

A NEWS

Lead Create Inspire



**POWER AND
PASSION**

MUSIC STUDENTS TAKE CENTRE STAGE, STORY P8-9

JUNE 2026

GAEL CLIMBS TO NEW HEIGHTS

He may have only just turned 13 a day before the event, but that didn't stop Gael Guiraud Pinedo (right) taking on the best under 15 boys in the country at the 2026 Sport Climbing Australia Youth Nationals at Ballina in NSW recently.

Gael, who has been competing at the national level for the past three years, made it into the under 15 final in Lead Climbing, and finished an amazing fifth.

Gael also competed in the Bouldering event, only just missing out on a place in the final, finishing 13th out of more than 40 competitors.

Given he had only just turned 13, and was one of the youngest and smallest competitors in the under 15 category, it was a fantastic performance.

Gael is now back in the gym training for the next competition to try to qualify for next year's nationals.



SIENNA SHOOTS FOR STATE GLORY

Huge congratulations to Year 11 student Sienna Katsis (left) on her selection in the School Sport Victoria (SSV) Under 16 Girls State Basketball Team.

As a member of the Victorian team, Sienna will represent both Victoria and APC at the School Sport

Australia Championships from 25-31 July.

It's an outstanding accomplishment and we wish her every success at the national championships.

Good luck, Sienna!

● IMPORTANT DATES

FRIDAY 26 JUNE

Last day of Term 2
Students dismissed at 1pm

MONDAY 13 JULY

Staff Professional Development Day
No formal classes

TUESDAY 14 JULY

First day of Term 3 for students

THURSDAY 16 JULY

Interschool cross country state finals
Senior Years Expo
2pm-5pm
Pickles St campus

MONDAY 20 JULY - FRIDAY 31 JULY

Year 10 Course Counselling

FRIDAY 24 JULY

Subjects selection due
(Year 10 in 2027)

ALPACCA Coffee Morning

From 8am
Gasworks Cafe (Graham St)

MONDAY 27 JULY - FRIDAY 31 JULY

Senior Snow Camp

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST

SEAL Test for Year 7s in 2027
Danks St campus

MONDAY 3 AUGUST

Sustainability Subcommittee Meeting
5.30pm - 6.30pm
Danks St campus

TUESDAY 4 AUGUST

Interschool sports - Year 8

WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST

APC Book Club
6pm
Danks St library

MONDAY 10 AUGUST -

FRIDAY 28 AUGUST
Year 12 Pathway Planning

WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST

Parent/Student/Teacher interviews
In person
Danks St campus

FRIDAY 14 AUGUST

Subjects selection due
(Years 11-12 in 2027)

WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST

Interschool sports - Year 7

MONDAY 24 AUGUST -

THURSDAY 27 AUGUST
Junior Snow Camp

MONDAY 24 AUGUST -

FRIDAY 28 AUGUST
Book Week
WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST
Casual Clothes Day

FRIDAY 28 AUGUST -

SATURDAY 29 AUGUST
LitFest

MONDAY 31 AUGUST -

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER
Drama Camp



DEEP IN THE OUTBACK: Year 10-11 students take a breather during their stay in Banatjarl Homeland.

PRINCIPAL'S SAY

WHY CAMPS MATTER

I am very proud of our camps program.

APC is unique among Victorian government schools for the number of camps we run and the breadth of experiences they give our students.

Each year we put together more than 20 camps, each tailored for different year levels and the curriculums they are studying, and with adventures to match.

More than 1000 students attend these camps every year.

These are not your usual school camps.

They are run in small groups and professionally led.

They are specially designed to challenge students, entice them out of their comfort zones and immerse them in environmental and/or cultural worlds far removed from their inner city lives.

Some students head to our tropical north to dive on the Great Barrier Reef, others build roads in villages in rural Cambodia or trek through Borneo rainforests to learn about endangered orangutans.

Some zipline through old growth New Zealand forests and learn about Maori culture, or follow in the

footsteps of Aussie soldiers who fought and died on the battlefields of World War I.

