

Newsletter



Principal Report.

Welcome back! Term 4 has resumed, and staff and students have very quickly returned to the routine of teaching and learning. I thank parents and carers for supporting students to be ready to learn and look forward to another very successful term as we support students to achieve their full potential.

The term is particularly significant for our Year 12 students who are focusing on satisfying the requirements of their program and, for many, prepare for the final examinations which begin in the coming weeks.

I wish these students the best as they work towards completing these assessments and remind parents and guardians and students that Year 12 teachers are actively seeking to support students to both satisfy the outcomes associated with their learning as well as being available to students over swot-vac and the exam period to ensure that students are well prepared for written examinations. While Year 12 classes formally end on Monday 20th October, teachers continue to be available to support students right up to and including the day of their examination. The Yani-iny-ngitj Centre is a wonderful space for studying and will remain open and available to students across the exam period and I invite students to continue to use this space and access the support of their class teachers.

The Later Years Team and our Student Aspirations Leader, Scott McDonald, actively supported students to complete their VTAC applications in term 3 and remains available to support students as they continue to explore their pathway beyond the College to ensure that every student accesses a positive destination. Again, please reach out to Ms. Wedding, your student's House Leader or Mr McDonald for support.

The Year 12 VCE-VM Final Presentations occur across the week starting Monday 13th October and these will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the learning of the VCE-VM Major students. These presentations celebrate student achievement as well as their pathway into work, industry and further learning. It is an occasion to recognise the significant achievement of these students and of their readiness to explore the next steps for them beyond the College.

The final assembly for our Year 12 cohort is Monday 20th October and is an opportunity for the College to farewell the Class of 2025. Parents and carers are very welcome to attend this assembly. Please contact the Administration Office for further details.

The Year 12 Valedictory is to be held on Wednesday 19th November at 1915 in North Geelong and will be a wonderful celebration of the Class of 2025.

Of course as the Year 12 cohort embraces the final requirements of their studies, students in Years 7-11 continue with their learning.

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**24 Hour
Absence Line
5251 9010**

All student absences must be reported to the College the day of ab-



College Principal

Wayne Johannesen

Assistant Principals—Drysdale

Damian Marra

Kane Dougherty

Assistant Principals—Ocean Grove

Sarah Foley

David Mitri

Drysdale Campus

Peninsula Drive

Drysdale, 3222

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Principal's Report Cont.

This coming term will see students in Years 9-11 engage in end of year examinations in some, if not all, of their subjects. This is a great opportunity for us to explicitly build the capacity of students to successfully demonstrate their learning under test conditions. Importantly, we use the exams as an opportunity to guide students in how they complete the examination so that when they are faced with written examinations in Year 12 we have prepared them perform at their best. This begins in Year 9 and 10 with very specific instructions throughout the exams with these supports gradually removed into Year 11 so that by Year 12 students have a structured approach to completing examinations.

Of course, the coming term is highlighted by other significant school events such as the Year 9 Morrisby Career Interviews in Week 2, the Year 9 ECO5 camp in the Otway Ranges, the Annual Art Show, further interschool sport at years 7-10, Commencement programs at Years 11 and 12 (2026) and the Transition Programs for Grade 7, 2026 and Year 9, 2026 students.

Like every term, it is busy with much happening next to the daily routine of our core, and important, business of teaching and learning!

Regards,

Wayne Johannesen

Principal



Year 11 Outdoor Education and Environmental Studies Camp at Lorne



Lawn Bowling Success – (Written by Prue Staines)

I play lawn bowls for the Leopold Sportsman's Club, the Geelong Giants, and now also for Deaf Bowls Victoria.

I've just returned from Newcastle, where I competed for a week in the national Deaf Bowls competition. It was a nerve-racking but incredible experience! I played in singles, fours, triples, and pairs events.

Although I didn't win the singles, I was runner-up in both the fours and triples, and I'm so proud to say I won the grand final in the pairs!

I honestly didn't think I'd make the Australian Deaf Team, but hearing my name called out was such an amazing moment. I'm only 16 and currently in Year 10, and I've been playing lawn bowls for four years. I've reached a grand final before, but this was my first big win — and it feels incredible to have achieved it while representing Deaf Bowls Victoria.

