

Contacts 2010

**Personal Difficulties
College Support Team:**
Sue Bull
Chaplain: Katie Sargent
College Nurse: Barb Semler
Primary Welfare Officer:
Jamie Roberts

Absences: Sue Jones

**Katyl (A Wing)
Learning Community**
Jason Bysouth / Bree Franks

**Merin (C Wing)
Learning Community**
Leanne Miller / Tim McInnes

**Kappen (Library)
Learning Community**
Sue Pollard / Trent Bysouth

**Wannop (Hall)
Learning Community**
Ron Llewelyn / Paul Ellis

Advisory Teachers:
Merin
MBW Ben Waters
MCE Christine Edgar
MCH Christine Henty
MHP Helen Peppink
MJS Christine Henty
MJT Jean Stephens
MKD Karen Dale
MLS Leigh Schroeter
MNC Naomi Ciezki
MRJ Ron James
MSM Shawn McCormick
MTJ Therese Johnston
MTV Tilby Hayward

Katyl
LBM Bettina Morrison
LBP Barbara Pelly
LCJ Carolyn Jones
LCN Chloe Neath
LDA Dianne Andrea
LGD Geoff Dempster
LJM Jill McKenzie
LMA Mark Adams
LMR Matthew Reeves
LSB Sue Bull
LTD Terrie Dempster
LTL Tim Lawrance

Wannop
WBL Ben Lee
WDC David Crowley
WDM David Morrison-Blunck
WKP Kristen Purden
WMH Meryl Hayes
WMW Monica White
WRJ Raelen Jeffrey
WSS Sarah Smith
WTC Tarli Capicchiano
WTL Tracey Lee

Kappen
KAA Alan Aylward
KAS Amanda Southcombe
KBE Brian Edebohls
KDS Debbie Shipp
KEP Erin Pilkington
KGS Gary Schroeder
KJG James Ginnivan
KJM John McIntosh
KMG Michelle Griffin
KMM Madeleine Munger
KMS Marion Stewart
KPO Paul O'Shea
KRC Ryan Currie
KSH Stephen Hocking

School wide issues, emergencies etc

Principal:
Leanne Preece

Assistant Principal:
Helen Tuohy

Weeroona College Bendigo

NEWSLETTER

383 Napier Street, White Hills 3550
PO Box 566, Bendigo 3552

Phone: (03) 5443 2133 Fax: (03) 5442 7641
Email: Weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.weeroona.vic.edu.au

School Times:

Start: 9.00 am

Lunch: 11.46 am—12.34 pm

Recess: 1.47 pm—2.07 pm

Finish: 3.20 pm

Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday

8.15 am—4.15 pm

Friday

8.15 am—4.00 pm

Newsletter No. 1 Friday 5th February, 2010

What's Happening Term 1....

Calendar

February

8th:: College Council—7.00 pm

9th:: School Photos Catch up day

12th:: Weeroona College Bendigo Swimming Sports

26th:: EMA Applications / Conveyance Allowance forms due

March

1st:: College Council—7.00 pm

8th:: Labour Day Public Holiday

26th:: Last Day Term 1

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

WELCOME EVERYONE

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to everyone at Weeroona College Bendigo for the 2010 school year. This is an incredibly exciting time to be a part of the Learning Community at WCB with so many things being put into place to ensure that we cater for each and every one of our students.

Start Up Day

It was terrific to see everyone at school on Monday at our Start Up Day to ensure that all our students are **Ready to Learn in 2010**. Thank you to all parents in supporting your children and waiting in the heat. I know that many of you had a long wait and your feedback on Monday was appreciated. Our office staff are already looking at how to improve the system for next year. A special mention to all staff involved in the organisation of Start Up Day.

A reminder to everyone that we have new names for our Learning Communities. These names come from the language of the Dja Dja Wrung people:

Kappen (Library) - Earth
Katylil (A Wing) - Running Water
Merin (C Wing) - Wind
Wannop (Hall) - Fire

New Buildings

We have had an excellent start to the 2010 school year, across the college, with classes settling down quickly. A credit to all staff and students as we adapt to our new learning spaces. Fantastic to see everyone in Kappen and Wannop enjoying the new facilities. For all interested parents, I will be opening up the new facilities very soon and you will receive an invitation to come and view our 21st century learning spaces.

