

18 February 2026 - Issue 2

# Bright P-12 College Newsletter

## 2026 SCHOOL CAPTAINS

We are proud to announce our School Captains for 2026. Congratulations to Elsie, Jemma, Grace, Lily, Theo and Davina!



## SNOW PROGRAMS INFORMATION NIGHT

At Bright P-12 College, we offer two snow programs, the Bright College Snowsports Team (BCST) 10-day program and the Go To The Snow (GTTS) 5-day program. New families to the College or those interested in participating in a snow program for the first time are invited to attend the Snow Program Information Evening. Monday 2nd March 6pm in the College Library. For more information, please see Compass.



Ph: 03 5755 1166  
E: [bright.p12@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:bright.p12@education.vic.gov.au)  
[www.brightp12.vic.edu.au](http://www.brightp12.vic.edu.au)

Official  
Facebook  
page





## Principal's Message

Dear students, parents and carers,

We are well and truly underway for the term, and I am very pleased to share that it has been a positive, purposeful and energetic start for our Primary and Secondary students. Classrooms are settled, routines are embedded, and there is a strong tone of engagement and optimism throughout the school. A huge thank you Mat Gray and the team for filling in for me last week while I was on leave.

As always, our focus remains on wellbeing and learning as equal partners. When students feel safe, connected and confident, their learning flourishes. It has been wonderful to see our students embracing both their academic work and the broader opportunities that make our school such a vibrant place to learn.

This week, we welcome students and staff from our sister school in Bad Aibling, Germany, to join our long term exchange students already here. Our partnership spans many years and has become an important part of the cultural and educational fabric of Bright P-12 College. Exchange programs such as this build far more than language skills — they foster global understanding, intercultural respect, independence and lifelong friendships. Hosting students provides a wonderful opportunity for our community to demonstrate warmth and hospitality, while our own students benefit from authentic cultural exchange experiences.

Later in the year, a group of our students will travel to Germany to continue strengthening this valued partnership. We thank the families who are hosting and the staff who have worked hard behind the scenes to make this visit possible. An incredible opportunity for our students.

On Wednesday 18th February we conducted our first Shelter in Place drill for the year. These drills are an important part of our emergency preparedness processes and are conducted in line with Department of Education requirements. The purpose is to familiarise students and staff with procedures in a calm and structured way, so that everyone knows what to do should a real emergency occur. Students

will be guided carefully by staff throughout the process. We approach these drills in a reassuring and age-appropriate manner, reinforcing that practice builds confidence and safety.

Our Year 5 and 6 students will be participating in the annual Apex Walk, a much-loved local tradition that promotes resilience, teamwork and community spirit. Outdoor education experiences such as this build confidence, perseverance and peer connection — all important elements of both wellbeing and learning. We thank staff and volunteers who support these programs and ensure they run safely and successfully.

As we continue through the term, there will be many more opportunities for celebration, connection and growth. Thank you for the trust you place in us and for working alongside us to ensure Bright P-12 College remains a place where both wellbeing and learning thrive side by side.

Jean Olley - Principal

## COLLEGE CALENDAR

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

### FEBRUARY

17 FEB-9 MAR	German short-term exchange students to Bright
18 FEB	No school for Prep students
19-20 FEB	Yr 9&10 White Card course
19 FEB	O&M senior cricket
20 FEB	Yr 5&6 Apex walk
23&24 FEB	Yr 10 Outdoor Ed kayak training, Ovens River
25 FEB	No school for Prep students
25 FEB	Secondary O&M swimming, Wodonga
26-27 FEB	Yr 10 Outdoor Ed overnight kayak trip, Goulburn River

### MARCH

2 MAR	Secondary Swimming Carnival
3-6 MAR	Yr 7 Camp, Coolamatong
3 MAR	Yr 9 Outdoor Ed kayak training, Ovens River
4 MAR	Primary O&M swimming, Wangaratta

**NEXT PUPIL FREE DAY: Wednesday 29th April**

**SCHOOL PHOTOS: Thursday 30th April**

# Yr 5/6 SUSTAINABILITY

Our Year 5 and 6 students explored the school garden and hydroponics area, inspecting the summer vegetables and fruits planted in 2025. The hydroponic tomatoes are now climbing close to the roof of the shed, while the spinach has been thriving in the cooler, shaded conditions inside.