Whatever their camp, whatever their age level, our students come home with new friends, deeper friendships, and a more mature understanding of the world around them.

I was reminded of their importance last week when 19 students in Years 10 and 11 came home from a week-long adventure deep into the outback.

They flew to Darwin and then travelled four hours south by bus to the remote Banatjarl Homeland, 50km west of Katherine, where they lived with the traditional owners and their families.

The cultural immersion was deep. And, according to those who went, the impact was profound.

They foraged for wild bush tucker and learned the art of traditional cooking, preparing kangaroo tail and outback damper over an open fire.

The female students participated in traditional women's activities, which included a walk through the bush medicine garden and preparing a small takeaway jar of their own traditional bush medicine.

The male students visited important cultural sites, listened to the dreaming stories that shaped the country, and crafted traditional spears under the watchful guidance of community elders.

In the evening, they listened as elders told them stories of their ancestors, and students shared their own reflections and memories.

Assistant Principal Hayley Schirmer, who led the camp, said everyone found the entire experience deeply moving.

"They came back with a deep respect for indigenous culture, and a much greater sense of the meaning of 'home'," she said.

"They were also profoundly moved by the community's deep connection and respect for nature, and their generosity.

"We all learned so much, and are now eager to learn more."

It's these kinds of stories that prove to me the value of our camps program.

However, as the cost of living increases, I understand how hard it is for APC families to be able to afford to send their children on these camps.

Everything to do with camps is becoming more and more expensive. Transport, airfares, food, activities and staff costs are all going up.

We also pay a premium to ensure the camp companies we choose are experts in their field, and have a total commitment to safety.

In recognition of these difficult times, School Council offers support for year-level camps, including payment plans, for families doing it extra tough.

To see if you are eligible, please contact the APC Business Manager.

But despite the financial pressures on us all, APC is committed to running these camps.

As one parent said to Assistant Principal and camps coordinator Duncan Box after their child who graduated in 2025 returned from the Outback Queensland Camp: "You changed my kid's life!"

How do you put a price on that?

Steven Cook
Foundation Principal

AN UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT AT THE 'G'



More than 300 Year 12 students and senior staff attended the Class of 2026 Formal early this month.

For the first time, the event was held at the MCG in its renowned dining room, and the new venue proved a massive hit.

The location added to the event's sense of importance and, after the speeches and dinner, students danced the night away.

Highlights included some unique student outfits, including a kilt, a suit inspired by the 1960s, and a sparkly gown made by a grandmother who had travelled from Macedonia to make the dress.

The students had a wonderful time, many seeking out staff to thank them for their support through their high school years.

It was a fabulous night.





**“THE NEW VENUE PROVED
A MASSIVE HIT.”**



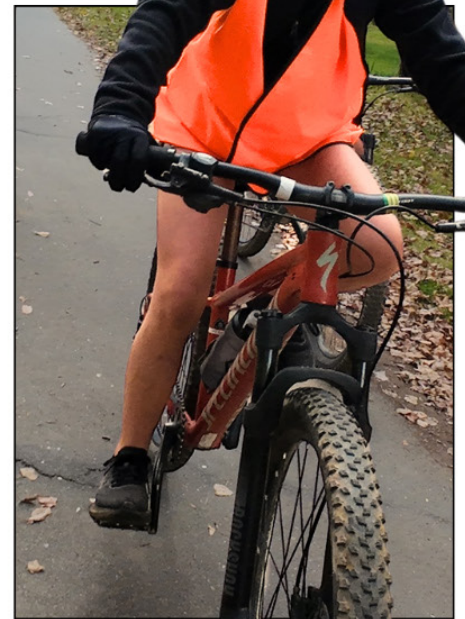


Twenty-five students in Years 7-9 tackled the mountains around Bright recently during their three-day mountain bike camp.

After safety briefings and orientation, the kids hit the trails around town, as well as the challenging trails of the nearby Mystic Mountain Adventure Park.