Fully Staffed

I am pleased to report that this school year has begun in a very positive way with a full complement of staff who are working to ensure that we cater for all students and assist them to improve their learning outcomes. As you may be aware the staff returned three days earlier than students this year and we spent our time focusing on our own learning strategies that will improve our teaching and our relationships with our students.

School Strategic Plan

The major focus for Weeroona College Bendigo this year will continue to improve student learning, student engagement and wellbeing and student pathways and transitions as set out in our Strategic Plan. Our plan enables us to have a clear and concise pathway for improvement for our College. We have a range of targets and key improvement strategies for each of the four years of the Strategic Plan.

MySchool Website

Parents may have seen reports of a new Federal Government web site which provides data on Australian schools. The performance element of this data, the NAPLAN results, are not new – parents will have been receiving these results for their child for several years. However, the way in which data is grouped is different. The new site provides an **Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA)**, which attempts to identify socio-educationally similar schools across Australia for the purposes of comparing the performance of schools. It divides the population in quarters, then allocates a percentage that a school has in each of these quarters. These broad statistics contain

some of the data our school uses as part of our improvement planning each year.

It is important to keep in mind that the data provided on the site talks about large groups, not individuals. It is still the case that the best way to find out how your child is going at school is to read the student reports distributed at the end of each semester, and to talk to teachers at Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences and keep in contact with your child's Teacher Advisor.

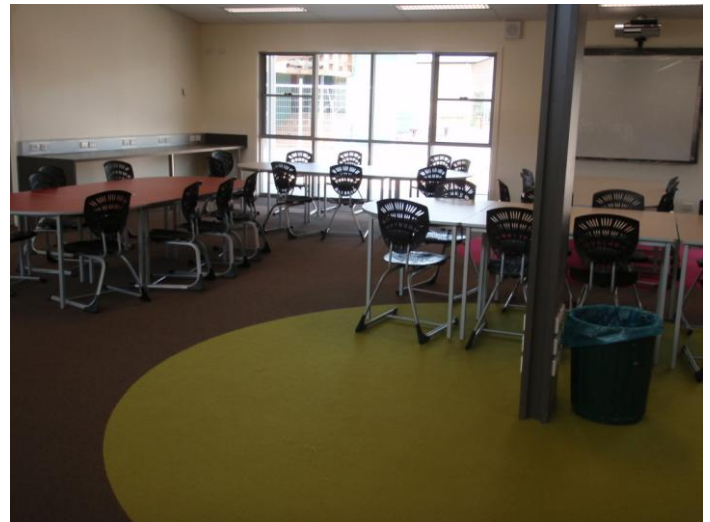
If you have questions about the MySchool site, please contact the school – we will be happy to talk to you about what the data is saying about our school, how we are responding to it and our commitment to ensuring that your daughter or son achieves to the best of their ability.

Can I also refer you to the **School Performance Summary** as an alternative and richer way of evaluating and comparing school performance? This is available at www.vrqa.vic.gov.au

Our School Vision

Everyone who is part of the learning community of Weeroona College Bendigo is planning and working hard to ensure that our college vision "Weeroona College Bendigo is committed to promoting the academic, social, personal and spiritual development of its students by providing a comprehensive and up-to-date education in a stimulating and supportive environment." becomes a reality.

Some photos of the new learning spaces -



Leanne Preece
Principal

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- Be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; **and**
- Be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 **or** be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner **or** be a foster parent.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (27th January, 2010) and Term 3 (12th July). The EMA application must be submitted to the college by **FRIDAY 26TH FEBRUARY, 2010** for the first payment and **FRIDAY 6TH AUGUST, 2010** for the second payment. The EMA provides an annual amount of \$225.00 for primary students and \$450.00 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments.

Please note if you completed an EMA application on Booklist Day, you do not need to apply again.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Applications for Conveyance Allowance should be lodged at the college no later than **FRIDAY 26TH FEBRUARY, 2010**. Students who reside more than 4.8 km **RADIALLY** from Weeroona College Bendigo or their nearest bus stop **may** be eligible.

