.

I was so grateful and astonished to receive these credits. To be recognised for all the work and effort I put into myself and the subject I love in my last, most-difficult year of school was not only rewarding, but motivating.

Leaving school and starting to build a life in the adult world, the acknowledgement of talent and skill in my acting capabilities is pushing me to pursue the craft as a career. Faced with struggles in finding opportunities in the performing arts community, due to how rural Bright is, I often find myself anxious in my abilities and lack of training.

However, performing my solo on stage along nine other talented students, all with different backgrounds and education - including students from professional performance institutions, I'm reassured that the passion and labour I've put into acting is paying off and I just need to keep working away at it.

Q. Any advice for current students at our school?

A. If you have yet to choose your subjects for VCE, I cannot stress enough to choose subjects you enjoy. My subjects were a mix of things I liked, and things that scored well and that I could do. I found throughout the year, motivation to do the subjects you don't enjoy as much gets harder and harder as the stress stacks up.

For me, subjects like Drama and Theatre were outlets where, if I needed a break from studying, I could do work for those subjects, and it would help me relax. Maths and Chemistry, however, felt like a massive hurdle that used so much energy to work on, so they were pushed to the back of my priorities. In the end, my bias for these subjects reflected in my final scores - Drama and Theatre being my highest, and Maths and Chemistry were my lowest. In hindsight, if I had chosen to study only subjects that I loved, even if they all scaled down, I probably would have received a higher score overall.

I also cannot stress enough how important it is to use your teachers. They are there to help you do the best you can. Don't understand something or want more help with a certain aspect of a subject? ASK. VCE is very self-sufficient, but the teachers are there to support you. Always be curious, always be asking questions and always reflect on yourself.

Last but not least, try to enjoy Year 12. Yes, it's busy, stressful, and quite frankly, it's overwhelming, but it's the end of a 13-year era. Enjoy the people around you and the stability of structure.

Most importantly, work hard and take care of yourself!

Yr 9 ART

This semester, our Year 9 students have been very productive, diving into both research and hands-on creativity. Each student completed a research paper on an artist of personal interest. This research directly influenced their work, as they went on to decorate a three-dimensional object, using it as their unique canvas.

In addition to this project, students explored painting techniques through a vibrant music-themed acrylic piece on canvas. The results reflect not only their technical skills but also their ability to draw meaningful connections between music and visual art.

Well done to all Year 9 students for their dedication and creativity!



PRIMARY STUDENT LEADERSHIP DAY

Earlier this month, our young leaders took centre stage at the Primary Student Leadership Day. Students dived into a range of hands-on activities, exploring the core values and powerful stories of leadership. Their thoughtfulness, creativity, and inspiration were truly remarkable. We're excited to see these bright minds grow into the leaders of tomorrow!



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Alpine Mindset Coaching

Free Mental Health Support

Life can sometimes get stressful and overwhelming, making it hard to cope. If you are over the age of 12 and seeking mental health supports, join our 6-week coaching program.

Program Details:

- What:** Alpine Mindset Coaching
- Duration:** 6 weeks
- Cost:** There is no cost for the program
- No GP referral required.

1300 921 535
alpinecoaching@wellways.org

wellways
wellways.org | 1300 111 400

WELCOME TO THE RESILIENCE PROJECT.
Parents & Carers

Why?

- 1 in 4 adolescents have a mental illness.
- 65% of adolescents do not seek help.
- 1 in 7 primary school children have a mental illness.
- 1 in 5 adults will experience mental illness.
- Over 50% of students are at risk of poor learning, mindset anxiety & disengagement.

About the program

TRP is committed to teaching positive mental health strategies to prevent mental ill health and build young people's capacity to deal with diversity.

We're proud to be implementing TRP's evidence-based whole school wellbeing program to support positive mental health in the classroom, staffroom and wider community.

Students will engage in weekly lessons to understand and strengthen their practice of **Gratitude, Empathy, Mindfulness and Emotional Literacy**, with regular opportunity for parent/carer involvement.

Get involved with TRP@HOME

Scan the QR code or click here to find activities and resources to implement the GEM-EL principles at home.

