

## Contacts 2011

**Personal Difficulties**  
**College Support Team:**  
Sue Bull  
**Chaplain:** Katie Sargent  
**College Nurse:** Sarah Warburton

**Absences:** (03) 4433 4911

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

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

**Kappen**  
**Learning Community**  
Sue Pollard / Trent Bysouth

**Wannop**  
**Learning Community**  
Monica White / Paul Ellis

**Advisory Teachers:**  
**Merin** MCE Christine Edgar  
MCH Christine Henty  
MCT Christine Toose  
MHP Helen Peppink  
MJS Jean Stephens  
MKD Karen Dale  
MLS Leigh Schroeter  
MRJ Ron James/Leanne Miller (Fridays)  
MSM Shawn McCormick  
MTJ Therese Johnston

**Katyl** LBM Bettina Morrison/Kirsty Seipolt (Wednesdays)  
LCJ Carolyn Jones  
LCN Chris Novak  
LDA Dianne Andrea  
LGD Geoff Dempster  
LJG Jaime Gray  
LJM Jill McKenzie  
LMA Mark Adams  
LMR Matthew Reeves  
LSB Sue Bull  
LTL Tim Lawrance/Bree Franks (Mondays)

**Wannop** WBL Ben Lee  
WDC David Crowley  
WMG Michelle Griffin  
WKP Kristen Purden  
WMH Meryl Hayes  
WRL Ron Llewelyn  
WRJ Raelene Jeffrey  
WSS Sarah Smith  
WTC Tarli Capicchiano  
WTL Tracey Lee  
WQU Linda Quarrier/Monica White (Fridays)  
WCN Chloe Neath

**Kappen** KAA Alan Aylward  
KAS Amanda Southcombe/  
Sue Pollard (Mondays)  
KBE Brian Edebohls  
KDS Debbie Shipp  
KEP Erin Pilkington  
KGS Gary Schroeder  
KJG James Ginnivan  
KJM John McIntosh  
KMM Madeleine Munger/  
Trent Bysouth (Fridays)  
KMS Marion Stewart  
KPO Paul O'Shea  
KRC Ryan Currie  
KSH Stephen Hocking

**School wide issues, emergencies etc**

**Principal:**  
Leanne Preece

**Assistant Principal:**  
Helen Tuohey

# 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](mailto:Weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
Website: [www.weeroona.vic.edu.au](http://www.weeroona.vic.edu.au)

### School Times:

**Start: 9.00am**  
**Lunch: 11.46am—12.34pm**  
**Recess: 1.47pm—2.07pm**  
**Finish: 3.20pm**

### Office Hours:

**Monday—Friday**  
**8.15am—4.00pm**

Newsletter No. 1 Friday 11th February, 2011

## What's Happening Term 1....

### Calendar

#### February

14th:: School Photos Catch up day  
14th:: College Council—7.00 pm  
15th:: Year 7 Water Safety Day  
15th:: Year 7 Music Information Evening—7.30 pm A.T. Dingle Performance Centre  
28th:: EMA Applications / Conveyance Allowance forms due

#### March

1st:: College Council—7.00pm  
14th:: Labour Day Public Holiday  
21st—23rd:: Year 7 Campaspe Downs Camp

#### April

8th:: Last Day Term 1—2.30pm Finish  
25th:: Easter Monday Holiday  
26th:: ANZAC Day Holiday in Lieu  
27th:: Term 2 Begins

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Dear Parents and Students

Welcome back to what promises to be an extraordinary year at Weeroona College Bendigo. We hope it is a year for you that is rewarding and fulfilling as we continue the partnership in education with your children and you. I hope that you have all taken that well deserved break over the Christmas, New Year period and I send my heartfelt thoughts to those of you with family or friends that have been affected by the devastating floods, cyclones or other sad events during our summer holidays.

It is fantastic that so many of you committed to the Start Up Day sessions last week and I hope that you recognise the commitment from all WCB staff to personalise the learning for your child/children. Please ensure that who know who your child's Teacher Advisor and Learning Community Leaders are and get to know them so that the partnership between home and school is real.

### At Weeroona College Bendigo

We believe that your child's education is a partnership between school and home. The Advisor is the bridge between teachers, students and parents.

Advisors are the people you would contact first if you have any concerns regarding your child.

