



Newsletter

College Principal

Wayne Johannesen

Assistant Principals—Drysdale

Damian Marra

Kane Dougherty

Assistant Principals—Ocean Grove

Sarah Foley

David Mitri

Principal Report.

Last night we had the privilege of coming together as a school community for our Annual Awards Evening. It was a genuine highlight to celebrate student learning, effort, growth and achievement across the year levels, and to recognise the many different ways our young people contribute to Bellarine Secondary College. Thank you to the families, staff and special guests who joined us and helped make the evening such a positive celebration.

As we reach the end of the school year, I want to acknowledge the partnership between home and school that underpins student success. Across 2025, our students have continued to demonstrate resilience, kindness and commitment—whether in the classroom, the outdoors, on the sporting field, through the arts, in leadership opportunities, and in the everyday ways they support one another.

To our students: congratulations on all you have achieved this year.

To our staff: thank you for your care, professionalism and high expectations.

To our families: thank you for your trust and support.

I wish everyone a safe, restful break and a happy holiday period. We look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for 2026.

Wayne Johannesen

Principal

Assistant Principal Kane Dougherty

We are excited to welcome students and parents/carers to Ready to Learn meeting on Wednesday 28th of January. These meetings will run for around 15 minutes and will provide the opportunity for families to meet with a member of staff prior to the beginning of the school year to ensure students are prepared for the year ahead and discuss any required supports. Further information will be distributed soon about how to book your appointment. This day will be a student free day aside from meetings.

Kane Dougherty

Assistant 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

W www.bellarinesc.edu.vic.au



December

Monday 15th –18th Farm My School Activities—Drysdale Campus

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

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 **Student Photo day—New Date**

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

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





SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



GEELONG
REGIONAL
LIBRARIES



JOIN IN THE FUN AT OCEAN GROVE LIBRARY

We've got your kids covered these school holidays!

Explore our exciting range of events and activities covering literacy, STEM, social connections, and creative exploration. There is something to entertain children of all ages and interests.

Scan the QR code for the full details of all events on our website. Bookings open two weeks before school holidays start.



www.grlc.vic.gov.au

book
now

Ages 5-8 MINI MINI GOLF
Monday 5 Jan 2:30pm - 3:30pm

Ages 8-12 LIGHTSHOW LANDSCAPES
Thursday 8 Jan 2:30pm - 3:30pm

PRESCHOOL HOW TO BE AN ASTRONAUT
Monday 12 Jan 10:30am - 11:00am

AGES 8-12 LEGO ARCHITECTS
Thursday 15 Jan 2:30pm - 3:30pm

PRESCHOOL READY, SET, PREP
Monday 19 Jan 10:30am - 11:30am

AGES 5-8 CURIOUS CREATURES
Wednesday 21 Jan 10:30am - 11:30am

All events are **FREE** unless otherwise specified.
Bookings essential.
Online www.grlc.vic.gov.au/events.
In person at any library or phone 42010 655





SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OCEAN GROVE LIBRARY

Get creative, explore, and connect—your school holiday plans start here!

From hands-on activities and creative projects to social spaces and STEM sessions, there's something for every interest—perfect for young people aged 12+.

Scan the QR code for full details of all events on our website. Bookings open two weeks before school holidays start.



www.grlc.vic.gov.au

12-18 TRIVIA TIME

Tues 6 Jan, 2:30pm - 3:30pm

12-18 LYRICAL ART

Tues 13 Jan, 2:30pm - 4:00pm

12-18 CLAYTOPIA

Tues 20 Jan, 2:30pm - 3:30pm

book
now

All events are **FREE** unless otherwise specified. **Bookings essential.**

Online www.grlc.vic.gov.au/events.

In person at any library or phone 42010 655



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





Nourish Workshops 2026

NOURISH WORKSHOPS 2026



FEEDING THE FAMILY

WITH STEVE ROBINSON FROM OTWAY PASTA

THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY 5.30 - 7PM

COLAC SECONDARY COLLEGE, COLAC

Dive straight in and learn to cook a hearty, and healthy family meal that combines both produce from Farm My School Colac and Otway Pasta.

This will be our FIRST Nourish workshop at Colac Secondary College.

HERO THE VEGGIES

WITH SAM GOODWIN FROM XO BOWLS

THURSDAY 12 MARCH 5.30 - 7PM

BELLARINE SECONDARY COLLEGE, DRYSDALE

Known for his time on MasterChef Australia, and Co-owner of XO Bowls, Sam will guide attendees to prepare a flavour-packed, Asian-style street food dish.

Sam will cook with Farm My School Bellarine's freshly harvested, seasonal and organic produce.



WORLD OF BEES

WITH THOMAS EARLS FROM COASTAL NECTAR

THURSDAY 16 APRIL 10AM - 12.30PM

BELLARINE SECONDARY COLLEGE, DRYSDALE

This one is for the kids! Start with a farm tour with a Farm My School educator, learn about regenerative farming and make a seed bomb. Then move onto the World of Bees workshop to find out more about bees, pollination and enjoy honey tasting, as well create a pure wax candle to take home.