It was such a great week — I met so many kind people and played against some really talented and friendly bowlers. Thank you to everyone for the support and kindness since I've returned.





Kokoda (Written by student Jorja Burton).

Earlier this year, I was given the opportunity to embark on a life-changing journey along the Kokoda Track in Papua New Guinea. Known for its historical significance and brutal terrain, the trek honors the soldiers who fought there during World War II.

Walking the Kokoda Track was one of the most grueling yet incredible experiences of my life. Trekking in relentless weather for 8 to 12 hours a day over nine days pushed me to both my physical and mental limits.

Every hill felt as if it expanded with each step, my legs screamed and burned for rest, but I knew I couldn't give up. Each step felt like a battle, and although it was brutally challenging, Kokoda taught me the true meaning of resilience and endurance. The hardships I faced shaped me in ways I never expected and left me with a deep sense of achievement.

Beyond the physical pain, the sense of community we built along the trek was what stood out to me the most. Every time somebody struggled, there was always a hand to help. That spirit of mateship reminded me of the history and legacy of the men who served on Kokoda, the very people we were walking in honour of.





October

Monday 13th	VCE VM Final Presentations Commence Over 3 Days
Monday 20th	Year 12 Final Assembly (<i>Whole College Assembly</i>) / <i>Last Day of Year 12 Classes</i>
Wednesday 22nd	Student Free Day — Geelong Cup — Public Holiday — College Closed
Tuesday 28th	VCE Exams Commence— <i>28th of October– 19th of November</i>

November

Wednesday 5th	Last day of the Year 11 Classes
Thursday 6th	Student Free Day—Staff P/L
Friday 7th	Year 11 Exams Commence— <i>7th of November—14th of November</i>
Monday 10th	Year 9 ECO5 <i>Camp 1</i>
Monday 17th	Year 12 / 2026 Commencement (<i>Current Year 11's</i>) <i>17th –27th Of November</i>
Wednesday 19th	VCE VM Last Day for Exams
Wednesday 19th	The Valedictory Dinner @ 1915 - <i>6:30pm—10:00pm</i>
Thursday 20th	Last Day of Year 10 Classes
Monday 24th	Year 9 ECO5 <i>Camp 2</i>
Monday 24th	Year 10 Exams Commence— <i>21st - 28th of November</i>
Friday 28th	Year 12 Course Sign Off— <i>For students needing help to make subject changes for 2026</i>

December

Monday 1st	2026 Year 11 Commencement Classes— <i>Current Year 10's 1st –4th of December</i>
Tuesday 2nd	2026 Year 7 Parent Teacher/Guardian Information Evening <i>5:45—6:45PM</i>
Thursday 4th	Year 7-9 Last Day of Regular Classes

Friday 5th Student Free Day

Tuesday 16th	Awards Evening Costa Hall
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January 2026

Wednesday 28th	Ready To Learn Day
Thursday 29th	Years 7, 9 and 12 Commence
Friday 30th	Years 8, 10 and 11 Commence



AUSTRALIA WILL CELEBRATE WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

Friday 31 October 2025



World Teachers' Day honors the dedication, hard work, and passion of teachers who play a crucial role in shaping the minds and futures of our children.

Early Student Pick-Ups – Reminder to Families

We understand that there are times when you may need to collect your child early from school. Wherever possible, please pre-arrange this with your child by writing a note in their diary for them to show their classroom teacher. This allows your child to be ready to meet you at the office at the arranged time. Alternatively, you can call the school ahead of time to organise the early departure.

Just a reminder that we don't make announcements during class time, as this can interrupt learning and classroom routines. We really appreciate your support in planning ahead where possible.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us maintain a focused learning environment.