Based on their skills, students were then given the chance to graduate to the adventure park's toughest rides.

Happily exhausted after each day, students cooked their own meals and then settled into evenings around the fire to eat marshmallows and relive the day's adventures.



SMOKING CEREMONY KICKS OFF A WEEK OF REFLECTION

To kick off National Reconciliation Week, students attended the Danks St campus at the start of June to observe a special smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country performed by James from the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.

It was a moment to reflect on our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and how we can contribute to reconciliation in Australia.

VALLEY A LITTLE GREENER



It was a labour of love when a group of Year 9 SEAL students travelled to the Yarra Valley last month to plant 700 native seedlings they had been nurturing for more than five months.

The seedlings had been growing on the roof of the Bay St campus since December, and had survived hungry possums, caterpillars and starlings, as well as summer storms.

The seeds and the equipment (700 potting tubes, soil, sand, fertiliser, labels and polystyrene transport boxes) had been supplied by TreeProject, a not for profit group that works with urban and rural communities to revegetate the land.

The students had grown a mixture of wattles, paperbarks, spikey moses, sheoaks, goodenia (a luscious ground cover) and swamp gums from seeds which, after 24 weeks, were now 15-24cm tall and ready for planting.

They travelled to a site beside a creek at Yering Station winery and, after a quick planting demonstration, enthusiastically took on the task of planting trees randomly in a 100m stretch of paddock next to the vines.

The students worked for four hours, only stopping for morning tea and a lunchtime barbecue provided by the winery.

The students were told that their trees would add to the protection of the vineyard by bringing in desirable insects, and stopping erosion along the banks of the creek.

Thanks to APC's resident green thumb Tony Lopreiato and teachers Oshaen-Lynn Schwart and Sarah Hart for making the event possible.



GREEN THUMBS:
The Year 9s tackle a 100m stretch of land in the Yarra Valley last month.





CONCERT HITS ALL THE RIGHT NOTES

Proud families and friends filled the Gasworks Theatre for two nights early this month for the annual APC Music Concert.

And, judging by the thunderous applause after each act, our talented musicians and singers hit all the right notes during the show.

From the delicate sounds of the flute ensemble through to the screaming crescendo of school's current rock gods, Just Genes, the night was a celebration of musical talent and creativity.

It was particularly impressive to hear so many original compositions during the night.

Well done also to APC's wonderful music staff, who joined in some of the songs and worked so hard behind the scenes to ensure both nights went off without a hitch.

Marshall White Port Phillip is the principal sponsor of APC's major performing arts events, which includes the annual Music Concert. We are grateful to directors Oliver Bruce and Ben Manolitsas for their continuing support.





SUPPORT OUR **NEW** ARTS CAMPUS

Albert Park College has launched a major fundraising drive to help fund the fitout of the new performing arts campus.

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

**GO TO
VYAP.COM.AU
TO DONATE**

STUDENTS USE THEIR CREATIVITY TO LEAD AND INSPIRE



The artistic creativity of our students was on full display during Arts Week last month.

The week-long program had a wonderful mix of workshops and activities to get everyone's creative juices flowing. These included:

- Mark making (using lines, dots, shapes and textures to build artwork) at the NGV, inspired by the themes of contemporary artist Joshua Yeldham.
- Creating edible masterpieces by learning new techniques and skills to produce professional-

looking cup cake designs.

- Discovering the magic of using sunlight and photosensitive cyanotype paper to create beautiful 'blue' photographic prints.
- Working with professional textile designers to transform old hoodies into one-of-a-kind garments by designing and printing their own graphics, and then learning hand-sewing techniques to add texture, detail and personal style.

(Story continues on the next page)





- Taking figure drawing to the next level during a tutored, full day of drawing using a live model.
- Using photoshop layering techniques to slice, reshape and remix photographic portraits into surreal, organic mash-up artworks.

Teachers were invited to get creative, too, and submit work for a pop-up art show.

