

# Newsletter



## College Principal

Wayne Johannesen

## Assistant Principals—Drysdale

Damian Marra

Kane Dougherty

## Assistant Principals—Ocean Grove

Sarah Foley

David Mitri

## Principal Report.

### The importance of transition programs and making a good start!

As I wrote in the previous newsletter, Term 4 is a very busy term as students complete common summative assessment and, in Years 9-12, written examinations. Students at all year levels are completing assessment tasks as they seek to demonstrate their learning.

A feature of Term 4 is also the transition programs that occur for Grade 6 students joining the College in 2026, our Year 8 students who make the move to the Drysdale Campus in 2026 for Year 9, Year 10 students who step in the Later Years and into a VCE or VCE-VM pathway and our Year 11 students who begin the learning associated with their final year of VCE and VCE-VM.

Each of these changes bring a degree of anxiety as students navigate their transition. We are very conscious that each student will manage this change differently and that some will need very explicit support in order to most effectively manage the transition and the change.

Extended transition programs have been in full swing over the past few weeks supporting Grade 6 students prior to the two Discovery Days of transition on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. The early transition program has allowed students to become more familiar with the Ocean Grove campus, and our College, before they join over 200 new Year 7 2026 students for the Discovery Days. Further to this, the new Year 7 students will have the Ocean Grove campus to themselves for each of the Discovery Days so that they feel more comfortable as they become familiar with their new school.

The importance of supporting Year 8 students as they move across to the Drysdale Campus is equally understood and we have also involved a number of students in an early extended transition program so that students are comfortable with the move. The Year 8 into 9 (2026) program supports students to become more familiar with the Drysdale campus and allows them to engage with a number of their 2026 classes, including their elective subjects. The three-day program is a wonderful opportunity to become familiar with the campus and their 2026 teachers.

The College is committed to supporting students through such significant changes with a strong focus on those year levels experiencing the most significant change. Parents and carers are encouraged to reach out to their child's House Leader if you would like to discuss further ways in which we can support students as they transition into or across our College.

The Ready to Learn Day on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January is a date to save as this day provides parents/carers and students with an opportunity to meet with their 2026 Home Group teacher to discuss how we can support students to be ready to learn and make a successful start to the new school year. Please keep this date free!

Wayne Johannesen

Principal

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**24 Hour  
Absence Line  
5251 9010**

All student absences must be reported to the College the day of absence.



Drysdale Campus

Peninsula Drive

Drysdale, 3222

Ocean Grove Campus

70 Shell Road

Ocean Grove

P 5251 9000

E [bellarine.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:bellarine.sc@education.vic.gov.au)

W [www.bellarinesc.edu.vic.au](http://www.bellarinesc.edu.vic.au)

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## December

Monday 1st	2026 Year 11 Commencement Classes—Current Year 10's 1st –4th of December
Tuesday 2nd	2026 Year 7 Parent Teacher/Guardian Information Evening 5:45—7:00PM
Tuesday 2nd	2026 Year 9 Transition—Drysdale Campus 2nd—4th December
Tuesday 2nd	Farm My School Birthday Years 7,8 & 9 Drysdale Campus—College activities and Food vans available
Wednesday 3rd	Year 7 Drama Performance Evening - THE POTATO SHED 5:30pm –6:30pm
Thursday 4th	Year 7-9 Last Day of Regular Classes
Friday 5th	Student Free Day—Staff P/L
Monday 8th	Year 11 2026 Course Sign Off - (Current Year 10's)
Monday 8th	House Picnics –Years 7-9
Tuesday 9th	Years 7-9 EOY Activities—9th—11th November
Tuesday 9th	Discovery Days—Years 6 into 7 –Transition Ocean Grove Campus
Thursday 11th	VCE - VCE VM Results Released
Friday 12th	Adventure Park - Years 7-9
Monday 15th –18th	Farm My School Activities—Drysdale Campus
Tuesday 16th	Awards Evening Costa Hall

## January 2026

Wednesday 28th	Student /Parent /Guardian—Ready To Learn Day—Conference Day and Laptop Support Day
Thursday 29th	Years 7, 9 and 12 Commence
Friday 30th	Years 8, 10 and 11 Commence

## February

Wednesday 4th	Whole School Student Photos
Thursday 5th	Swimming Sports - North Bellarine Aquatic Centre
Monday 9th	Ocean Grove Year 7 Parent / Guardian Welcome BBQ 5.45pm-7.00pm
Tuesday 17th	Year 9 and Year 12 parent Guardian Welcome BBQ 5:45pm-7:00pm

## Friday 20th Student Free Day—Staff P/L

Tuesday 24th	2027 Year 7 - Information Evening Tours Ocean Grove Campus
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## March

Wednesday 4th	Information Evening Tours Drysdale Campus - 5.15pm -7.00pm
Monday 9th	Labour Day Public Holiday - Student Free Day
Wednesday 11th - 23rd	Naplan Testing
Tuesday 17th	Year 10 Immunisations
Tuesday 31st	Whole School Athletics - Landy Field

## April

Thursday 2nd	Last day of Term 2.—2:30pm Finish
Friday 3rd	Good Friday Public Holiday



