

8 February 2022
Issue 1

Bright P-12 College Newsletter

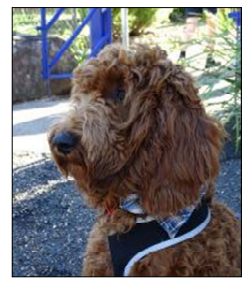
WELCOME!



Principal Jean Olley and Frankie our Wellbeing dog welcomed students to school in the first week of Term 1.

It has been an eventful first few days at Bright P-12 College as we welcomed back continuing students and welcomed to the College many new students, including our Preps and Year 7s. The students have quickly settled into the rhythms of our teaching & learning programs and are showing a respect and pride for their College and peers. It has been a great start to the year. A huge thank you parents for supporting your local school.

We noticed now much Frankie had grown over the summer holidays and marvelled at the fact that she seems to be even more calm than last year... if that's possible!



Frankie will be spending time with classes from Prep to Year 12 in 2022 as she continues her work supporting our students.

PREPS FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

We welcomed 23 (22 in this photo) new Prep students to Bright P-12 College this year.

They've had their first specialist classes - Art, Music and Japanese.

They have settled in beautifully and are enjoying school.



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Principal's Message

Dear Students, Parents, Guardians and Carers,

Welcome back! And a very warm welcome to our new families and staff members. I hope everyone had a restful break. As I've spoken to staff over the past few days, I have found a common theme: we all took the time to rest (some may even have suggested 'recover'!) from last year and are now ready to tackle all the challenges and opportunities that 2022 will inevitably bring.

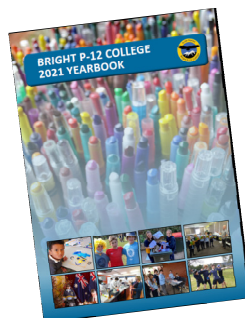
Looking through this newsletter, many of the articles are from things that happened at the end of the last school year, as they are worth celebrating, albeit belatedly. Rest assured, there are already many, many exciting things happening at Bright P-12 College in 2022.

One important cause for celebration is the fantastic VCE exam results. The students of Bright P-12 College are to be congratulated for completing the final two years of their schooling under much duress. The various journeys undertaken now include tertiary study, apprenticeships, and work in Bright and further afield.

Our students had a 100% satisfactory VCE completion, a median study score of 28, an average ATAR of close to 70, several study scores of 40 and above, and one student achieved their VCE (Baccalaureate).

Well done to our wonderful students of the graduating class of 2021.

As we launch ourselves head-first into 2022, I would like to congratulate staff and students on your demonstration of our school values. You have shown tremendous dedication to the values of Respect, Effort and Collaboration which are the cornerstone of everything we do here at Bright P-12 College. When we take the opportunity to demonstrate our values, our school truly is an inspiring place.



And finally, a last reminder to get your order for the 2021 Yearbook in before we get them printed. They cost \$20 and can be ordered by phoning or emailing the front office.

Jean Olley - Principal

NOTE: ALL CALENDAR EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO COVID-19 GUIDELINES. PLEASE CHECK COMPASS FOR MOST UP-TO-DATE ADVICE

COLLEGE CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| 10 FEB | Secondary House Swimming Carnival |
| 11 FEB | Primary House Swimming Carnival |
| 21 FEB | O&M Senior Cricket |
| 23 FEB | Primary O&M Swimming Carnival |

MARCH

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 14 MAR | LABOUR DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY |
| 15-18 MAR | Yr7 Coolamatong Camp |
| 15-23 MAR | Yr5/6 Somers Camp |
| 21 MAR | SCHOOL PHOTO DAY |
| 28 MAR - 1 APR | Yr10 Work Experience |

CANTEEN UPDATE

Our Term 1 Canteen menu was sent out to parents via Compass on Tuesday last week, and is also available to view on the Bright P-12 College website here <http://www.brightp12.vic.edu.au/images/misc/CanteenMenu.pdf>

This term, our popular lunch boxes include butter chicken with rice and a pasta option which comes with garlic bread. For fun, we have a range of frozen treats including icy poles and zooper doopers.

Please note, our Canteen menu is subject to change as supermarket shelves don't always feature our first choice.

Also, we are looking for a new Canteen Assistant. To request a job description, please email bright.p12@education.vic.gov.au

Applications close 18 February.

COVID MEASURES

The Victorian Government has announced some new measures across all Victorian schools.

Free rapid antigen tests. Free rapid antigen tests are available for the first 4 weeks of Term 1 2022.

Vaccination requirements. Parents and carers must have had two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine or have a valid medical exception (with limited exceptions) to enter school buildings. All staff working in schools need to be fully vaccinated or have a verified medical exception. COVID-19 vaccinations for students are not required for them to attend school but vaccination for students is highly encouraged. For more information, visit <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-information-children-and-teenagers>

Ventilation. Classrooms are well ventilated by keeping windows and doors open. We have received air purifiers, which are being used around the school as an added safety measure.

