

27th August, 2020. Issue 9.

Bright P-12 College Newsletter

SMILING MINDS Care Packs - Focus on the Positives

As we all continue to support our children and students through a second phase of remote learning there are different challenges this time, the main ones being; lasting the distance and intrinsic motivation. So I have been doing some research on how best to assist you, parents and students, with well being whilst offsite.

The Smiling Minds team (which I have mentioned before and who have an amazing app for mindfulness) have released a new resource for parents. I have chosen to share with you "Focus on the Positives" and I will continue to share the remainder of these resources with you over the next few weeks. This is in NO WAY meant to cause extra stress or a compulsory task for your students to complete. However, if at any time throughout a given day, when frustrations are increasing and you feel you need to take a break, these are great resources to focus on the positives.

Here is what Smiling Minds are saying - *As we all move through these challenging times together, parents, carers and teachers have the added responsibility of supporting the young people in their care as they grapple with rapid change and uncertainty.*

Mindfulness is an active, practical and appropriate response to the sense of overwhelm many of us are currently feeling.

These resources are age specific for children aged 5 to 7, 8 to 10 and 11 and 12. I hope that some of you will share with me any activities you complete.

Click on the link below to order you FREE Kids Care Packs—
<https://www.smilingmind.com.au/kids-care-packs>

Kelli Jacobsen—Assistant Principal P-6



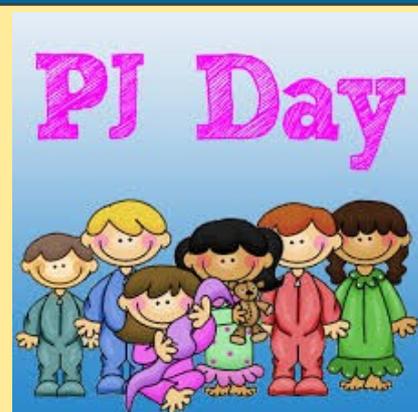
Pajama Day—Tomorrow

On Friday the 28th of August, Bright P-12 College will be holding a 'Pajama Day'.

Students are asked to dress up or stay in their pajamas for the day! We ask that every member of the school, who participates, please send Miss Green or Mrs Lewis an email with the photo of your family wearing your Pajamas!

We have chosen to not accept money for this dress up and to use it as a way of staying cozy, warm and above all, to have fun.

Regards on behalf
of the SRC
representatives,
Zerlina and Cate



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Principal's Message

Yesterday the Staff of Bright P-12 College engaged in a professional learning program with the following goals:

- Google Classroom introduction/consolidation (Goal: all teachers to try Google Classrooms by the end of term, either individually or as part of a teaching team)
- School Wide Positive Behaviours - Secondary - reconnect with the framework, learn how to teach expectations and develop a plan for implementation in Term 4 when we return to site
- Collaborative curriculum planning/documentation

We had staff presenting what is going well in their classrooms as well as an external presenter Andrew Cowen, School-Wide Positive Behaviour Support Coach |Health, Wellbeing and Engagement Unit.

The day was a great opportunity for the staff to add to their planning for Remote Teaching and Learning and connect with new learning. We have prioritised Google Classrooms P-12 as it gives us an opportunity to create an online learning space that can be used in our onsite classrooms and also in the home, a seamless transition between the two. It is an interactive, organised and modern platform that allows for virtual collaboration with boundaries. We have prioritised Positive School Wide Behaviours Support (SWPBS) as it is a framework that brings together school communities to develop positive, safe, supportive learning cultures. SWPBS will assist us to improve social, emotional, behavioural and academic outcomes for our children and young people.

When SWPBS is implemented well, teachers and students have more time to focus on relationships and classroom instruction.

Students and staff benefit from:

- increased respectful and positive behaviour
- increased time focused on instruction
- improved social-emotional wellbeing
- positive and respectful relationships among students and staff
- increased adoption of evidence-based instructional practices
- a predictable learning environment with improved perceptions of safety and increased attendance

We started this process of implementation last year and have now reconnected with the learning to continue this work in the College with an emphasis on the secondary area.

Thank you for your support in assisting us to take this day for professional development.

YEAR 7 INFORMATION EVENING - TERM 4

We have decided to reschedule the Year 7 Information evening to term 4. I will update you as soon as we have set a date.

PREP LEARNING PACKS

We have prepared Prep Learning Pack 2 and it is in the office foyer ready for collection by the parents from this Friday, August 28th. The process is the same as last time and each pack is individually named for collection.

PARENT & TEACHER CONFERENCES IN WEEK 9

We will be hosting virtual Parent Teacher Conferences via the Web Ex Meetings platform on **Wednesday 9th of September from 12pm to 5.30pm**. The focus for the Parent Teacher Conference will be for parents to connect with the classroom teacher to discuss engagement in remote learning and also explore ways to support students who had difficulty reconnecting with onsite learning last time. These will not be exclusively focused on academic achievement so please do not expect your teacher to give an academic placement.