**FARM MY SCHOOL  
BIRTHDAY  
PARTY**

2nd of December  
Extended Lunch  
Back of the Yani  
Food Trucks!  
Pete's Pizza  
Lil' Dumpling Van  
Perla Tacos  
Everything between \$5 - \$20  
**Live Music!**  
Dakota, Charlie, Sadie ( year 9)  
Purple Aki: George, Archie, Ollie, Lewis (year 10)  
Caught in the Crossfire: Andrew, Angus, Brendan (year 10)  
**Lots of games and prizes to be won!**  
**SEE YOU  
THERE!**



Earlier this year, a group of our Year 9 students attended the Gnurad-Gundidj Campus – School for Student Leadership, for a term-long program. As part of this experience, each student group is required to design and lead a community project.

Our students have chosen to host a third birthday celebration for our Farm, in recognition of our strong connection with Farm My School and the many benefits this partnership brings to our school and the broader community.

The birthday celebration will be held on Tuesday 2nd December, from 12:15pm to 1:45pm. Students have organised live music and a range of game stalls that all students can participate in at no cost. The winner of each stall will receive a \$20 gift voucher.

We will also have three food trucks onsite:

- *The Lil Dumpling Van*
- *Pete's Woodfired Pizza*
- *Perla Tacos*

Students may purchase lunch from any of the food trucks using cash or bank card only (please note that mobile phone payment methods cannot be accepted).

Below is a small sample of menu items and pricing from two of the food trucks:

#### The Lil Dumpling Van

- 4 pcs mixed dumplings — \$10
- Steamed BBQ pork bun — \$5 each
- Spring rolls (3 pcs) — \$10

Add chips — \$6

Dim sims (3 pcs) — \$10



## Gnurad-Gundidj Campus

#### Student Deals:

- o 4 pcs dumplings + 1 bun — \$14
- o 4 pcs dumplings + side of chips — \$14

#### Perla Tacos – Sample Menu

- Perla Burrito — \$16
- Perla Loaded Fries — \$16
- Perla Nachos — \$16
- Perla Churros — \$12

#### Pete's Woodfired Pizza

- A selection of vegetarian pizzas, such as Sand Dunes (Napoli and three cheeses) — \$13
- A selection of meat pizzas, such as Lighthouse (Napoli, leg ham, chorizo, mushroom and cheese) — \$16

[Gnurad-Gundidj Campus - School for Student Leadership - Glenormiston Sth](#)





## ECO 5 2025

The Year 9 ECO5 is a bushwalk journey in the Great Otway National Park. Just like life, this week away from home will be a magical step into the unknown where no-one ever knows what lies around the next bend. There may be problems to overcome, important decisions to be made and obstacles to be avoided.

As the aim is to explore and challenge, walking is the best way to see the remote parts of "the Otways" and allows plenty of time to reflect on student learning and experiences. Students travel on foot each day in a group of up to 12 students (with two staff members), carrying what they need in their backpack.

This year we had 8 different hike groups out over two weeks spread between Elliott Ridge and Devil's Kitchen campsites. Routes are assigned to groups based on their ability and level of fitness. All groups spent a night at 'base camp' - Aire River Campground, where they will have activities such as fishing, canoeing and leadership initiatives.

On the journey our students were able to pass through a great variety of landscapes and take in some of the best views in Victoria. The ECO5 Challenge was an extremely rewarding, challenging and memorable week for all students and staff.

**Thank you to the following staff members for their contribution in 2025:**

**Adam McIntosh, Jake Lindrea, Tom Stokes, Rebecca Hale, Terri-Anne Finch, Sue Blacket, Sandi Dimasi, Will Ryan, Tom Roberts, Caitlin Carter and Chloe Leonard.**











## 2026 School Production Announcement

We are pleased to announce that the 2026 Bellarine Secondary College school production is Information about auditions, backstage jobs and production team roles will be shared early next year.

So get your best Wildcat on and get excited to be involved in this fun and energetic show!

Rebecca Cowled

ART PLC Leader

Music teacher & Production Leader





## Library news

This year the library has been very fortunate to have Nikki from the Ocean Grove Regional Library running a number of fun, interactive workshops. On Monday staff and students participated in a Christmas themed Green Screen session.







## Library news continued



With the Christmas break just around the corner, now is the perfect time to **remind students that their digital library remains open 24/7** — and packed with eBooks and Audiobooks they can enjoy anywhere over the holidays.

To learn how to access Wheelers ePlatform visit your campus library.

## Year 12 Valedictory 2025


Wednesday the 19th of November was our Valedictory evening where we were able to celebrate the Class of 2025. The evening was held at 1915 in North Geelong and this was a wonderful setting for the evening. Students and parents/carers were able to enjoy the venues two levels and outside areas. The speeches recognised the contributions of staff and parents/carers in supporting our Class of 2025.

**We know our graduating class of 2025 will go on to achieve great things!**





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## 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 off 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](mailto:hello@farmmyschool.com).