For more information go to:

www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/lifeatschool/traveltoschool.htm

Parents who have applied in previous years and have not changed their address **do not** need to reapply again. We would like to pay parents by direct deposit starting from this year. If you have previously applied for Conveyance Allowance, please notify the office or email weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au of your bsb and bank account numbers.

Those who enrolled an additional sibling at the college will need to lodge an application for that student. Application forms are available at the General Office. Application forms need to have a map attached and marked also.

DEECD POLICY ON PERSONAL ITEMS

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance nor does it accept responsibility for private property brought to school by students, staff and visitors.

For more information please visit the following website:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/schooloperations/schoolcharges.htm>

PARKING

Parking and Animal Services from the City of Greater Bendigo have contacted our school and requested that the following information be conveyed to our school community.

The illegal parking of vehicles adjacent to our school is a major concern to the safety of children, pedestrians and other road

users. Parents are reminded that it is essential to comply with the parking restrictions when dropping off and collecting children from school.

Motorists must not stop in no stopping areas, next to a continuous yellow edge line, on resident's nature strips, too close to school crossings, park over driveways or Double Park. A number of schools have time restricted areas that assist with the pickup and drop off of students and these restrictions must be adhered to.

The law requires that a driver approaching a children's crossing must drive at a speed at which the driver can, if necessary stop safely before the crossing. Please slow down and take extra care when driving in school zones.

City of Greater Bendigo Parking Officers will conduct random patrols throughout the school year to ensure that motorists are adhering to the Road Rules.

LATE ARRIVALS / LEAVING THE COLLEGE

Students who need to leave the College during the day **MUST** bring a note signed by a Parent / Guardian to their child's Learning Community Leader or Parents can phone the College to give permission for their child to leave.

If students come late to school, they **MUST** sign in also with their Community Leader. They should have a note signed by a Parent / Guardian or a Parent can phone the college letting us know their child is late; otherwise they will be marked 'late unexplained' and receive a text message from the college.

WCB UNIFORM SHOP HOURS – DOBSONS

Telephone: 5442 1503

Term 1 SHOP HOURS:

Mon - 3.00 pm – 6.00 pm

Thurs - 8.30 am – 12.00 pm

Layby and EFTPOS facilities available. Some items of second-hand uniforms available.

PARENTS' CLUB

Election of Office Bearers

At the December meeting the following parents were elected in to the positions for the Weeroona College Parents' Club.

President - Jacoba Perryman

Vice President - Kym Blume

Secretary - Lynda Davies

Correspondence Secretary- Joanne Kingdon

Treasurer- Gay Huggard

Assistant Treasurer- Kellie Dickens

Parents Victoria Rep - Maxine Anderson

Next Meeting

All college parents and guardians are invited to attend the next meeting on Wednesday 10th February at 9.15am in the conference room. This is an opportunity to meet other parents, become more familiar with the college and ask questions about your child's school. Our Principal, Leanne Preece, will also attend the meeting and it is planned to tour the new learning communities that were completed in time for the new school year. Toddlers welcome. Tea and coffee provided.

SPORTS NEWS

House Leaders

Congratulations to the following individuals on being elected house captains at WCB for 2010.

Kimbolton	Matt	Whensday
	Isaac	Cody
Coliban	Rhys	Shelley
	Matt	Bridie
Metcalfe	Sam	Georgia
	Josh	Allison
Derrinal	Declan	Sophie
	James	Jo

The First major event will take place on Friday 12th February. This is the WCB Swimming Carnival which will be held at the Bendigo Aquatic Centre. House listings and meeting will be advertised in the following days. We look forward to having a vibrant day.