Students learned about photosynthesis, LED lighting and how high temperatures can negatively impact some crops while others continue to flourish. They also enjoyed tasting fresh produce including blueberries, beans and a variety of cucumbers. Students were introduced to purslane, often considered a weed, but in fact a highly nutritious herb rich in omega 3 fatty acids, vitamins A, C and E, with anti-inflammatory benefits.



# LUNCHTIME IN THE LIBRARY



Our school library is a hive of activity at lunchtime!

Primary students have the option of reading, colouring-in, or playing board games.



## Yr 12 MEDIA

Year 12 Media students have been working on their first folio reflections. They spent the school holidays researching and developing their ideas for their final products. These students are in the process of providing feedback to their peers to help them develop their product ideas.

Students will spend 9 months making one final product. This could be a film, magazine, animation, photography series or any other type of media.



# Yr 7 SCIENCE

Year 7 students experienced using bunsen burners for the first time recently. Students learnt about how to use bunsen burners safely and all received their 'Bunsen Burner Licence'.



## VCE STUDY OPTIONS AT SCHOOL

During Term 1, we are running study sessions before, during and after school for students in Years 10-12.

### Monday - Friday before school (from 8am)

- VCE Study Centre for Year 12 students
- Room 23 for Year 11 and 10 students

### Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (lunchtimes)

- Room 23 for Year 10-12 students

### After school Tuesday - Thursday

- VCE Study Centre and Room 23 for students in Years 10-12. Students, please check in with Ms Farmer at 3:25pm so we know you are on site. Students must depart school by 4:30pm.

# PRIMARY SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Always a highlight of our calendar and what a perfect day to hold our annual Swimming Carnival! Thank you to all staff, students and families for understanding and making the second attempt amazing. With a least 80% of the Year 3 - 6 students attending, the day ran without a hitch with great participation across all age groups and events. It was lovely to have students and staff from Wandiligong and Harrierville Primary Schools join in the fun.

## Age Group Champions

P9 Riley D & Nicholas H  
P10 Aisha S & Edward H  
P11 Addison D & Harvey H  
P12 Davina H & Murphy T

## House Results

1st Ovens 670 pts  
2nd Kiewa 664.5 pts  
3rd Buckland 510 pts

We have a team of 16 students who will head to regional Swimming on Wednesday 4th of March. We wish them all the best of luck.



# Yr 9 FOOD

Year 9 students were reintroduced to Food Technology classes in Week 1 by undertaking home made pizza. This task required students to demonstrate a number of key skills; including weighing and measuring, cutting and grating. Whilst all students had common ingredients to complete this task, the end results varied considerably. This term all students will undertake a variety of recipes from around the world and be encouraged to use ingredients that are in season.

We are looking forward to further culinary success over the coming weeks.



## PHONE COUNSELLING SERVICE



High school can be a stressful time for students.

Funded by the Victorian Department of Education, our school has partnered with headspace Regional Phone Counselling Service to offer free phone or video counselling sessions for our students during school hours.

Once referred to the program, your young person can step away from class at a set appointment time to speak to a headspace counsellor in a safe and confidential environment.

We encourage you to have an open discussion with your young person if they are having a tough time and help them access this free headspace service.

For more information, reach out to your young person's teacher or Year Level Co-ordinator.