Warm Regards,

**James McLennan**

Chief Executive Officer | Co-Founder

e [james@farmmyschool.com.au](mailto:james@farmmyschool.com.au) w [www.farmmyschool.com](http://www.farmmyschool.com)





## 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.

### THE PARENTING MANIFESTO SERIES

Six-session parenting workshops presented by *My Manifesto* co-authors Sue Wong and Justin Robinson.



Scan the QR code to learn more and book.



You can view the full calendar at [geelong.link/parenting](https://geelong.link/parenting)

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



## Help your learner get on the road with a free driving lesson!

The myLearners Free Driving Lesson program offers a FREE 60-minute Lesson with a professional driving instructor for learners aged 16–19 who have completed 10–30 hours of driving practice.

The lesson is taken alongside their supervising driver, helping both the learner and supervisor build safer, more confident driving habits together.

This program supports families by making the learning experience more positive and less stressful. It aims to reduce crash risks for young drivers, strengthen supervising skills, and encourage safer driving behaviours early on all at no cost to participants.

Find out more go to - <https://mylearnersdrive.com.au/>

Scan QR Code





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## FUN DIVE

FUN Dive provides participants with a fun and engaging program to explore diving, and develop and improve their skills.

**1.5  
HOURS**

PROGRAM  
TIME



9 YRS &  
OLDER



ABLE TO SWIM  
IN DEEP WATER

Get in touch to find out more!

Kardinia Aquatic Centre  
Park Cres South Geelong

Monday 19 January - Wednesday 21 January  
10am - 1130am

1 Day \$25 or 3 Days \$50  
(includes pool entry & participant pack)  
CONTACT: [jess@divingvictoria.com.au](mailto:jess@divingvictoria.com.au)

TO  
REGISTER



**DIVING**  
VICTORIA

**VICTORIA**  
State Government



Queenscliffe  
Maritime  
Week  
2025

300 words  
Primary school  
Secondary School  
Open



## Tales of the Sea

## Writing competition

Entries close 13 Dec 2025  
[www.maritimequeenscliffe.org.au](http://www.maritimequeenscliffe.org.au)

300-word writing challenge that your most avid writers (students AND staff) might be interested in entering. The top selection in each category will be printed in an anthology as a part of the Queenscliffe Maritime Festival in March 2026.

### Queenscliffe Maritime Museum

#### Tales of the Sea – Flash-fiction challenge

300-word fictional, original story

3 categories:

Primary school

Secondary school

Open

**Closes Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> December**

### Queenscliffe Maritime Museum Inc

2 Wharf Street Queenscliff VIC 3225

03 5258 3440

[www.maritimequeenscliffe.org.au](http://www.maritimequeenscliffe.org.au)





## 429SQN is recruiting now!



### Become an Air Force Cadet

The Australian Air Force Cadets No. 429 Squadron -Queenscliff are recruiting now for 2026

If you're at least 12 years of age and turning 13 (Year 7) to 16 and have an interest in aviation, drones, STEM, leadership and personal development, bushcraft, a career in the Australian Defence Force, or just want to make new friends, we're keen to have you join our ranks. You'll learn many new skills and have a lot of fun along the way.

We are sponsored by the Royal Australian Air Force and you will have the opportunity to fly and visit Defence bases in Victoria, and so much more.

**Submit an Expression of Interest online now via the QR code for 2026.**

### 429 Squadron Queenscliff

FLTTLT (AAFC) Lucy Croxford

Commanding Officer

#### ENQUIRIES:

[co.429SQN@airforcecadets.gov.au](mailto:co.429SQN@airforcecadets.gov.au)

#### FIND OUT MORE:

[www.airforcecadets.gov.au](http://www.airforcecadets.gov.au)

#### Information Session:

**When:** 24th November 2025 at 6.30pm

**Where:** The Fort Queenscliff.

You must register to attend.

Register via the above email.



# AIR FORCE CADETS

INSPIRING TODAY - LEADING TOMORROW

Michael Dare

Flight Lieutenant (AAFC)

Executive Officer

429 Squadron

Australian Air Force Cadets

BLD 27

Fort Queenscliff King Street Queenscliff Vic 322

Ph 0407 676 292



📌 **Bellarine Performing Arts Presents: *A Charlie Brown Christmas!*** 📌

Tickets are now on sale for our upcoming Bellarine Performing Arts production of *A Charlie Brown Christmas*! Come along for a heart-warming, family-friendly show filled with holiday cheer, familiar faces on stage, and plenty of festive spirit.

Join us in supporting our wonderful students, our community, and local theatre. It's the perfect way to kick off the Christmas season — we'd love to see you there!

<https://tickets.geelongaustralia.com.au/event/bpa-cb-xmas>

[www.bellarineperformingarts.com.au](http://www.bellarineperformingarts.com.au)



Bellarine Secondary College

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## JUNIOR GOLF

CGSC MEMBERSHIP

OPEN TO UNDER 18s




ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

# \$55

7 DAY ACCESS

Clifton Springs Junior Member Clinics **Coming Soon!**

92-94 Clearwater Drive, Clifton Springs

  [cliftonspringsgolfclub](#)

[Clifton Springs Golf Club](#)

Respect | Resilience | Responsibility