Year Level	Leader of Learning	Corio	Lonsdale	Nepean	Swan
Junior 7 & 8	Will Ryan	Caitlyn Carter	Will Ryan	Thomas Roberts	Ryan Shaw
Middle 9 & 10	Andrew Grimshaw	Bree Redden	Jennifer McCarthy	Annie Oliver	Jacki Slattery
Senior 11 & 12	Vanessa Wedding	Merryn Chalmers	Suzanne Mack	Laura Doran	Omar Lewis



Vegetable Boxes

Proudly grown on a regenerative farm at
Bellarine Secondary College



Grab a box of freshly harvested and
organically-grown veggies!

\$45 SMALL | \$70 LARGE

PICK-UP OPTIONS:

- Lard Ass Ocean Grove - Wednesdays 9am-4pm
- Bellarine Secondary College - Wednesdays 8am-4pm
- Bellarine Farmgate - Saturdays 9am-2pm

Our vegetables are organically grown (not certified)



All proceeds are invested back into the farm.

This project is supported by Bellarine Secondary College and Bellarine Community Health





Thank you to all those who have been buying the this year - we're thrilled with how they are being received! For anyone who hasn't yet purchased and keen to try, in Term 4 you can expect a delicious array of organically grown rainbow carrots, kale, salad mix, onions, potatoes, lettuce, radishes, wombok cabbage, rainbow chard, Tokyo turnips, parsley and more.

We will be offering small and large boxes available for single purchase as you need, as well as a 10-week and 5-week subscriptions to keep you topped up on a weekly basis.

Prices are as follows:

Small Box | \$35 (inclusive of discount)

Large Box | \$50 (inclusive of discount)

Small Box 10-week Subscription | \$315 (inclusive of discount)

Small Box 5-week Subscription | \$205 (inclusive of discount)

Large Box 10-week Subscription | \$450 (inclusive of discount)

Large Box 5-week Subscription | \$315 (inclusive of discount)

Boxes will be available for pick up only from:

LardAss Butter on Wednesdays between 9am-4pm

Farm My School Shed at Bellarine Secondary College, Drysdale on Wednesdays between 8am-4pm

Bellarine Farmgate, Drysdale on Saturdays from 11am-2pm

Be sure to select your preferred pick-up location at checkout!

We have discount codes available for Bellarine Secondary College staff and families available for you to use, so make sure you don't forget to apply these at checkout! We kindly ask that you please keep these codes within the BSC community.

Discount codes below:

SMALLBOX - \$10 off small box

LARGEBOX - \$20 off large box

SMALLFIVE - \$40 off small five-week sub

LARGEFIVE - \$90 off large five-week sub

SMALLTEN - \$90 off small ten-week sub

LARGETEN - \$180 large ten-week sub

We thank you for your support and we look forward to providing you with an abundance of delicious, fresh, locally grown produce. Head to our [shop](#) on the Farm My School [website](#) for more information. Should you have any queries about veggie boxes please email hello@farmmyschool.com.

Warm Regards,

James McLennan

Chief Executive Officer | Co-Founder

e james@farmmyschool.com.au w www.farmmyschool.com





World Mental Health Day – Nepean Mufti Day

Well done to the Nepean House for hold such an awesome day. A total of \$611 was raised for Headspace.

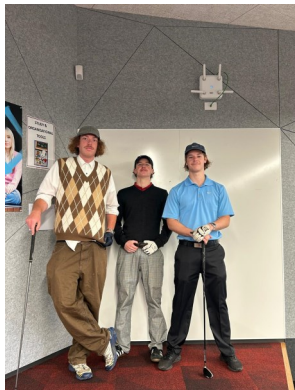
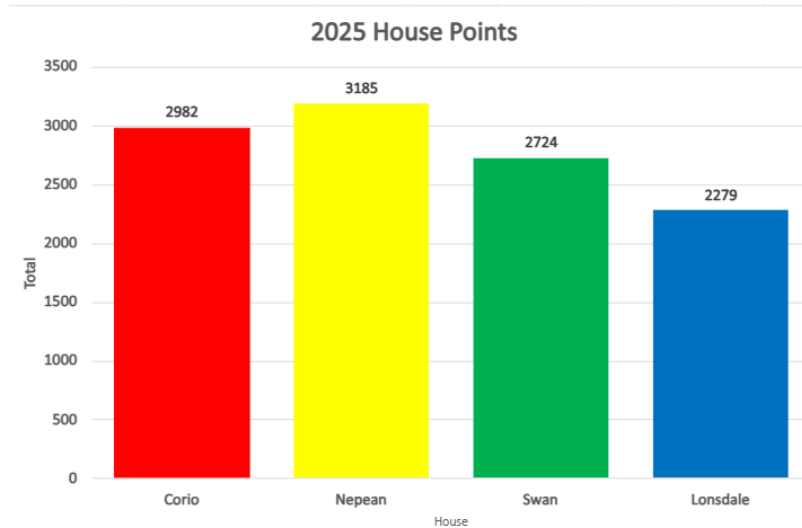
House points for the day....