Vital COVIDSafe steps. Hand hygiene, mask wearing, and social distancing will continue wherever possible in Term 1.

Staffing our school. I know many of you will have questions about what happens if your child's teacher gets COVID-19. We will be able to bring in extra teachers and other staff if we need them, and we will be doing everything that we can to make sure our school stays safe and open.

NEW STAFF

Hi, I'm Marcus Richards. After working in both state and private schools in Melbourne for the past 40 years at Buckley Park SC and Melbourne Grammar School, I eventually achieved my aim to retire to Bright with my wife. However, my passion for teaching Maths and Chemistry is still in me and I have returned to teaching at Bright P-12 College on a part time basis with Year 12 and Year 10 Maths classes.

When not working, my main interests centre around most sports, but especially cricket and football, although it is only as a spectator these days. I am looking forward to helping students create a pathway for their future and achieve their goals.



Hi, my name is Miss Lee, I am one of the new science teachers for year 7 and 8. I am new to teaching, having completed my Master of Teaching over the past 2 years.

Prior to teaching I have been working as a veterinarian for 14 years and will continue to do this one day a week in Myrtleford.

Outside of work I am into trail running, mountain bike riding, snow sports and looking after my two cats, Carlos and Chile.

My name is Peter Gargiulo and I have come from Parkdale SC where I lived near the beach, I was Year 12 Coordinator and teaching Maths / Science.

I will be teaching Maths and Science as well as being the Year 9 coordinator at Bright.

I started working as an Exploration Geologist in the 90's in WA looking for Gold.

I kayak and bike for exercise, I have coached kayakers to an international level.

I play guitar and started making guitars in my spare time during the Melbourne lockdowns.



Hello Bright P-12 College. My name is Renee Tanaskovic and this year I am teaching Grade 6.

I have just moved to the area from Woodend where I was working at Braemar College. I have brought my husband, two kids and dog with me. We enjoy everything 'outdoorsy' and are taking advantage of the beautiful environment that surrounds us.

This year I am really looking forward to sharing the final the year of primary school with my grade 6 class and helping them grow into the best kids they can be.

YEAR 7 CAMP

Camp Coolamatong was an absolute success! We spent four days on the edge of Lake Victoria in Gippsland together. The camp activities included Stand Up Paddleboarding, canoeing, playing Foxholes on 90 Mile Beach, sea kayaking, and generally having a blast! A really positive way to round out 2021 – with Year 7 and the transition to secondary school being such a milestone for students.

On their return, students reflected on their camp experience in English class, focusing on what they had learnt about themselves and others. Their reflections really highlight the value of camps and excursions for our young people. Thank you to the teachers and students who made the camp one to remember.



“The adventure race was full of different activities, E.g kayaking, rope climbing and bike riding. You go in groups of 3 and work together to conquer all the activities and score as many points as you can.

My group tried and had a go at every activity. Every activity had all of these involved... not giving up, learning, teamwork and helping.

Not giving up: *Giving up is easy to give into but on camp I tried not to give up. When things get hard people tend to want to give up but in life we have to learn not to. There were a lot of things at camp that were out of my comfort zone but I still had a crack and did not give up.*

Learning: *Learning is a very important thing in life. If we did not learn, the world would be so simple and boring. At camp I learnt a lot of new things and a lot of life skills, like bush cooking and kayaking.*

Teamwork: *At camp teamwork was in every activity we did. Working with others brings more minds and more ideas. I found out at camp that I work better with people than by myself.*

Helping: *Helping others brings joy to me. Even the smallest things make someone else's day so much better. At camp helping was a big theme. We all had to help and work together to build our raft. Even though it fell apart before it got in the water! It is the effort that matters.*

Camp Coolamatong was such a great experience.” By Luca

PEER COACHING

Throughout Term 3 and also into Term 4 last year, the Year 9 Physical Education class completed a peer teaching unit whereby all students were responsible for teaching a chosen sport to their peers. The students worked in pairs to plan and deliver their sport unit. The unit is designed to develop organisational, planning and management skills in a practical setting and also give the students some ownership of their learning. All these skills will be needed by the students as they eventually transition from a school setting into the workplace. With weekly critique on each delivery, every new pair continued to learn from the errors of their peers and improve each week to produce some outstanding classes. A good variety of sports were covered in the unit including Basketball, Football, Tee-Ball, Indoor Hockey, Handball and Dance.