Parents will be able to book through the normal COMPASS booking system. The conference booking will be for 15mins; however, your **conference will only go for 10mins** and cannot go over time as other parents will be waiting. **Bookings will open on Monday 31st of August and will CLOSE on Friday the 4th September at 3pm**. If you have any troubles logging in to COMPASS please contact the Office staff. Please note there will be no progress reports for this term, for Year 5 to 12 students.

PJ DAY Friday 28th of August

Don't forget tomorrow is PJ day for all students Prep to Year 12. Teachers may also surprise their students by joining in. How about we all get behind it and have the whole family join in? Please send in any photos of your PJ day at home for our next newsletter to victoria.newcomb@educaiton.vic.gov.au

Jean Olley
Principal



Community Notice



An Australian Government Initiative



Parenting After Difficult Times

A free parenting program for communities affected by the recent bushfires

- Parenting after bushfires

2020 has been a very challenging year and you may be noticing changes in your children's behaviour

It can be difficult to link these changes to events that happened months ago.

We offer a telephone delivered program which can be tailored to meet the individual needs of families

The session will cover:

- Impact of trauma on families
- Responding to children's emotions
- Managing behaviour
- Building Resilience
- Managing triggers and high risk situations

A free parenting program for communities affected by the recent bushfires

We offer a telephone delivered program which can be tailored to meet the individual needs of families.

To find out more or to book - 1800 880 660

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Community Notice



Community update on progress of the Inquiry into the 2019–20 Victorian fire season – No.3

The Inspector-General for Emergency Management (IGEM) would like to provide an update on progress of the independent Inquiry into the 2019–20 Victorian fire season.

Inquiry Phase 1 – Preparedness and Response

The Phase 1 report focusing on the preparedness for and response to the 2019–20 Victorian fire season was delivered to the Victorian Government on 31 July 2020.

Arrangements for tabling of the report in Parliament are at the discretion of the Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

Once tabled, the report and community submissions received during Phase 1 will be publicly available from www.igem.vic.gov.au.

Inquiry Phase 2 - Relief and Recovery

Phase 2 of the Inquiry focuses on the effectiveness and progress of relief and recovery activities and arrangements during and after the 2019–20 Victorian fire season.

We had a terrific response from the community in Phase 1 of the Inquiry and encourage affected community members to now focus on the following Phase 2 'matters for consideration' as they prepare their written submissions:

- effectiveness of immediate relief and recovery work and arrangements, including at the regional and incident levels
- creation of Bushfire Recovery Victoria, the National Bushfire Recovery Agency and how these entities work together for the benefit of affected Victorian communities, including consideration of long-term efforts directed at social, economic (including small business, tourism and agricultural sectors) and environmental recovery
- effectiveness of how roles and responsibilities for recovery have been divided between Emergency Management Victoria and Bushfire Recovery Victoria.

IGEM acknowledges that for many people, recovery can be a long-term process. Therefore, we're undertaking the engagement in two stages:

- during the first stage we'll gather feedback about the effectiveness of the emergency relief and initial recovery activities (first 6 months after the fires)
- during the second stage, we'll gather feedback on the progress and effectiveness of recovery activities in the medium term (12+months after the fires).

Community Notice

We would like to hear from individuals and organisations about:

- how the 2019-20 Victorian fires affected you
- what worked well in the delivery of emergency relief and recovery activities during the first 6 months
- what didn't work as well as you would have expected or preferred
- your suggestions for improvement.

We also recognise the added challenges the coronavirus emergency is having on bushfire recovery, and encourage individuals and communities to share these impacts during the engagement process.

All community views about relief and recovery provided during Phase 1 of the Inquiry will be considered in Phase 2. While our focus is on the effectiveness and progress of relief and recovery activities and arrangements, information relating to Phase 1 can still be provided.

Submissions addressing the Inquiry's Terms of Reference for Phase 2 can be made through:

- completing the online submission found at www.igem.vic.gov.au
- emailing or mail to IGEM at the contact details below.

Please help spread the word by sharing this community update with others.

For further information, questions, or suggestions please contact our community engagement advisor, Anne-Louise Lindner by email Anne-Louise.Lindner@igem.vic.gov.au or phone 03 8684 7900.

Contact IGEM



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03 8684 7900



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Location

121 Exhibition Street, Melbourne VIC 3000



Twitter

[@IGEM_Vic](https://twitter.com/IGEM_Vic)



Website

igem.vic.gov.au



Facebook

[@IGEMVictoria](https://www.facebook.com/IGEMVictoria)

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>)

Twitter (<https://twitter.com/vicemergency>)

ABC local radio, Sky News and other emergency broadcasters

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