They responded with a wide variety of works, from paintings, drawings and sculptures, to knitted pieces, video art and poetry.

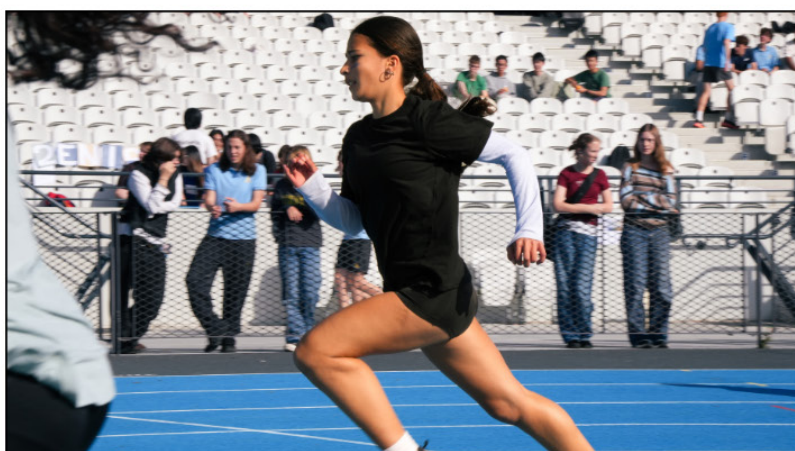
Create Visual CAT Leader and Art Week organiser, Michelle Luckman, said it was a wonderful week of creativity.

“It was fantastic to see so many students push their artistic boundaries, and everyone had plenty of fun, too,” Michelle said.



**“IT WAS A
WONDERFUL
WEEK OF
CREATIVITY”**





The annual APC Athletics carnival was held under clear, sunny skies at the end of May and, with House pride on the line, there was no shortage of fierce competition at all year levels.

As is tradition, many Year 12 students celebrated their final aths carnival by competing in fancy dress.

Congratulations to the students who set new school records:

DISCUS

Ginger Owens,
Year 7 (15.08m)
Morris Waring,
Year 10 (20.1m)
Lucy Best,
Year 11 (18.3m)

LONG JUMP

Nellie Sharman-Hayward,
Year 7 (3.84m)
Zara McLean,
Year 9 (4.44m)

TRIPLE JUMP

Georgia SERBAN,
Year 7 (8.43m)
Tom CHARD,
Year 7 (9.9m)
Jacob COLLETT,
Year 8 (10.3m)

800 METRES

Bronte Barbarczy,
Year 7 (2.30.65)

(More results on next page)





400 METRES

Daisy Dickie, Year 7 (1.13.78)

Venete Abboud, Year 8 (1.11.10)

STUDENT CHAMPIONS

1st: Annabelle Ebeling
(Year 10) 240pts

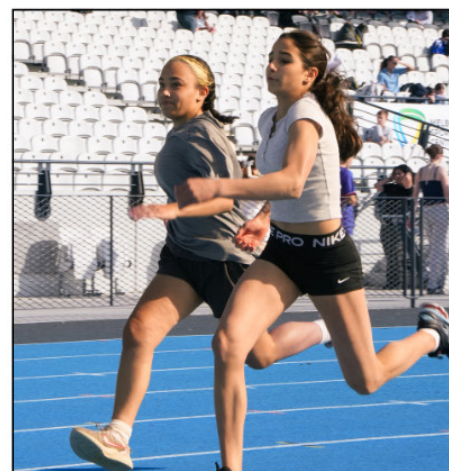
2nd: Jacob Collett
(Year 8) 190pts

3rd: Patrick Moore
(Year 12) 175pts

4th: Zara McLean
(Year 9) 170pts

5th: Huxley Reed
(Year 7) 165pts

Bragging rights went to Flannery, which was named House champion with 6315 points.



MONSTER TEST MAKES HISTORY

Last week, APC held the largest General Achievement Test (GAT) in its history, with more than 500 students sitting the assessment.

The GAT, which is an enduring rite of passage for all Victorian students completing a Year 12 subject, is an essential part of the senior years' curriculum.

