



4 February 2026 - Issue 1

Bright P-12 College Newsletter

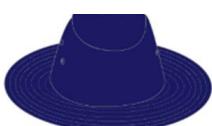
WELCOME TO 2026!



We warmly welcome 19 new Prep students as they begin their schooling journey with us in 2026. We also welcome our returning students; students who are starting their Secondary education with us after attending local Primary schools; students who have joined our community from interstate; and finally, 15 students participating in our German exchange program.



HAT REMINDER



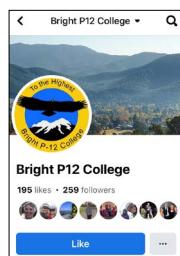
As part of our SunSmart policy, all students are expected to wear a hat when they are outdoors in Term 1. This applies to recess, lunch and while doing outdoor activities. Students who are not wearing our school hats will be asked to sit in the shaded areas. Hats can be purchased from the front office or via our online shop <https://www.fcw.com.au/schools-online-shops/>

Primary students need to wear a wide-brimmed hat and Secondary students, a bucket hat. Hats cost \$13.50 each. Parents / carers, please remember to label hats.



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

Official
Facebook
page





Principal's Message

Dear students, parents and carers,

Welcome to the 2026 academic year at Bright P-12 College. I hope you and your family have had the opportunity to rest, recharge and enjoy time together over the holiday period.

It is wonderful to have our students back on site and to feel the energy and sense of purpose they bring to the school. We have had a very positive start to the year, with students settling in well and engaging positively with their learning and with one another.

Mat Gray and I also enjoyed spending time with our Prep families at the parent coffee morning last week. It was great to see such a strong turnout and to connect with parents as they begin their journey with Bright P-12 College. The conversations reflected a genuine sense of trust, optimism and partnership, which is a strong foundation for the year ahead.

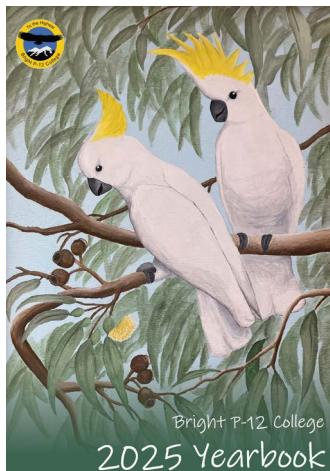
Our school is built on a keen sense of community and belonging, and we know that when students, families and staff feel connected and supported, learning flourishes. In 2026, we will continue to place equal emphasis on wellbeing and learning, guided by

2025 YEARBOOKS

The 2025 Yearbooks have been professionally printed and delivered to school.

We will send your copy of the Yearbook home with your child.

Please note: the Yearbook is only available via pre-order. We have a list of people who have pre-ordered and paid at the school office, which we will tick off as they are collected.



our shared focus on relationships, engagement and growth.

This partnership between home and school is vital in creating a safe, inclusive and high-quality learning environment where every child can thrive. I encourage parents and carers to reach out to me if you have anything you'd like to discuss.

Thank you for your ongoing support, trust and involvement in our community. I look forward to working closely with you throughout the year ahead as we support our students to grow, learn and succeed.

A reminder that these are our Pupil Free Days for 2026:

- Wednesday 29th April
- Friday 12th June
- Friday 4th December

Wishing you a fantastic 2026!

Jean Olley - Principal

COLLEGE CALENDAR

**All calendar events are subject to change.
Please check Compass for most up-to-date calendar**

FEBRUARY

4 FEB	No school for Prep students
4 FEB	9am Badge Presentation Assembly, Bright Community Centre
4 FEB	10am Parents & Friends morning tea @ school
5 FEB	Secondary Swimming Sports, Myrtleford
6 FEB	Primary Swimming Sports, Myrtleford
10 & 12 FEB	Parent / teacher / student conferences
11 FEB	No school for Prep students
17 FEB-9 MAR	German short-term exchange students to Bright
18 FEB	No school for Prep students
18 FEB	Yr 9&10 White Card course
19 FEB	O&M senior cricket
20 FEB	Yr 5&6 Apex walk

NEXT PUPIL FREE DAY: Wednesday 29th April

SCHOOL PHOTOS: Thursday 30th April

WELLBEING DOG

Hi Bright P-12 College students, my name is Frankie and I'm the Wellbeing dog here at Bright P-12 College. I have had a wonderful break and I'm ready for the busy year ahead.

I know that if you've been at our school before, you'll know me, but I just wanted to say a friendly 'HELLO!' to our new students this year.