# 2026 GERMAN EXCHANGE PROGRAM

This Term, Bright P-12 College welcomes three students from our German sister school, the Wirtschaftsschule Alpenland in Bad Aibling, Bavaria. These students will spend all of Term 1 living with a host family and attending Year 10. Their exchange program has a strong focus on improving language skills and experiencing 'everyday Australian life'. Later in the year, the Australian host partners will complete the exchange and travel to Germany for all of Term 4.



*"Hello, I'm Jonas K and I come from Germany. My host partner is Edwin W. I'm really enjoying it here and have had a lot of fun so far. I have tried Tim Tams and I like them. In the holidays we went to Omeo and saw kangaroos, wombats and many other animals. I would like to try kangaroo meat. Coming on exchange was the best decision I have ever made."*

*"Hello, my name is David S and I'm 14 years old and I am on the Long Term exchange program. In Germany, I live with my family and attend the Wirtschaftsschule Alpenland. My host partner is Jasper G. My hobbies are tennis and playing the trumpet. Since arriving I have seen kangaroos two times. They look very nice and jump very funny."*

*"Hi, my name is Lena E, I am 14 years old. And I am a German Exchange student. Right now I live with my host family. My host partner is Patrick D. I come from Raubling, that's in the south part of Bavaria. My hobbies are dancing and I am in a traditional costume dance club. I also love hanging out with my friends and listening to music. In Germany I am in Year 9 but here I am in Year 10. My host family and I already visited Mount Buffalo. It is really beautiful up there, on some weekends we also go to a river and swim in it. I am looking forward to learning more English and seeing more of the town and traditions of Australia."*

## Yr 10 WOODWORK



Students are working through the early stages of their Cape Cod Chair manufacture.

While they've had the option to use templates to help with accuracy and consistency, many students have been opting for their own creative and innovative designs which has been great to see.



# 2026 MUSICAL INSTRUMENT LESSONS

We are very fortunate at Bright P-12 College to offer an extensive instrumental music program for our students. Tuition is available on a wide range of instruments, including piano, guitar, drums, bass guitar, ukulele, flute and recorder.

Learning a musical instrument has been shown to provide many academic, personal and social benefits for children. Students who participate in instrumental lessons are encouraged to perform regularly at school concerts and, where possible, at community events. The recommended age to commence instrumental lessons is from Year 3 and above. We are supported by several highly skilled and experienced instrumental teachers. Families are asked to contact their preferred teacher directly using the contact details supplied below. Instrumental teachers will discuss lesson costs and any required materials directly with families. Lesson times will be organised in consultation with the student's classroom teacher, the music coordinator and deputy principal(s), as required, to minimise disruption to learning. For full information, please refer to Compass.



Hi, I'm Effy, the new music teacher at Bright P-12 College. I have been teaching piano since 2022. I hold a Bachelor of Music from the Elder Conservatorium of Music at the University of Adelaide and a Master of Teaching from Monash University. I am an experienced piano teacher specialising in the Piano Adventures and Bastien teaching methods, and I have successfully guided many students through AMEB examinations. I teach students from beginner to professional level, tailoring lessons to individual learning styles and helping students develop strong technique, musicality, and performance confidence. I am passionate about supporting students to enjoy music while achieving their personal goals.

Instrument: piano (Secondary students). Available Wed & Thurs afternoons. Contact Effy via Bright P-12 College.

Hi, my name is Carter Dines. I have a Diploma of Music Production from JMC Academy. I have been teaching drums, guitar and bass for a combined 2-3 years privately, and have taught at Wodonga Middle Years College. I am confident in teaching drum students of any level, and guitar/ bass to an intermediate - advanced level. I have played a number of gigs with Tim Henwood, a well known figure in Australian music, and I have also played 5 gigs with Ella Fence, a popular musician from QLD.

Instruments: guitar, bass guitar, drum kit. Available Mon & Wed. Contact 0494085276



Vikki Dornom has an extensive background in music, studying flute her entire schooling years, and since, learning a number of other instruments. She is currently gigging around the area and is keen to impart some of her musical knowledge with the students at Bright. Private lessons are currently on offer for flute (Year 3 & above), recorder and ukulele (any age) and are designed to create a passion for music and instruments including reading music, understanding rhythms, ear training and improvisation.

