

17th November, 2020. Issue 16

# Bright P-12 College Newsletter

## Christmas Cheer for the End of the Year!!



On Friday 27th November our Year 11 students had their last day of school for 2020. To make it an extra special day the college organised lunch for the students and teachers supplied by Suganya's of Bright.

The Secondary SRC arranged for the secondary students to have a casual dress day, the theme being Christmas. \$145.00 was raised on the day and went to Anglicare's Toy & Food Drive.



### COLLEGE CALENDAR

#### DECEMBER 2020

Fri 11 DEC - Years 3 & 4 Sports Day.  
 " " Last day of classed for Year 7-9 students.  
 MON 14 DEC—FRI 18 DEC - Secondary Activities Week.  
 WED 16 DEC - Primary Awards 2.00pm—3.00pm.  
 THUR 17 DEC— Secondary Awards 10.00am—11.00am.  
 FRI 18 DEC— LAST DAY OF TERM 4—1.30PM FINISH.

FRI 18 DEC - Year 6 Graduation Presentation 10.00am—11.00am.

#### JANUARY 2021

MON 25 JAN— Uniform Shop OPEN 8.30am—1.00pm.  
 " " - Book Collection Day—General Office 8.30am—4.00pm.  
 WED 27 JAN— Staff return for Term 1  
 THUR 28 JAN - Students return for Term 1



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## Principal's Message

This year has been extraordinary!

It has been a year of highs and lows, of change and the routine and of chaos and calm. A year we will never forget. A year that will be highlighted in our history. A year our students, parents and teachers have nearly completed. This alone is a huge achievement and one we can be very proud of.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their efforts during the year, whether remotely or onsite, in supporting the work of the College.

We have learned just how important schools and teachers are

in the lives of their students but also within the community. We have learned just how important parental involvement with your children is and just how valuable our parents are when given the opportunity and support. We have learned just how resilient, flexible and independent our young people are and how amazing they can be when they have the opportunity to engage actively in their education and school. We have learned just how important wellbeing is to the individual, group and community and how we can support each other through even the toughest times. We have learned just how quickly we can implement important changes when we have the collective will.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Jean Olley—Principal.*

# End of Year Secondary Awards Ceremony



# End of Year Secondary Awards Ceremony



On Wednesday the 16th December and Thursday the 17th December the college held the Primary and Secondary end of year award ceremonies. Thank you to Tony Brooks for setting up the live streaming so families could join in on the occasion.

Congratulations to all of our students who achieved awards of excellence for 2020 and also to each and everyone of our students who got through a difficult learning year. A list of award recipients is included in this issue of the newsletter.

# Secondary Award Recipients

<b>Subject</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>For Highest academic achievement over all their subjects</b>
Year 7 English Dux	Freya Whyte	Nic Carey	Jimmy Sides	
Year 8 English Dux	Alison Ciolli	Kira Mack	Liam Williamson	
Year 9 English Dux	Nick Paternotte	Morgan Jones	Alex Freeman	
Year 10 English Dux	Jaslyn Brandon	Declan Baker	Lily Wearne	
Year 7 Humanities Dux	Taylor Atherston	Freya White	Jimmy Sides	
Year 8 Humanities Dux	Alison Ciolli	Kira Mack	Lily Spencer	
Year 9 Humanities Dux	Nick Paternotte	Morgan Jones	Jai Graham	
Year 10 Humanities Dux	Maisie Fillippi	Declan Baker	Jasper Burgess	
Year 7 Maths Dux	Sam Gough	Annika Spencer	Holly Harrison	
Year 8 Maths Dux	Alison Ciolli	Lily Spencer	Julian Baudry	
Year 9 Maths Dux	Morgan Jones	Sam Pepler	Nick Paternotte	
Year 10 Maths Dux	Kaleb Hoare	Jaslyn Brandon	=Aaron Scott&Kai Stavar	
Year 7 Science Dux	Freya Whyte	Jenna Stephens	Nick Carey	
Year 8 Science Dux	Kira Mack	Alison Ciolli	Krista Brandon	
Year 9 Science Dux	Morgan Jones	Nick Patenotte	Taya Harrison	
Year 10 Science Dux	Jaslyn Brandon	Kai Stavar	Leah Grant	
Year 7 Arts & Technology Dux	Sam Gough	Holly Harrison	Annika Spencer	
Year 8 Arts & Technology Dux	Alison Ciolli	Saskia Heupermann	Kira Mack	
Year 9 Arts & Technology Dux	Kirsten Williams	Zoe Ditcham	Rhye McCormack	
Year 10 Arts & Technology Dux	Tahlia Brain	Leah Grant	Kai Stavar	
Year 7 PE/Health Dux	Jenna Stephens	Andeline Bardsley-Smith	Freya Whyte	
Year 8 PE/Health Dux	Tui Morton	Alison Ciolli	Max Van Loon	
Year 9 PE/Health Dux	Sam Pepler	Owen Pywell	Morgan Jones	
Year 10 PE/Health Dux	Leah Grant	Aaron Scott	Tyler Barker	
Year 7 Japanese Dux	Jorja Byatt	Freya White	Rihan Karkaria	
Year 7 German Dux	Annika Spencer	Andeline Bardsley Smith	Nicholas Carey	
Year 8 German Dux	Kira Mack	Saskia Heuperman	Amelia Knott	
Year 8 Japanese Dux	Allison Ciolli	Krista Brandon	Tui Morton	
Year 9 Languages Dux	Nicholas Paternotte?	Maggy Taylor	Carys Gallagher	
Year 10 Languages Dux	Kai Stavar	Leah Grant	Aaron Scott	