While the test does not count directly towards VCE scores, GAT results are used to check that VCE external

assessments and school-based assessments have been accurately and fairly assessed across the state.

The GAT is conducted under VCE-standard supervision and that it went so smoothly was a credit to our teaching staff, supervisors and IT and maintenance teams.

GAT results will be reported on the student's GAT Statement of Results, which will be issued as part of the student results package in December.



STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

FACE OFF

AT THE

BAKE-OFF



The Year 12s and their teachers took their sugar levels to new highs in their annual Bake-off last week.

The event was the final challenge between the two groups before the Class of 2026 began their Unit 3 practice exams.

Our chefs baked an exotic array of dishes the night before and brought them into Danks St for judging.

To ensure no skulduggery in the judging panel, student and teacher judges enlisted some Year 7s to also taste and vote.

And the winners were:

In third place, Year 12 student Vinudi Mainthri Waduge, who baked an impressive amount and a varied array of different types of cookies and brownies.

In second place, Year 12 student Anna Ben Khalfallah, who baked cookies that were gluten-free, egg-free, nut-free and soy-free but definitely not taste free!

In first place, with a victory to the teachers, was Amelia Charlton's winning brookies-brownie cookies with a bischoff cream centre!

Fun all round!

SUGAR HIT: Year 12 students and teachers (top) celebrate another successful bake-off.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

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 financial circumstances and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS and EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors. Excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works while sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are a part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school excursions, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or support an out of home care student you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid directly 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 \$400 for all school students.

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from the website below.

If you applied for CSEF at your child's school last year, you do not need to complete an application form this year 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 this year.
- **changed family circumstances:** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing this year.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about CSEF visit:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/camps-sports-and-excursions-fund>



CHILD SAFETY AND WELLBEING AT ALBERT PARK COLLEGE: INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES AND THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Albert Park College is committed to providing an environment where students are safe and feel safe.

We have a zero tolerance for child abuse and are committed to protecting children from harm.

Our comprehensive child safety framework outlines our school's strategies to support student safety and wellbeing.

The framework includes the following policies, codes and procedures:

- **Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy**
- **Child Safety Code of Conduct**
- **Child abuse (including grooming) – identification and response**
- **Yard Duty and Supervision Policy**
- **Complaints Policy**

- **Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy**
- **Bullying Prevention Policy**
- **Volunteers Policy**
- **Visitors Policy**
- **Acceptable Use Agreement**
- **Preventing and Addressing Racism in Schools**

Our students and their families are important partners in keeping our students safe.

We value feedback and ideas on how we can continuously strengthen our child safety framework.

If you have any suggestions or comments please contact:

Assistant Principal Nicole Kelly nicolekelly@albertparkcollege.vic.edu.au



UNITED ENERGY
**AROUND
THE BAY**

18.10.2026

JOIN THE FUN!



WHY VOLUNTEER ON UNITED ENERGY AROUND THE BAY?

- » Support the bike riding community and help more than 7,000 riders enjoy an iconic event.
- » Support our charity partners.
- » Boost your resume by gaining valuable work experience.
- » Meet new people and make connections with like-minded people.
- » Be a part of an exciting, fun-filled event.

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER TODAY

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VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE

T-SHIRT, CAP & WATER BOTTLE*
CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

*ROUTE MARSHALS WILL BE PROVIDED
A HI VIZ VEST FOR SAFETY PURPOSES

CHOOSE HOW YOU CAN HELP



EVENT VILLAGE

Get stuck into the action by helping at the start or finish line, handing out race packs, or lending a hand with one of many important jobs in the buzzing event village.

Located at Albert Park



REST AREA

Help set up and run a rest area where riders can refuel, recharge and keep pedalling with a smile.

**Multiple locations available
around the bay**



ROUTE MARSHAL

Help keep riders safe and on track by cheering them on and pointing them in the right direction along the course.

**Multiple locations available
around the bay**