GROW A FOOD GARDEN

WITH DONNA LIVERMORE, PERMACULTURE EXPERT

SATURDAY 18 APRIL 10AM - 3PM

BELLARINE SECONDARY COLLEGE, DRYSDALE

Learn how to improve your soil, grow heirloom vegetables, develop a productive food garden at home, as well as the basics of permaculture design with a gardening expert.



WORKSHOPS LOCATED AT EITHER

BELLARINE SECONDARY COLLEGE, DRYSDALE OR COLAC SECONDARY COLLEGE, COLAC

BOOK TICKETS HERE



FARM MY SCHOOL

Imagine a school that can feed its community. A farm built within a school.

The link to book tickets is <https://events.humanitix.com/host/farm-my-school>.



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.

Warm Regards,

James McLennan

Chief Executive Officer | Co-Founder

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





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

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



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.



The 32nd Annual Bellarine Agricultural Show will be held in Portarlington on Sunday 8 March

The Bellarine Agricultural Show is a true celebration of country life, where the community comes together to share the best of the Bellarine. Rooted in traditional values and genuine rural hospitality, our show brings town and country together for a day of connection, learning and fun. From paddock to pavilion, there is something to delight every age and interest.

Bellarine Agricultural Show needs your Help

The Bellarine Agricultural Show is the only Agricultural show on Bellarine.

- The Show is a celebration of rural life and community — it brings together farmers, hobbyists, families, and city-visitors to experience “old-fashioned country values.
- It is a chance for locals to show off their produce, plants, crafts, art, photography and more. It is a chance for children to interact with farm animals and see Vintage machinery operating.
- We’re urgently looking for a **Secretary** and **Treasurer** to help keep our much-loved community show running.
- ✓ Flexible hours
- ✓ Friendly, supportive committee
- ✓ Training and handover provided
- ✓ Make a real difference to a local tradition

If you can help — or know someone who might — please message us or email:

Bellarineshow@gmail.com

Thank you for supporting your local show!

No agricultural background needed — just good communication or basic admin/finance skills and a willingness to help.

Bellarine Agricultural Show

Portarlington Recreation Reserve

Sunday 8 March 2026

Phone: 0493 396 842

www.bellarineshow.com.au





IWD
2026



UN WOMEN AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SCHOOL'S COMPETITION



AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEAD, INSPIRE AND CREATE CHANGE

UN Women Australia invites
**Years 10–12 students in ACT, QLD,
NSW, VIC, SA & WA** to enter the
National Schools Competition this
International Women's Day.



YOUR MISSION

Imagine you are a senior
decision-maker in Australia,
working with partners across the
Asia-Pacific on climate action. You
know that women in the region
are often the most affected by
climate change but are also key
leaders in building community
resilience.

**If you could choose one initiative
to support both gender equality
and climate justice in the region,
what would it be, and why?**

We want your
VOICES!



HOW TO ENTER:

✍️ A 200-word written pitch (Word or PDF)
or
🎥 A 30-second video message (.mp4 or
.mov)

- ACT schools send entries by **23 January 2026**
- All other states send entries by **12 February 2026**

to communications@unwomen.org.au

**All video entries must be emailed with a
signed parental consent form (download
[here](#))*



PRIZE

- One Winner (+4 guests) per state invited
to attend official International Women's
Day Lunch 2026 (NSW, QLD, VIC, WA) on
Wed 4 March or Parliamentary Breakfast
on Thu 5 February (ACT)
- Meet & greet with event VIP speakers
- Official certificate presentation
- 2-week remote work experience with UN
Women Australia
- Social media spotlight on winners and
short-listed finalists

Competition T&Cs on [website](#)

Proudly supported by





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



Newsletter

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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

TO
REGISTER



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VICTORIA

VICTORIA
State Government



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- ✓ Accommodation + breakfast
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- ✓ Entrance fees to Komodo National Park
- ✓ Snorkel in the World's Coral Triangle
- ✓ Unwind on One of the World's Rare Pink Beaches
- ✓ Luxury within reach - a package designed to suit your budget



CONTACT US

info@impactadventures.travel



Impact Travel Group Pty Ltd ACN 666721802, ABN 20666721802, www.impactadventures.travel



Climate Change Preparedness



Climate Risk Forum

Come along and find out how we are at risk from the impacts of climate change and how we can be both better prepared and more resilient to the challenges we face. Speakers from important sections our service community will contribute.

When:

Wednesday, February 25

6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Where:

Springdale Neighbourhood Centre,

17 Main St., Drysdale

Stalls and Supper provided

Save the date.

[SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre – Where Ideas Grow and People Flourish](#)



Bellarine Secondary College

Newsletter

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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](https://www.instagram.com/cliftonspringsgolfclub)

[Clifton Springs Golf Club](https://www.cliftonspringsgolfclub.com.au)

Respect | Resilience | Responsibility