Evidence-based

TRP's School Partnership Program has been independently evaluated by **The University of Adelaide** and **The University of Melbourne**.

the imperfects

The **imperfects** podcast is hosted by Hugh von Cuylenburg, Ryan Shenton and Josh von Cuylenburg, celebrates just how imperfectly perfect we all are. Together, they chat to a variety of people who bravely share their struggles and imperfections alongside valuable learnings we can apply to our own lives and use to support the teachings of TRP in the classroom. Guests include Nathan Buckley, Grace Tame, Jack Steele, Zan Rowe, Michael Klim, Billy Slater, Lee Stone, Pat Cummins, Tim Minchin and many more.

(03) 913 9302 | theresilienceproject.com.au | **C RESILIENCE PROJECT.**

SCIENCE WEEK
DAILY FUN AND FACTS + ANNUAL BEAT THE TEACHER QUIZ

9 - 17TH AUGUST SCIENCE IS COMING...

THE LIGHTHOUSE
BRIGHT'S YOUTH HUB FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12-25 YEARS OLD

WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
3PM - 5:30PM

study space safe space
snacks support services
games friends

1 RAILWAY AVE,
BRIGHT ATTACHED TO THE
BRIGHT COMMUNITY CENTRE

YOUTH ALPINE

ALPINE UNDER 10s PROGRAM

NORTH EAST BORDER

ALPINE UNDER 10s Junior 2025 Program Launch

Open to all kids aged 8 to 10
5 Week Program - Friday Evenings 5.30PM to 6.45PM
Program Dates: 27th June, 4th July, 25th July, 1st August & 8th August

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- Manage everyday behaviour problems

Our program is for parents, grandparents and carers of children aged 2 to 12 years.

Participants complete a workbook and are supported by weekly 30 minute phone calls with a trained parenting educator.

All of this can be done from the comfort of your own home at a time that suits you.

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This is a **FREE** service, and enrolments are taken all year round. Call us for more information or to enrol.

gatewayhealth **VIC**

*** 2024 ALPINE SHIRE YOUTH AWARDS**

THE 25TH ANNUAL ALPINE SHIRE YOUTH AWARDS

The Alpine Shire Youth Awards recognise and celebrate the contributions, skills and achievements of a diverse range of young people aged 12 – 21 years.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2025 AWARDS ARE NOW OPEN AND WILL CLOSE AT 11:59PM ON MONDAY THE 4TH OF AUGUST 2025.

shannanw@alpineshire.vic.gov.au

ALPINE
LOCAL COUNCIL

EARLY YEARS OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Early Years Outreach Program is a free service that supports families from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) background who live, play, work or study in the Alpine Shire.

Our CALD Early Years Officer works directly with families and local service providers to support inclusion and ongoing participation in education.

We can assist to:

- Enrol children in Kindergarten
- Connect with other early childhood supports
- Support families to transition from Kindergarten to Primary School

To find out more contact the CALD Early Years Outreach Officer:

0417 957 627 or shannanw@alpineshire.vic.gov.au

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- ✓ Regulatory building advice
- ✓ Bushfire management advice, reports
- ✓ Fire and life safety reports
- ✓ Servicing Victoria and New South Wales
- ✓ Owner builder advice and permits



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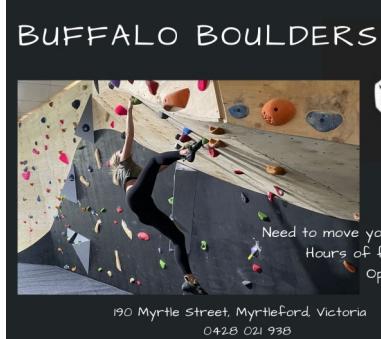
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Thursday (Porepunkah Dojo)



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Sensei Sue Texler
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www.alpinedojo.com
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BRIGHT HOLIDAY
Accommodation

Experience Bright Library

- **Weekly Story Time!**
Every Thursday from 10am
- **Weekly Rhyme Time!**
Every Friday from 10am
- **A range of school holiday activities for all ages to enjoy!**

Keep an eye on Alpine Shire Council's Facebook page for updates and news on upcoming events at the Bright Library!