**Assistant  
Principal's  
P-6 Report**

WOW!!! What an amazing year. Full of ups and downs and it has really tested the resilience of us all. To now be at the end of the year and reflecting upon the work and Primary area, we have certainly achieved a lot. If someone had of told me that we would be teaching students off-site, via video and google classroom for about 6 months, bringing students on site and then off-site, restructuring our yard times and play areas all within the 12 months, I probably would have said it couldn't be done. Not only have we achieved all of these things, we really have taken all of the challenges head on. The students should be so proud of their efforts this year. The teachers have done an amazing job in keeping students connected to their learning and peers and have embraced the technical challenges. Well done to the staff and students.

Although we have not been able to participate and host a lot of the 'extra-curricular' events this year, we have over the last week been able to do some things. The Year 3 and 4 Unit had our students from Wadeye come and give the classes a talk based on Indigenous culture and the importance of totem. The Year 5 and 6 students have had tennis last week and off for a bike ride this week. The Prep to Year 2 had a revised version of the sports day last week, which saw the House Captains hosting a range of activities with the classroom teacher on the oval.

This week we have the Primary Awards on Wednesday at 2pm. All the students will come together in the stadium and we will stream the event to parents. A link will come out on COMPASS for parents to view the ceremony.

On Friday morning we will be having our last event with our Year 6 students – a graduation breakfast provided by the school. Students will then give a short speech reflecting on their primary years and once again we will stream this event for parents with the link also coming out on COMPASS. We had their celebration dinner last week at the Deer Farm and it was a very enjoyable event.

Last week we hosted our Statewide Transition Day, which saw students attend their 2021 class for the day. The feedback from the students was amazing and something we will look at doing into the future. Our future Preps were on-site for their transition with both Tes and Kayla last week and we hosted a parent information session on Wednesday night.

We are into Activities Week this week, and students will participate in a range of art and craft activities within their classrooms.

Finally, I want to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and safe and happy New Year. I will be spending the first 6 months of 2021 working with Kiewa Valley Primary School in an Acting Principal role. Upon completion of this I will return to Bright P-12. Although excited about my new role, I am a tad sad to be saying a short goodbye to the students and

staff at Bright. I have been working at Bright for the past 14 years, and the school has supported me and my development for a long period of time. The skills I have learnt here, working with Jean and the staff over a long period of time, has enabled me to develop not just as a teacher but as a leader.

I will look forward to seeing you all Semester 2.

Wadeye students talk to Yrs 3 & 4.



Year 6s Graduation Night at Deer Farm.



Miss Harris showing next years Prep students around the College.