Instruments: flute, recorder, ukulele. Available Fridays from 10:30am. Contact 0401740051

Emili Rackemann is a piano and flute teacher at Bright P-12 College. She studied a Bachelor of Music at the Queensland Conservatorium of Music and has released seven albums of original classical contemporary compositions. Emili teaches both classical and contemporary piano and flute from beginner level to AMEB Grade 8 in both practical and theory. Music composition classes are also available from Grade 3 AMEB.

Instruments: piano, flute. Contact 0402509873



John McMahon is a professional drummer trained extensively by Peter Blick (Billy Hyde's drum clinic Flemington). He has extensive live industry experience playing with well known cover and original bands including Brian Manix (Uncanny X Men) & Strictly Ram. He played for the Broadford Rock Festival in the mid 80's as a support band for Rose Tattoo, The Angels, Chain, Sky Hooks. His most recent work is with The Cranky Spanners (Rock and Blues band Albury) and the local band The Loose Baboons. He has extensive experience teaching the drums at his own studios in Melbourne, and at the Blue Note School of Music in Frankston.

Instruments: drum kit. Contact 0419035754

# Yr 12 CHEMISTRY

Year 12 Chemistry students completed their first SAC around energy of fuels. Throughout this Unit, students investigate thermodynamics and compare fuels quantitatively with reference to combustion products and energy outputs. This is extremely challenging in aspects, but rewarding problem solving skills are developed.



## COMMUNITY NOTICES

help!!

**I'm losing my socials!**

kids helpline  
anytime, any reason.

if you're under 16 and already have social media, you're in a difficult spot!

It sucks to have something and then get it taken away.

And it's totally normal to feel things like grief, anger, relief, confusion, and more.

It can help to treat it like grieving any loss - so feel those feelings

This is counsellor approved!

fact

**being on socials triggers dopamine, a feel-good chemical in the brain**

Doomscrolling rewards you with dopamine - which can make it addictive.

So let's find some other dopamine inducing activities!

**dopamine hacks to replace the social scroll**

**find your glimmers**  
those everyday moments that bring joy

**start a side quest**  
build LEGO, create a playlist, go for a ride, or start a book club

**get in the flow**  
try reading, gaming or sports to get you super absorbed like social did

**go down a rabbit hole**  
pick a topic and go deep - search fun facts, lists, why ghosts say 'boo'.

psst. we know this one - it's Latin for "I alarm [you]"

**or work on your irl**

**hangout in-person more**  
check out a local market, look up youth events in your area, or take up a new group activity

**hobbies aren't just trends**  
try something new - you may just unlock a new passion

**3 find your third places**  
find somewhere away from home and school where you can just exist - think parks, libraries and other spaces

**we get it - there will be workarounds**

So the most important message we want you to remember is...

You and your parents will **not** get in trouble if you find a way around the ban.

If something goes wrong - like deep fakes, sextortion, cyberbullying, or grooming - please report it.

Report it to the platform it happened on, to ACCCE or eSafety, and connect with Kids Helpline for support.

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## FREE AFL CLINIC

LEVEL THE FIELD

FRIDAY  
**27.02.26**  
4PM - 7PM

DANE SWAN | W.J FINDLAY OVAL | AIRLIE RUNNALLS

**LOVE FOOTY? DON'T MISS THIS!**

- FREE sports clinic for ages 12-18
- Get active, have fun, and connect with local sport
- Learn from AFL stars Dane Swan & Airlie Runnalls
- FREE sausage sizzle

REGISTRATION MORE INFORMATION

nesay.com.au | (03) 5720 2201



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

This event is funded by the Victorian Government through the Amplify program. All children in the Creative Series are drug, alcohol, tobacco and vape free.