Term 1 Sport Dates

FEBUARY

Friday 12th - WCB Swimming Sports (Aquatic Centre)

Friday 26th – Swimming/Diving (Aquatic Centre- Convenor Girton)

MARCH

Friday 5th – Volleyball (Yrs 9&10 Boys Yrs 9&10 Girls)

Cricket (Yrs 9&10 Boys)

Tennis (Yrs 9&10 Boys, Yrs 9&10 Girls)

Golf (Yrs 9&10 Boys, Yrs 9&10 Girls)

T-Ball (Yrs 9&10 Girls)

Friday 12th - Volleyball (Yrs 7&8 Boys, Yrs7&8 Girls)

T-ball (Yrs 7&8 Girls)

Cricket (Yrs 7&8 Boys, Yrs 7&8 Girls)

Tennis (Yrs 7&8 Boys, Yrs 7&8 Girls)

Wednesday 17th – Northern Zone Swimming & Diving (Swan Hill)

Tuesday 23rd – WCB Athletics (Flora Hill Athletics Track)

Shawn McCormick
Sports Coordinator

MUSIC NEWS

There will be an Instrumental Music Information evening in the new Performing Arts Centre from 7.30 – 8.30pm on Thursday 18th February, 2010 for those students who are interested in learning an instrument.

Therese Johnston - College Music Coordinator

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL COMMUNITIES PROGRAM – TERM 1 2010

The program begins on Monday 8th February, 2010 and will run for 7 weeks, concluding on Tuesday 22nd March.

We hope to see as many students participating this term. It is important that we are able to offer children a well-structured program that allows maximum participation. The program is free and is open to any student in our Primary section. Forms are available from Mrs Jeffrey if you would like your child to participate. Forms must be completed at returned to school on or by Monday 8th February. The sessions conclude at 4.45 and we expect parents to promptly collect their child/ ren.

Week Commencing	Monday	Tuesday
8 th February	Skill Circuits	Multi-skills
15 th February	Skill Circuits	Multi-skills
22 nd February	Skill Circuits	Multi-skills
1 st March	Softball	Multi-skills
8 th March	NO ACTIVITIES	NO ACTIVITIES
15 th March	Softball	Aquatics
22 nd March	Softball	Aquatics

BARBARA'S SPACE

Hello I would like to introduce myself to those of you who don't know me. My name is Barbara. I am the Weeroona College Bendigo nurse. I guess a lot of people are wondering what the role of the school nurse is. I work within the College Support Team of the school.

As part of the team, I am involved in health education and health promotion throughout the school. So what does this mean? It means that I am involved in class activities, one on one sessions with students who have any manner of health concerns, group activities, whole school health promotions. I also write newsletter articles on topics related to Adolescent health

I have been thinking about the important job that parenting is. How much it provides rewards but also challenges. To help with the challenges I thought it would be good to let you know about a service that is available to all parents in Victoria. Parentline provides a telephone counselling service to parents of children up to 18 years. They are able to explore a variety of issues that impact on parenting and relationships. They can also provide contact details for community services. They are available from 8am to midnight weekdays and 10am - 10pm on the weekends. It is a confidential and anonymous service to all families in Victoria. Parentline is able to access the interpreter service if required. The TTY line is available people who are deaf, hearing or speech impaired. The phone number is 13 22 89 (the cost of a local call).

I hope you have all had a safe and enjoyable time during the summer holidays.

Barbara Semler - College Nurse

CANTEEN PRICE LIST EFFECTIVE – JANUARY 2010

HOT FOOD

School Potato Pies	Everyday	\$1.80
School Sausage Roll	Everyday	\$1.60
Party Pies	Everyday	\$1.00
Spring Rolls	Everyday	\$2.00
Hot Dogs	Everyday	\$2.20
Hot Dogs with cheese	Everyday	\$2.50
Pizza Singles	Everyday	\$1.80
Pizza Roundas	Everyday	\$2.00
Dim Sims	Everyday	.80
1 Dim Sim in roll	Everyday	\$1.60
2 Dim Sim in roll	Everyday	\$2.20
3 Dim Sim in roll	Everyday	\$3.00
Chicken Chippees sml	Everyday	\$2.00
Chicken Burgers	Everyday	\$3.50
Fantastic Noodles	Everyday	\$2.20
Hot Chick. Rolls/gravy	Everyday	\$3.50
Hot Lamb Rolls/gravy	Everyday	\$3.50
Nachos	Everyday	\$2.70
Chicken Chilli Wrap	Everyday	\$3.50
Milo, Hot Chocolate	2 nd & 3 rd Term	\$1.00
Lamb Souvlaki	Everyday	\$3.50
Spaghetti Bolognaise	Everyday	\$3.50
Soup	Everyday	\$2.00