1st Place – Nepean = 194 points

2nd Place – Lonsdale = 143 points

3rd Place – Corio = 107 points

4th Place – Swan = 92 points



Year 12 Dress Up Day



Student Wellbeing

All staff are in a position to provide emotional support for the young people of Bellarine Secondary College. There is a Student Wellbeing Team at each campus that can be a valuable first contact for information and assistance. Members of the Wellbeing team are available to both students and parents/guardians to discuss matters concerning a particular students' welfare, needs or problems. The team is accessible by making an appointment.

The wellbeing Team is focussed on proactive education to support young people develop their skills related to resilience, personal safety, and positive coping related to their own wellbeing and mental health.

The work of the Wellbeing Team across the College includes:

- 1:1 Support in the form of counselling, resilience building, and referrals to community support services such as mental health services, family support and allied health services.
- 1:2 Leading school-based small group programs and coordinating external small group programs.
- 1:3 Coordinating national health promotion events such as Mental Health Week, IDAHOBIT Day, and RU OK? Day.

When students access a health or counselling service at school, they have the right to provide or withhold consent to their personal or health information, obtained from them, from being disclosed to any other person, including their parent/guardian.

An Individual acquires that right when they have sufficient maturity to understand the consequences of this disclosure. Unless a student has an intellectual disability or is particularly immature, it is likely that a secondary student has the capacity to make this choice.

Where disclosure or health information is necessary to lessen or prevent a serious imminent threat to the student's health or safety, consent by a student to do this disclosure of information is not required.

If a secondary student self-refers to a counselling service provided to students at school, the College does not have to disclose this to parents guardians. However consent from the student to share information with a parent/guardian or staff is always sought, when it is in the best interests of the student.

The College Wellbeing Team is as follows:

Student Wellbeing Team	School Nurse	Mental Health Practitioner
Nicole Wirth, Ocean Grove and Drysdale	Mel White, Ocean Grove and Drysdale campus	Renae Schomacker Ocean Grove and Drysdale
Jan Bowes, Drysdale		
Kate Grinter, Drysdale		Samson – Wellbeing Dog
Kate Daley Ocean Grove		

LOCAL RESOURCES

The wellbeing team may make referrals to local services or provide support for students and families to access valuable health and wellbeing online.



Parenting support services

We are focused on providing families with access to support and education programs that compliment their role as parents. Strengthening parenting skills and family relationships is a priority.



[Parenting support services - City of Greater Geelong](#)

[Support for Families, Parents & Carers | Meli](#)



PARENTING YOUNG MINDS



Read the Play

PARENTING IN A DIGITAL WORLD PHONES, SOCIAL MEDIA & ONLINE RISKS

WITH DR MICHAEL CARR-GREGG



MONDAY 17 NOV, 2025
06:00 PM - 07:30 PM
GEELONG WEST TOWN HALL
\$15 PER PERSON



REGISTER NOW

readtheplay.org.au/events



MELI



Read the Play



Strawberry Fair

If you fancy feasting on strawberries, pencil Sunday November 2nd into your diary.

The Wallington Primary School Strawberry Fair is back, after a two-year hiatus.

The fair, held at the school, is one of the longest-running community fairs on the Bellarine Peninsula and celebrates the area's history as a fruit-growing region.