The Wellbeing team have a short video they would like you to watch - this is for all students, including a reminder for students who already know me. This video helps you understand what to do when you see me around. Thanks for watching the video and I'll see you at school very soon.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiWtqjmYzZs>



TREE CHECK-IN

At the end of last year, our Prep - Year 2 students visited the trees they'd planted back in July with help from the Alpine Shire Council. Students walked to Pioneer Park as an end-of-year activity and checked on the native trees and shrubs. Students were excited to check out the growth over time, and noticed that not all the plants had survived.

Students also created mini bush huts in teams, using sticks and leaves. It was a fun excursion, despite the hot weather!



SCHOOL-BASED APPRENTICESHIP



Year 11 student Bright P-12 College Leonard C is cooking up a future full of flavour as he begins his Head Start-supported School Based Apprenticeship (SBAT) in Certificate III in Commercial Cookery.

Working with local business Bright Brewery, Leonard is stepping confidently into a hands-on culinary career that blends creativity, technique, and a passion for great food. Surrounded by the fresh produce, local growers and a food-loving community, Leonard is already demonstrating the focus and resilience required in the hospitality industry.

Whether it's learning knife skills, identifying ingredients, or mastering equipment like commercial mixers and ovens, he's immersing himself in the demanding yet rewarding world of professional cooking.

Balancing his SBAT with school commitments and AVTES training, Leonard has quickly found his rhythm. He thrives on the variety his week brings—from classroom theory and kitchen workshops to real-world service during busy meal periods. "It feels like a real step up, being trusted with responsibility. You learn quickly how important safety, timing, and technique are in a kitchen," Leonard said.

Leonard's passion for food, his natural creativity, and his calm teamwork make him a great fit for the culinary world. His quiet determination and willingness to learn have already earned the respect of his team and trainer as he begins building a career that's bound to be full of flavour.

Sammy, one of Bright Brewery's Chef team members, is proud to support local youth through Head Start "It's great to see young people like Leonard 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," Sammy said.

As Leonard continues his journey, there's no doubt he's building strong foundations—not just in Hospitality work, but in confidence, skills and a future career established in real experience. Congratulations to Leonard, Jarrod, and the whole crew at Bright Brewery. Many Thanks to Danny Howard from ASA Apprenticeships.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

Did you know we have over 8,000 books available for our students to borrow?

From a wide range of picture books for our Prep students to novels for our senior students, and an extensive non-fiction catalogue, our Library is packed full of hand-picked titles for our students to enjoy.

We have separate Primary and Secondary lunchtime activities in the Library, where students can play board games, read books or enjoy mindful colouring.

For students who are not confident readers, we have a large graphic novel section. We have found that graphic novels often act as stepping-stones to other books as students build their confidence. We also have a range of books which are specifically designed for students who have dyslexia which, along with individually tailored advice from Cindy, enables all our students to engage with reading at their own level and catering to their unique interests.

Thank you to all parents / carers who have contributed to our Library Fund over the years - your support means we can continue to expand our range of books and board games tailored for our students.



SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

Bright P-12 College Produce Shop Joins the Bright Food Coop!

The Bright P-12 College Garden is buzzing with life, and now our produce is available for the whole community through the Bright Food Co-op. Students have been learning the value of growing food, caring for the environment, and understanding where their food comes from. The school's garden program not only teaches practical horticulture and gardening skills but also fosters teamwork, responsibility and sustainability.



Now, thanks to a partnership with the Bright Food Co-op, the fruits (and vegetables!) of our labour are available for purchase by local families. From crisp lettuce and fragrant herbs to seasonal vegetables straight from the soil, the produce shop showcases the hard work of students while supporting healthy eating in our community.

Why does this matter?

- **Educational Impact:** Students gain hands-on experience in planting, harvesting, and preparing produce for sale, linking classroom learning with real-world skills.
- **Community Connection:** By selling through the Co-op, the school strengthens ties with local families and businesses.
- **Sustainability:** Produce is grown with care, using environmentally friendly practices that highlight the importance of local food systems.

How can I access the produce?

Members of the Bright Food Co-op can now find a dedicated section for Bright P-12 College Garden Produce. Simply log in, browse the available items, and add them to your weekly shop. Availability will vary with the seasons, so keep an eye out for new additions each week. Every purchase helps fund the ongoing gardening and sustainability program, ensuring students continue to learn valuable skills while contributing to the local food network. It's a win-win: fresh, healthy produce for families, and meaningful educational opportunities for young people. Next time you shop with the Bright Food Co-op, look for the Bright P-12 College Garden Produce Shop section and enjoy food that's grown with care, pride and purpose — right here in our community. To find out more, visit <https://brightfoodcoop.com.au/>



BREAKFAST CLUB

We are excited to share that our School Breakfast Club is on this term!