# Years 5 & 6 Mt Buffalo Walk

## 5/ 6s Go Walking Sky High

On Thursday 26th November, the Grade 5 & 6 students grabbed their first aid kits and water jugs and hopped onto the bus. The trip took a bit less than an hour to go up the winding road to Mount Buffalo. We parked next to the Mount Buffalo Chalet. All the students and teachers piled out of the bus as we began our journey on the rocky ground and tall forests towards Lake Catani. On arrival to the Lake, we stopped for a snack and views of the lake. The food smelled so good that some ducks decided to join, which caused many laughs and funny comments. We said goodbye to the ducks and continued our voyage to the start of the Chalwell Galleries walking track. We continued through the many magnificent climbs and boulders, witnessing spectacular views and encounters with animals. Soon enough we set foot on a path of boulders, forcing us to be

careful as we climbed through to what looked like the end of the track, leaving many kids stumped. But what we didn't notice was the tiny opening at the bottom of the wall of stone. We passed our bags to the people who were already below first so that we could fit through one by one. The hole led to an amazing ravine between the sides of the boulder cave. Using logs and metal ladders we cautiously climbed through the obstacles, showing the amazing things kids can do. The views on the other side of the ravine were indescribable with the blue skies and green trees towering over us. We then continued to hike through more of the caves and boulder gaps, as we bonded through helping each other. Our adventure soon came to an end as we took memorable photos and went home thinking about all the amazing things we had done that day.

By Jasmine Holt, 6 Gray.



# Years 5 & 6 Mt Buffalo Walk



## Ex-Students Success Story

Emma Buis grew up in Harrietville and completed her 13 years of schooling at Bright P.12 College, graduating in 2007. She was recently awarded "The Female Engineer of the Year" Award as part of the Association of Consulting Structural Engineers (ACSE) Annual Awards, a high accolade for the industry.

Emma shares her career pathway journey :-

*"I studied at Bright P-12 College, where I graduated with a maximum of 30 other year 12 students. This was a foreign concept to a lot of friends I met at University, who typically graduated with over 500 other year 12 students. From a young age, I had a strong interest in buildings. This is attributed to my dad who is a local builder. Growing up, my brothers and I were regularly on site. Whilst I wasn't trusted with the tools, I then had the time to build the appreciation and interest for how a building came together.*

*My eldest brother graduated 5 years before me and chose to study Civil Engineering. When I was entering into VCE, I chose subjects (such as Methods, Chemistry and Physics) to keep my opportunities for university open. At the end of Year 12, I briefly wanted to study Orthodontics. The preference system for university courses wasn't well explained, so I had nominated a list of health courses. First round offers came out, and I missed the minimum 95 enter score required for Dentistry by 5.5 points. Instead, I was offered podiatry. This shocked my system, as I didn't have an interest in people's feet.*

*In Year 12, we had a lecturer from Victoria University travel to Bright to promote their engineering degrees, specifically their Architectural Engineering Degree. The university had an interest in our school as two previous students (Paul Bunn and Kyle Buis) had studied civil engineering with them and had been quite successful. My best mate reminded me of that presentation following the first round offers, and suggested looking further into the Architectural Engineering Degree. After reading more about it, it made sense.*

*I had always had the love of structures from a young age, I liked the idea of a job that wasn't solely at a design and I liked the idea of building something.*

*I got into University in an unconventional way. I called the university coordinator directly (luckily having internal contacts through my brother) and told them my situation. They were able to send me out a course offer in the second round, even though their university and their courses were not in my preference list.*

*Fast forward 4 years, I graduated with a Bachelor of Architectural Engineering (majoring in Structural) with First Class Honours. I gained a graduate position with a local Melbourne firm, Wallbridge and Gilbert, where I worked for 6 years. I was given the opportunity to work on 3 major hospital developments in Eastern Melbourne, a large number of school projects and VU's Student Accommodation Building in Footscray. Coincidentally, it was Wallbridge and Gilbert*

*who had been the structural engineer for the Bright P.12 College upgrade in the early 2000's. Following that role, I moved to Sydney in 2018 where I joined TTW. The past 18 months, I have had the role of structural lead on the \$463 million Sydney Metro Pitt Street Station project, where I manage the team for the Southern Station Entrance.*