COLD FOOD

Buttered roll	\$1.00
Salad Rolls –ham or chicken	\$3.50
Salad Sandwich – ham or chicken	\$3.00
Egg & Lettuce Sandwich	\$2.80
Salad Wrap – ham or chicken	\$3.50
Salad Pack – ham or chicken	\$3.50
Small Fruit Pack	\$1.80
Large Fruit Pack	\$2.40

DRINKS

600 ml Flavoured Milk	\$2.70
250 ml Flavoured Milk	\$1.50
300 ml Apple Juice	\$1.50
300 ml Orange Juice	\$1.50
200 ml Just Juice – assorted flavours	\$1.00
600 ml Water	\$1.20
600 ml Powerade light	\$2.50
450 ml Sprite Zero	\$2.00
450 ml Coke Zero	\$2.00
500 ml Vitamin Water	\$2.50
600 ml Mineral Water	\$2.20

ICE CREAMS

Billabong Ice creams	\$1.20
Cruncha	.60
Quench Smoothies	.50
Slushy	\$1.50
Paddle Pops	\$1.20
Paddle Pop Thick Shake	\$1.80
Pine Lime Spice	\$2.00
Mini Calipo	.80
Frozen Yoghurt	\$1.70
Icy Pole	.90



HEALTH

Yoghurts	\$2.00
Pieces of fruit	.80



SNACKS

Popcorn	\$1.00
Chips – assorted flavours	\$1.00
Assorted Cakes	\$2.00
Milo Bars	\$1.00
Rice Cakes	\$1.00
Sultana Snaps	.30
School Straps	.60
Tiny Teddys	\$1.00
Go Natural Fruit Bar	\$1.40



SUSHI

On Tuesday and Thursday only (MUST be ordered the day before)

Sushi Rolls .90 a piece

Salmon / Avocado, Tuna Mayo,
Teriyaki Chicken, Veg / Tofu, Prawn Mayo

Rice Paper Rolls \$2.50

Chicken, Vegetable, Prawn

Inari Pockets \$2.75

Seaweed, Avocado, Teriyaki Chicken,
Lime Tuna, Prawn Mayo

Operating Hours:

8.30 – 8.55am

Lunch & Recess Times

3.20 – 3.45pm

School Council Elections 2010 – Information for Parents

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally formed bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within centrally provided guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

There are three possible categories of membership:

- **A mandated elected Parent category.** More than one third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not employed at the school.

- **A mandated elected DEECD employee category.** Members of this category may make up no more than one third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

- **An optional Community member category.** Its members are appointed by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DEECD employees are not eligible to be Community members.

The term of office for all members is two years. Half the members must retire each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider

- standing for election as a member of the school council
- Encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a notice and call for nominations following the commencement of Term 1 each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DEECD employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not employed are eligible to nominate as parents for the school council where their child is enrolled

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the notice of election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

If there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

- Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do
- Consider standing for election to council this year
- Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal, Leanne Preece for further information.

Weeroona College Bendigo School Council School Council Election Timeline

EVENT	DATE
Notice of election and call for nominations	Newsletter, Friday 6 February 2010
Closing date for nominations	4.00pm Friday 13 February 2010 Nominations returned to the Principal via the General Office
Date by which the list of candidates and nominators will be displayed	Wednesday 24 February 2010
Date by which ballot papers will be prepared and distributed	On or before Monday 1 March 2010
Close of ballot	4.00pm Tuesday 9 March 2010
Vote count	4.15pm Tuesday 9 March 2010
Declaration of ballot	5.00pm Tuesday 9 March 2010
First council meeting to coopt Community members (the principal will preside)	Monday 15 March 2010
Second council meeting to elect office bearers (the principal will preside)	Monday 15 March 2010

Schedule 4 Notices of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Weeroona Secondary College.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged by 4 pm on 13/02/2009.

The ballot will close at 4 pm on 09/03/2010.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

Membership category	Term of office	Number of positions
Parent member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2010 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012	4
DEECD employee member	From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2010 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012	2

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.



Principal