GERMAN & JAPANESE BRUNCHES



As a recognition of all the students' achievements, at the end of last year, all German and Japanese classes in Years 7-9 celebrated with a small meal. The German students enjoyed a traditional Frühstück, which consisted of bread, meats and spreads. The Japanese students had sushi and some Japanese snacks. The languages Department are looking forward to more celebrations and cultural festivities with all the students this year.



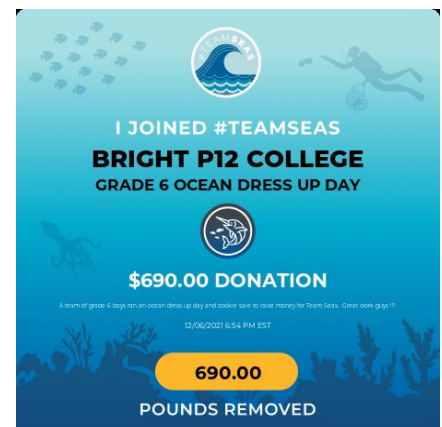
ENVIRONMENT FUNDRAISING

In Term 4, a group of Year 6 students; Cash, Harry, Isaac, Lachie, Leonard and Noah organised a fundraiser for TeamSeas through a dress up day and selling cookies.

TeamSeas is a global campaign to clean up our oceans, beaches and rivers, using robots and volunteer beach clean-up days.

Overall, our students raised USD690 (approximately AUD\$1,030) and removed 690 pounds of trash from our oceans. An amazing effort! Thank you to primary students for their amazing effort and creativity with their ocean-themed costumes. Also, a huge thank you to Harry's parents Tabatha and Luke for donating the ingredients for the cookies; Mrs Mapley & the Year 11 Hospitality students for helping with the cooking; the Front Office staff for helping with the organisation and teachers for supporting the students to leave class to prepare for the event.

Well done! You have shown us all what we can do when we put our efforts towards a worthy cause.



YEAR 8 SCIENCE

In the last few weeks of Term 4, Year 8 science students learnt about The Earth and its rocks. We looked at the structure of the earth's crust, how rocks are formed as well as looking at the rock cycle. As part of this process, igneous rock formed from lava plays a pivotal role in the formation of volcanoes. So what better way to finish off the school year than to recreate three different volcanic eruptions in science where each eruption brought forth a visual display of volcanic eruptions in motion.



SECONDARY ACTIVITIES WEEK

On the last Wednesday of Term 4, students participated in The Amazing Race in the morning and heading into town for a picnic lunch and an ice-cream in the afternoon. In groups, students competed in The Amazing Race mini games such as darts, rock stacking, croquet, picture puzzles, water carrying and corn hole. Congratulations to the 'Crocodiles' from year 7 on their overall win!



YEAR 9 DANCE

In Term 4 last year, our year PE classes have been working closely with Bethany from our Wellbeing team to create an epic Hip-Hop dance routine and group vs group Dance-Off. Bethany worked closely with two different mixed groups to choreograph the two routines which were performed in a "Dance Battle". While many students were apprehensive to begin with, the smiles and enjoyment of performing on the day was clearly evident and a rewarding turn-around from the nervous behaviours of a week ago.

Well done to all the year 9s who participated and a massive thanks to Bethany for choreographing and teaching these routines!



YEAR 6 vs STAFF DODGEBALL



On the last day of last term, Year 6 students challenged teachers to a 'friendly' game of dodgeball.

The staff happily accepted the offer! Our competitive spirit was strong, boosted by shouts of encouragement from the primary students.

The result? Staff conceded defeat to the Year 6 champions.



YEAR 6 GRADUATION

In the last week of Term 4, we held the Year 6 Graduation ceremony and dinner. It was a wonderful event for our Year 6 students, parents and teachers and one made all the more special as we have missed so many celebration events over the last couple of years. The Year 6 students were amazing. They all spoke with confidence and assurance and their speeches were thoughtful and personal. A huge thank you to all the teachers who helped to make this event happen.



Bushfire At-Risk Register - Schools

School procedures for the bushfire season

Fire danger ratings and warnings are used in Victoria to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life.

Schools and children's services listed on the DET Bushfire At-Risk Register (BARR) will be closed when a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined in their Bureau of Meteorology district. **Our school has been identified as being one of those at high bushfire risk and is listed on the BARR.**



Where possible, we will provide parents with up to four days notice of a potential Code Red day closure by letter and Compass Notification. A Code Red day will be determined by the Emergency Management Commissioner no later than 1.00 pm the day before the potential closure. Once we are advised of the confirmation of the Code Red day we will provide you with advice before the end of the school day.

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. It is also important to note that:

- No staff will be on site on days where the school is closed due to a forecast Code Red day.
- School camps will be cancelled if a Code Red fire danger rating day is determined for the Bureau of Meteorology district in which the camp is located.
- As a bus co-ordinating school all bus routes will be cancelled.