This year the fair will be bigger than ever, with market stalls filling the space along the drive off Orchard Rd. Browse more than 90 stalls for early Christmas presents or goodies for yourself. Take home some local produce, handmade crafts, vintage treasures, and eco-friendly goods. Treat yourself to artisanal bakes, gourmet street food and quirky gifts.

Entertainment on the main stage will include well-known Geelong soul band Sweethearts, singer Ella Joan and the Christian College Band. Spare some time to listen to the roving buskers around the school grounds.

There are plenty of activities to keep the kids and the young-at-heart entertained, including Laser Skirmish, the Sizzler, Chair-o-plane, Dodgem Cars, Go Gator Rollercoaster, Puppy Yoga, Pony Rides, and the Petting Zoo.

When you're ready for lunch head to the Lions Club Ocean Grove Barwon Heads sausage sizzle, or you can fill up at one of the 18 food trucks offering a wide variety of lunches, drinks and snacks.

Don't leave without heading to the Strawberry Hall and trying the array of delicious strawberry snacks, from pavlovas to choc-dipped strawberries, to the perennial favourite - strawberries and cream.

Grab some special Wallington Primary School strawberry jam before heading home.

The Strawberry Fair will be open on Sunday November 2nd from 10am to 4pm at Wallington Primary School, 608-610 Wallington Rd, Wallington. Entry by gold coin donation.



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

GEE LONG
REGIONAL
LIBRARIES



CODE CLUB SCRATCH 1 2 3

Join us for Code Club and take a tour of Scratch 1 or stretch your coding muscles with advanced projects in Scratch 2 and 3.

Children will need a Scratch account. To create an account go to scratch.mit.edu. Please bring along their username and password each week.

Ages 8-15. Bookings essential.

Thursday's weekly
except December
3:45 – 4:45pm
OCEAN GROVE LIBRARY

book
now

grlc.vic.gov.au

book
now

All events are FREE unless otherwise specified.
Bookings essential.
Online grlc.vic.gov.au
In person at any branch, or phone 03 4201 0655



OCEAN GROVE CRICKET CLUB

U15 BOYS PLAYERS WANTED

Join Ocean Grove Cricket Club – Junior Cricket 2025/26!

- Seeking players born in 2011/12
- Welcoming, fun and friendly environment
- \$100 Sports Voucher to cover the cost of gear
- Supportive families that can help with transport to and from training & matches

Still not sure? Come along to a **Tuesday training** session (training equipment can be provided or byo) at **4.30pm** at the **Shell Road Oval** nets to meet the coaches and players, all skill levels welcome.



SCAN QR TO



REGISTER TODAY

\$100 SPORTS VOUCHER FOR ALL JUNIOR REGISTRATIONS

📞 Got Questions?

✉️ ogccgrubbers@gmail.com

📞 Adam Arnold (Junior Coordinator) – 0420 846 066

📞 Bill Foord-Engelsman (President) - 0478 122 883.





STUDENT EXHIBITION: GROUND FLOOR

THE GORDON GALLERY

16th - 23rd OCTOBER 2025

OPEN WEEKDAYS 12 - 4 pm

OPENING NIGHT

16th OCTOBER 3:30pm - 6:30pm

the
Gordon

SAFETY VICTORIA

As emerging artists, the Gordon's Certificate IV in Visual Art students have created a varied and eclectic body of work. They chose the title *Ground Floor* to represent the emergence of their art careers and the location of the Gordon Gallery. They share a passion for art and have developed their interests and creativity. These students have investigated their ideas using a variety of mediums and techniques. Throughout the year, they have gained skills in painting, printing, drawing, sculpture and jewellery making, to name just a few of the units studied. Additional skills are gained in research, design and digital media.

The exhibition showcases all the work completed during the year and the variety of interests the students have explored. The collection of work embodies the students' individuality, their investigations and processes supported by research. It demonstrates their ability to collaborate while maintaining their unique style. The Visual Art course at the Gordon is structured to ensure industry experience, a real opportunity to use the exhibition space of the Gordon Gallery which allows for a full experience of curating and installing the work.

Dee Keenaghan, Visual Art Teacher

[Ground Floor – Art Exhibition 2025](#)