Breakfast Club is part of the Schools Breakfast Clubs Program, proudly supported by Foodbank Victoria and the Victorian State Government. This program helps ensure students have access to a nutritious breakfast to support their wellbeing, learning and engagement at school.

This year Breakfast Club will run on Thursdays (rather than Tuesdays as it did last year). Our first Breakfast Club session will be on Thursday 12th February.



Yr 9 SAILING CAMP

At the end of last year, a group of brave Year 9's took the opportunity to explore their adventurous side and attended the school's annual Year 9 Sailing Camp at Geelong's Eastern Beach.

The 5-day camp included learning how to rig a boat and sail in small groups. Other activities included indoor rock climbing, laser-tag, arcade games, table tennis, beach volleyball, swimming and surfing. Students also participated in morning boot camp activities to start the day fresh.

Students learnt how to work together as a large group as well as in small groups especially on the boats and also when living together. Despite some issues with weather (almost no wind and then the next day, strong winds, and also a session cancelled due to very high winds), students had an enormous amount of fun and were terrific representatives for our school and our community.

Thank you to everyone who came along and made this camp fantastic!



Yr 5 MULTICULTURAL DAY

Year 5 students facilitated a range of activities as part of a Multicultural Experience last year. This student-led project emerged from the Respectful Relationships Student Voice Forum. Working in small groups, students selected a country and a cultural tradition to share with Year 3/4 students. A diverse range of cultures was represented, including Mexico, Brazil and Hawaii. Students prepared traditional foods, designed interactive games and scavenger hunts, and created hands-on craft activities to showcase the customs of their chosen country. Throughout the day, Year 5 students demonstrated outstanding leadership, initiative and agency.



Yr 3/4 ICE CREAMERY EXCURSION

"The excursion was very tiring as we walked the long way to Howitt Park. But it was really fun and the boysenberry ice cream was very good!" Blake S, Yr 3. "It was hot! We got to play at the park and then have ice cream - I chose cookies and cream, which was the best ever. It was great to hang out with my classmates and eat ice cream" Ivy B, Yr 4



Yr 5/6 MOUNT BUFFALO BUSHWALK

"We walked to The Horn. The highlight was reaching the top - it was great to be out of the classroom with my friends." Max F, Yr 6 "The sun was so hot that the tar on the road was sticky and soft. Even though it was hot, it was a beautiful day. It was wonderful to climb to the top - we had a great sense of relief and achievement." Jemma H & Sophie G, Yr 6



PLEASE HELP KEEP OUR SCHOOL GREEN

A group of dedicated Primary students got together in the last few days of Term 4 2025 to collect rubbish from around our school.

As the group of volunteers began collecting rubbish, they were surprised how much was being produced.

These students wanted to remind parents and carers to please pack 'Nude Food' for your children - food that isn't wrapped in single use packaging.

Thank you for your help in keeping our school looking good and preventing rubbish ending up in the local environment.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's financial circumstances and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is \$400 for all school students.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- new student enrolments: your child has started or changed schools this year.
- changed family circumstances: such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit: <https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>

ANNUAL PRIVACY REMINDER FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Our school collects and uses student and parent personal information for standard school functions or where permitted by law, as stated in the Schools' Privacy Policy and the Schools' Privacy Collection Notice.

The Photographing, Filming and Recording Students Policy <https://www.vic.gov.au/schools-privacy-policy> describes how we collect and use photographs, video and recordings of students. The policy also explains when parent consent is required and how it can be provided and withdrawn. We ask parents to also review the guidance we provide on how we use Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education safely at the school and what parents can do to further protect their child's information.

If after reviewing the guidance, you have any questions or concerns regarding your child using Microsoft 365/Google Workspace for Education, please contact the school.

For more information about privacy, refer to: Schools' privacy policy: information for parents. This information is also available in these community languages:

* Amharic * Arabic * Chinese* Dari * Gujarati * Mandarin * Somali * Sudanese * Turkish * Urdu * Vietnamese

COMMUNITY NOTICES

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FRIDAY 6 MARCH | 5:30PM | MCNAMARA RESERVE

COMMUNITY DAY

The Myrtleford Football Netball Club invites all families, juniors, players and supporters to our Community Day & Junior Registration Launch as we kick off the 2026 season together. This is a relaxed, family-friendly event designed to bring our senior and junior players together, welcome new families, and celebrate everything that makes MFNC a great community club.

- ✓ FOOD, DRINKS AND FAMILY ATMOSPHERE
- ✓ JUNIOR FOOTBALL & NETBALL REGISTRATIONS
- ✓ MERCHANDISE AND MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE
- ✓ COMBINED JUNIOR-SENIOR TRAINING ACTIVITIES
- ✓ SENIOR INTRA-CLUB GAME

MFNC ALPINE YOUTH

COMMUNITY NOTICES




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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Our free 6 to 10 week program helps you to:

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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.