*I have been fortunate in my career to have had a lot of doors open for me. But doors only open if you push them open. Sometimes they might require a good shove. I grew up with two older brothers, and was the youngest of all my cousins. I learnt early that if I wanted to be heard, I needed to speak louder and that if I wanted something I am responsible for making it happen.*

*It doesn't matter whether you go to a public or private school, or whether you are male or female. What matters is your inner drive and your motivation to achieve. I graduated with 30 other students from P.12. We have 2 lawyers, 1 engineer, 2 speech therapists, a Paralympian Ski Instructor, an Event Coordinator & 2 of which that have already owned their own successful businesses (by 30). These are just naming a few of our graduating years achievements. I would say 2007 was a very successful year. "*

*Congratulations, Emma. What an inspiring story!*

*(Printed with permission from Emma Buis. Article was also printed in the Alpine Observer).*





# Year 11 Last Day Celebrations



# Primary Awards Ceremony



## Primary Awards Ceremony

Unfortunately the primary award list was unavailable at the time of publication. Apologies to all concerned.



## COMMUNITY & COLLEGE NOTICES

### RECYCLING MILESTONE

I am pleased to announce, that even with limited access to bring in batteries, we have reached a milestone – through the number of years I have provided a collection box for families to bring in their batteries for recycling, we have managed to save over 100kgs of household batteries being thrown into landfill.

The job of recycling has been made much easier for me – I can now take them to our Porepunkah Recycling Centre rather than having to cart them to Wangaratta – also a milestone shift in environmental management for our community. Don't forget, the lovely big recycling centre shed in Porepunkah disposes of all electrical and electronic gear, mobile phones, TV's etc.

Well done us!

Chris Blazek



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### FAMILY CHANGE OF DETAILS OR CIRCUMSTANCES

If you have recently moved house or have changed your contact details, phone etc, please let us know as soon as possible.

This enables us to contact you quickly if your child is ill and may need to go home.

*Bright P-12 College—General Office*

**the seam queen**

HEMS. ALTERATIONS . MENDING

Natasha Larondo

☎ 0481 301 371 📘 theseamqueen

Buckland Valley by appointment

... or find me in the Bright P12 Uniform Shop!



## WELLBEING WITH BETHANY

### KEEPING YOUR CHILD/REN SAFE AT TEENAGE PARTIES

Parenting a teenager can be stressful and you might be worried about their safety. As a parent, it can be hard to know what the best decision is for you and your family, especially if it's concerning your eldest child and you're figuring it out as you go.

Common risks you might worry about your child will be exposed to at parties:

- Drinking alcohol under the age of 18
- Having non-alcoholic drinks spiked
- Smoking
- Unsafe sex
- Consuming illicit drugs
- Violence or aggressive behaviour
- Illegal behaviour and Police involvement
- Driving under the influence

It's can be challenging balancing your teen's need for freedom and adventure while keeping them safe.

Here are some ways to minimise the risks but still allow them some freedom to explore and experiment safely:

- Make sure they have a way to contact you in case of an emergency
- Arrange for a back-up contact person if needed
- Talk to your teen about your concerns in a calm, low-key way
- Find out where the party is, who is hosting and who may be attending
- Give them information on how to handle potentially dangerous situations (e.g. in an emergency they need to call 000)
- Provide your teen with information about the risks that accompany drug taking, underage drinking and unprotected sexual activity

You can encourage safe behaviours by telling them to:

· Avoid accepting drinks from others and keeping a close eye on their drinks at all times

· Avoid being alone with people they don't know

· Stay close to friends and people they trust

### HOSTING A SAFE PARTY FOR TEENAGERS

Hosting a teenage party is a lot of work but have fun with it! Preparation is key to having a minimal stress party.

Planning tips:

· Decide on a guest list. Check people off the list as they arrive. Try using a form of ID for entry (e.g. student card, party invitation) for more security.

· Have enough adults to supervise. A good ratio is one adult to every 7-10 guests.