On these Code Red days families are encouraged to enact their Bushfire Survival Plan – **on such days children should never be left at home 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 Code Red days are forecast, the safest option is to leave the night before or early on the morning of the Code Red day.

As part of preparing our school for potential hazards such as fire, we have updated and completed our Emergency Management Plan, reprioritised any maintenance works that may assist in preparing for the threat of fire and cleared our facility's grounds and gutters.

What can parents do?

- 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.
- Ensure we have your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. Keep in touch with us by reading our newsletters, by checking Compass and by talking to your child's teacher or any other member of the teaching staff about our emergency management plan.
- Most importantly at this time of year, if you're planning a holiday or short stay in the bush or in a coastal area, you should check warnings in advance of travel and remain vigilant during your stay.
- If your child is old enough, talk to them about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan.
- You can access more information about children's services closures on the Department of Education and Training web-site – see <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/health/pages/closures.aspx>

Multiple sources that offer information on emergencies are listed below:

- VicEmergency app – that can be downloaded on your android and iOS mobile devices
- VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226)

COMMUNITY NOTICES



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

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 background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

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

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

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid 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:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit
www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Or contact Jenni Sgambelloni in the College Office.

5755 1166 or jennifer.sgambelloni@education.vic.gov.au

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2020, you do not need to complete an application form in 2021 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 in 2021 or you did not apply in 2020.
- changed family circumstances; such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2021.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



2022 - \$1000.00 Bursary available

Applications for the Bursary (Allan J Findlay Memorial Bursary) of \$1000 has now opened to students in Years 9 to 12 levels to support them with financial assistance to reach their goals and/or further their studies.

The successful applicant will direct the bursary toward goals and ideas which may include elements of:

- Personal growth for the applicant
- Benefits for the wider community
- Activities/experiences not usually available in the local area which will have a positive impact on the local community
- Definitive demonstration of community involvement

If you have any questions about this wonderful opportunity, please contact
jennifer.sgambelloni@education.vic.gov.au

STATE SCHOOLS' RELIEF - 2022 Year 7 CSEF Uniform Package

Applications will be accepted from the beginning of Term 4, 2021.

Introduction to Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund

Through government funding the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) was established to provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports days and excursions. To find out more, or to apply for assistance, go to <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx> or contact Jenni in the Bright P-12 Office: jennifer.sgambelloni@education.vic.gov.au

State Schools' Relief provides packages to families eligible to receive this funding.

2022 Year 7 Uniform Package for CSEF recipients

Year 7 students for 2022 that are recipients of the Camps, Sports and Excursion Fund (CSEF) automatically qualify for the uniform package and/or vouchers.

What's in the package?

The 2022 package contains the following items:

1 x Polo Top or Shirt

1 x Trousers / Pants or Shorts or Summer Dress

1 x Pair of Shoes (Lace Ups or T-Bars or Sneakers)

Please note:

- PE items are not included as part of this package
- Shoes must be requested in UK sizes. The SSR shoe size conversion chart is available on our website [or contact Jenni in the Bright P-12 Office.](#)

Cost to families

Where State Schools' Relief cannot supply uniform items directly, you will receive a voucher that subsidises the cost of the uniform items. The voucher can be redeemed at your child's school uniform shop, or independent uniform retailer, which will be listed on the voucher.

Families receiving vouchers *may be required to make a co-contribution payment* towards the cost of the uniform items.

The amount required to cover the gap will depend on the retail purchase price and the State Schools' Relief subsidy. The voucher provided by State Schools' Relief lists each approved item, and the maximum purchase value, that State Schools' Relief will cover. Check your school's uniform price list to work out how much extra you may need to contribute towards the uniform item. **Please note** vouchers do have an expiry date and must be redeemed before the expiry date.

How do I apply for the CSEF Uniform Package?

Applications are made through your child's school (jennifer.sgambelloni@education.vic.gov.au) . Please refrain from contacting State Schools' Relief directly as staff are unable to accept applications from parents/families or carers. Should you have any questions, or wish to apply for assistance, please speak with the representative at your child's 2022 school.

How do I receive the uniform package?

- All items and/or vouchers provided by SSR will be delivered directly to your child's school. The school will then contact you to arrange handover of these items and/or vouchers.
- The voucher will advise whether you collect items from the school uniform shop or a retailer. If it's a retailer, please check with your school to find out the nearest store.
- If a uniform item costs more than the maximum subsidised amount, State Schools' Relief is unable to cover any further cost.
- If a uniform item costs less than the maximum subsidised amount, the difference cannot be redeemed or transferred to an alternate uniform item.

Please note vouchers are not transferable and cannot be exchanged for cash; they cannot be used to purchase extra items and only the uniform item listed can be purchased with the voucher. State Schools' Relief does not make cash payments to schools or parents.

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