1800 880 660

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

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 a poor learning mindset (anxiety + disengagement).

Source: National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Australia's Youth: Mental Illness

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 adversity.

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](#).

Scan the QR code to learn more about how the program is significantly lowering the risk of mental illness.

the imperfects

The imperfects is hosted by Hugh van Cuylenburg, Ryan Shelton and Josh van 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, Lael Stone, Pat Cummins, Tim Minchin and many more.

(03) 9113 9302 theresilienceproject.com.au

THE RESILIENCE PROJECT™



THE LIGHTHOUSE
OPEN HOURS

FEBRUARY	2026
12 THU	OPEN
19 THU	CLOSED
26 THU	OPEN

MARCH	2026
5 THU	CLOSED
12 THU	OPEN
19 THU	OPEN
26 THU	OPEN

BRIGHT'S YOUTH HUB
12-19 YEAR OLDS WELCOME
3PM-5:30PM





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School preparedness and pre-emptive actions for the bushfire season

Schools and early childhood services undertake a range of activities each year to prepare for bushfires and grassfires. The Department of Education conducts an annual fire risk assessment of schools and early childhood services. Those at the greatest levels of risk are published on the Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR). As part of preparing our school for the fire season, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan.



What does this mean for our school?

Our school has been identified as being at risk of bushfire or grassfire and is a Category 3 school. Our school will close on a day forecasted as Catastrophic fire danger rating in North East fire district.

What is the department's policy?

The department's Bushfire and Grassfire Preparedness Policy requires all schools and early childhood services on the BARR to close when a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast in their fire weather district. All school bus routes which travel in or through a district with Catastrophic fire danger must also be cancelled.

When will our school be closed due to Catastrophic fire danger?

Closure of the school due to a forecast Catastrophic day will be confirmed on the day prior and we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day. Any information regarding potential or confirmed Catastrophic fire danger days will be communicated to you by Compass.

Once confirmed, the decision to close will not change, regardless of improvements in the weather forecast. This is to avoid confusion and help your family plan alternative care arrangements for your child. Please be aware that:

- No one will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Catastrophic day.
- Out-of-school-hours care will also be cancelled on these days.
- All bus routes that travel through the Catastrophic area will be cancelled.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day is forecast for fire weather district in which the camp is located, or if the travel involves passing through areas that have Catastrophic fire danger.

Families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan on Catastrophic fire danger rating days. **On such days, children should never be left at home alone or in the care of older children.**

For those of us living in a bushfire prone area, the Country Fire Authority (CFA) advises that when Catastrophic days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Catastrophic day.

What can families and the school community do to help us prepare?

- Ensure we have your current details, including your mobile phone numbers.
- Make sure your family's bushfire survival plan is up-to-date and includes alternative care arrangements in the event that our school is closed due to elevated fire danger or closed due to a Catastrophic fire danger. Further information can be found on the CFA's website.
- Enact your family's bushfire survival plan if your own triggers are met. Our school community may be spread out across many areas and some families may be at higher risk than others. Your family's safety is critical, so please let us know if you are enacting your bushfire survival plan and if your children will be absent on these days.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.

You can find more information on emergencies, warnings and preparedness actions here:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)
- Website <https://www.emergency.vic.gov.au>
- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>
- Twitter <https://www.twitter.com/vicemergency>
- ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters



Bright Mini Golf

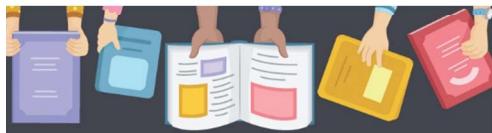


18 hole course
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Contact Us:
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ALPINE
BUILDING PERMITS

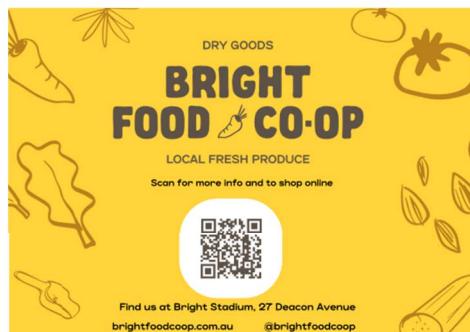
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- ✓ Bushfire management advice, reports
- ✓ Servicing Victoria and New South Wales
- ✓ Regulatory building advice
- ✓ Fire and life safety reports
- ✓ Owner builder advice and permits



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Accommodation



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ALPiNE ENERGY INDOOR CLIMBiNG



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