· Decide in advance what happens if someone becomes sick or seriously injured (e.g. call their parents)

· Set a start and finish time for the party. Guests should know when to arrive and when to leave. This also helps guests to arrange pick-up times at the end of the night

· Register the party with the local Police. They can tell you about local laws regarding to underage drinking and noise disturbances. They can also be there quickly if anything goes wrong and you need help

· Let the neighbours know you are hosting a party in case they need to make arrangements as well

· Organise and buy a lot of food and non-alcoholic drinks. Make sure you have plenty to offer on the day

· Set ground rules about what behaviour is expected. Be clear about whether or not drinking alcohol or smoking is okay. Try reaching out to the guests' parents and let them know the ground rules too

· If the party is shared on social media make sure it's 'Private' and 'Invite Only'. Only add people on the guest list and maybe their parents too. But remember there's no guarantee of privacy when using social media

· Negotiate with your child about who is

responsible for cleaning up after the party

Safety first: other ways to minimise some of the risks is to make sure you have a safe space for the party

· Having a single entrance – one way in and one way out

· Designate an area for guests – confine them to this one area of the house or property. Lock or secure other rooms especially if you are concerned about property damage

· Have a secure room for guests to leave their belongings in – including car keys and wallets. Have an adult supervise the entrance to that room or keep the room locked so guests need to ask permission before entering

· Set up somewhere that guests can sleepover on the night of the party. You may have a few guests staying over unannounced, especially if they've been drinking and can't drive home

· Secure the perimeter of the property so guests don't spill over into the neighbour's property or onto the street

· You may choose to have pets placed securely in another area of the house or property

· If you have younger children think about setting up an area of the house for them away from the party, or organise for them to have a sleepover at a friend's place

On the day of the party:

· Serve plenty of food at regular intervals throughout the party – if you carry around a food platter this gives you a chance to check in with guests and see how they are going

· Some parents may choose not to drink to remain alert and handle any difficult situation

· Make soft drinks, juice and water freely available

· Turn down the music late at night

· Supervise pick-ups at the end of the night, especially if guests have been drinking. Keep them safe until their ride arrives

Bethany :)

## Health Corner with Adolescent Health Nurse Rosemary Bunge

Well another school year is nearly at a close and I wish you all a safe and happy holiday. Our breakfast program was very successful in Terms 1 and 4, remote learning got in the way Terms 2 and 3. We will return next year..

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank our wonderful supporters of the program Woolworths and Beechworth Bakery Bright. We thank them very much for their generous donations that keep our program running each week. We are also part of the government school breakfast program now, so I am hoping next year to expand to two days a week.

I am very much hoping our visits to Hawthorn Village can happen once again next year and I wish all our friends at the Village a very happy Christmas. Early in the new year I will be seeking expressions of interest from Year 9 students who would like to become regular visitors to the Village.

Over the holidays if any students need support for health issues or just someone to talk to remember your :-

- Local Doctor's clinic 5750 1000
- Kids Help Line 1800 55 1800
- [www.beyondblueyouth.com.au](http://www.beyondblueyouth.com.au)
- [www.headspace.org.au](http://www.headspace.org.au)

Have a wonderful Christmas and holiday time, remember to slip, slop, slap, wrap and be safe. See you in 2021.

Rosemary.

## GERMAN POETRY COMPETITION



L-R Stefan Barnard, Jacob West, Alison Ciolli, Kirra Mack and Gemma Cracknall. *Well done!*

### **2020 AGTV German Poetry Competition**

As with many other events this year, the annual German poetry competition was run quite differently in 2020.

Firstly, students were required to submit a recording of their poem recital for the class assessment. From these entries, and following a semi-final between the best 6 Year 7 students who recited their poems 'live' in a Webex for judging, Bright P-12 College nominated their best students in each year level for the Victorian State Finals.

The following students competed in the State Finals in early September, reciting their poem 'live' in a Zoom meeting, competing against students from around the state:

Year 7 – Stefan Barnard & Gemma Cracknall, Year 8: Kira Mack & Alison Ciolli, Year 9: Jacob West. Alison Ciolli placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Year 7/8 Open division.

All students are to be congratulated for their efforts and should feel proud of their achievements.

*Katrina Ciolli—German Language Teacher*

# COMMUNITY & COLLEGE 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](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/csef)

### 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](http://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.



# 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 website – 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)

Website <https://emergency.vic.gov.au>

Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/vicemergency>)



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