ALPINE SHIRE YOUTH PRESENTS THE FIRST EVER

## CREATIVES SERIES



ALPINE AMPLIFY YOUTH

## 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).

**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.

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

**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 podcast**

**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.

### 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

YOUTH ALPINE

## boostmobile AUSTRALIAN Meb Meets Schools

THE BEST WEEK OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

OPEN TO SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

ROCKSHOX DOWNHILL | FOX FLOW | MAXXIS CHALLENGE | SPECIALIZED ALL-MOUNTAIN

**MARCH 2-6 2026**  
**THREDBO MTB PARK**

REGISTER NOW! [thredbo.com.au/mtbmeetschools](https://thredbo.com.au/mtbmeetschools)

SPECIALIZED SPRINT | MAXXIS DEATH | FOX | STAGES



**Bright Mini Golf**



**18 hole course**  
**Group bookings welcome**  
**Fun for all!**

*Artisticat*  
**FANTASTIC ONLINE ART CLASSES**  
Brilliant artists and instructors take the classes in real-time on Zoom.  
Easy to organise - we make it simple for you.  
**FIRST CLASS FREE!**  
**LIMITED PLACES! BOOK NOW!**  
To book go to [www.artisticat.com.au](http://www.artisticat.com.au)



**BRIGHT'S ACTIVITIES, NOVELTIES & GAMES**  
Quality Educational Games, Toys, Puzzles & Lego  
Best-selling Board, Travel & Card Games  
ph 0448 225 482 | 12b Bernard Street, Bright

**D|R|E** **DICKENS**  
real estate

*PAIR BEARS™*



*"From the elegant - to the Unique!"*  
Costume Jewellery [www.pairbears.com.au](http://www.pairbears.com.au)

**ALPINE SHINKYOKUSHIN KARATE**  
Self defence - Discipline - Fun  
For all fitness levels, ages 6 and up

Classes:  
Monday (Myrtleford Dojo)  
Tuesday (Tarrawingee or Wandiligong Dojo)  
Thursday (Porepunkah Dojo)



Contact Us:  
Shihan Geoff Miller  
0417 030 191 or  
Sensei Sue Textler  
0421 562 248

Weblinks:  
[www.alpinedojo.com](http://www.alpinedojo.com)  
email: [alpinedojo@gmail.com](mailto:alpinedojo@gmail.com)  
facebook: [AlpineShinkyokushinKarateDojo](https://www.facebook.com/AlpineShinkyokushinKarateDojo)



**Alpine Building Permits & Consultants**  
Building Permits & Building Inspections

Call the team: (03) 5755 1589  
Email: [info@alpinebuildingpermits.com.au](mailto:info@alpinebuildingpermits.com.au)  
9:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday to Friday  
Shop 5/1 Ireland Street, Bright

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



*Visit Bright library*

Explore our weekly kids' activities, books, games and more at Bright Library!

**Story Time & Craft**  
10.30am Thursdays  
excl. school holidays

**Baby Rhyme Time**  
10am Fridays  
excl. school holidays

**PLUS** range of FREE school holiday activities for everyone to enjoy.

Follow [@alpinelibraries](https://www.facebook.com/alpinelibraries) on Facebook and Instagram for updates on programs and events for all ages.

**ALPINE** SHIRE COUNCIL  
14 Ireland Street, Bright  
(03) 5755 1540



**BRIGHT HOLIDAY**  
*Accommodation*

DRY GOODS

**BRIGHT FOOD CO-OP**

LOCAL FRESH PRODUCE

Scan for more info and to shop online



Find us at Bright Stadium, 27 Deacon Avenue  
[brightfoodcoop.com.au](http://brightfoodcoop.com.au) @brightfoodcoop

**ALPINE ENERGY INDOOR CLIMBING**



**ASK US ABOUT YOUTH SQUAD**

**BUFFALO BOULDERS**

0415 962 296