### What is an Advisor?

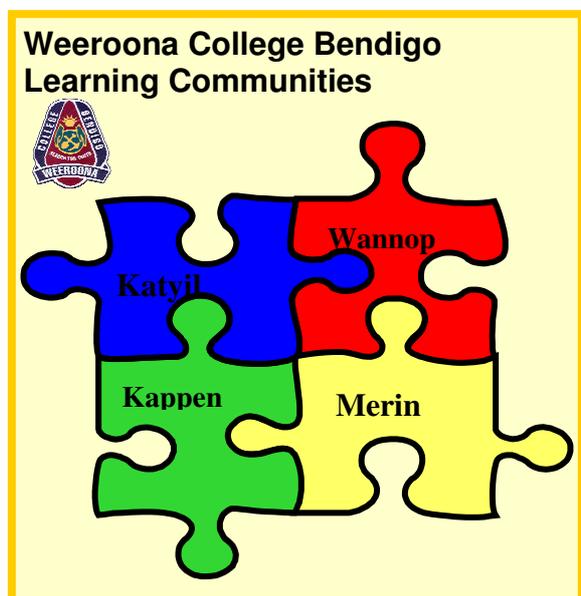
An advisor is a teacher who plays a significant role in overseeing your child's education during their time at Weeroona College Bendigo.

In the secondary section of the school at Weeroona College Bendigo we have formed our Advisory groups of 16 students from across years 7-10. This means that each Advisor is responsible for the social, emotional and academic wellbeing of approximately 4 students from each year level, maintaining this relationship across all four years at Weeroona College Bendigo.

This allows teachers to:

- Develop a strong relationship with their Advisees.
- Develop a strong relationship with parents.

At Weeroona College Bendigo we aim to provide a supportive learning environment for our students. The Advisor also plays an important role in developing student connectedness to school by fostering a relationship with students and parents over the four years they attend our school.



### 1-to-1 Learning @ Weeroona College Bendigo

This year, staff are really looking forward to all our students in years 5 to 10 having their own netbooks and much planning has already taken place with this in mind. 1-to-1 is about learning, not technology. Students require a curriculum that meets the demands of an increasingly globalised and interconnected world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We believe that this is an important element for learning and teaching and will complement the Ultraset by providing two way communication, collaboration and learning opportunities between teachers, students and parents. A reminder that the school is making a significant contribution to the cost and maintenance of the school netbook program and you have been asked to support this project by making a financial contribution (eLearning Levy) of \$100, per year to support the running costs. We believe this contribution is offset by the minimal number of text books which our students are required to purchase and many of you will be able to claim the cost against the Education Tax Refund.

<http://www.ato.gov.au/individuals/content.asp?doc=/content/00174278.htm&pc=001/002/067/001/001&mnu=&mfp=&st=&cy=1>

We recognise that some families may have computers at home and may already have purchased netbooks or other portable devices therefore it is necessary to emphasise the importance of your child being a part of the school netbook program for the following reasons:

The netbooks will be owned by the school and as such will be under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education and Early Childhood. (DEECD).

This offers a number of important advantages:

- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) netbooks are provided with a full suite of licensed educational software (DEECD eduStar image) equivalent to approximately \$600 in value. Privately owned computers cannot be loaded with the DEECD image. Classroom programs and curriculum are designed around the availability of this range of software.
- DEECD netbooks will be maintained and managed by the school through the department's technical support. This ensures that the netbooks are up to date with the latest virus protection, software updates, safety and security. Privately owned devices cannot be managed in the same way and the department recommends that such devices are not connected to the school VicOne network.
- The cost of the DEECD netbooks are supplemented by the school. The personal use of the netbooks is offered to each student at a substantial reduction in cost to parents.

A further reminder to you that:

- Students and parents are required to sign an Acceptable User agreement outlining the use of the netbook as a learning and educational tool. Schools will be required to make occasional checks on appropriate and safe use of the netbook. This is substantially more difficult with privately owned machines.
- Students will be supplied with a device that will be no more than 2 years old with up to date hardware and software.
- Warranty and insurance processes will be managed by the school and are aimed to ensure that any damage or faults are dealt with in a timely manner according to school policy.

Our vision for the learning needs of your child includes access to their netbook anywhere, anytime. At home, as well as at school. We look forward to having all of our year 5 to 10 students being part of the 1:1 initiative and thank you in advance of your support.

## Australian Government's National Solar Schools Program

Our school has been successful in obtaining funding from the Australian Government's National Solar Schools Program. We will be using this to install solar panels. Over 2,000 schools submitted an application in the 2010-11 funding round and approximately 1,200 schools were successful. Applications were competitively assessed against three criteria: value for money, environmental benefit and educational benefit. The grant will give our school a head start in tackling climate change and conserving Australia's precious non-renewable resources.

*Leanne Preece*  
Principal

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



# IT'S NOT OK TO BE AWAY

Every day counts so .....

**It is better to come to school late than not to come at all.**

Days off for birthdays, shopping etc are not acceptable absences from school.

**Every day counts, so students need to be at school unless very ill or because of exceptional family circumstances.**

Being away one day a week may not seem a lot at the time but across a school term this can amount to 10 school days or 2 school weeks. Across a year this would amount to 40 school days or 8 school weeks, which is almost a term in total!!

### Year 10 Rugby Tops

It is anticipated that Rugby Tops ordered in 2010 should arrive by the end of February.

There is a late order in place now for new students and students who didn't place their order last year.

The General Office has order forms with cost, sizes etc. Order forms and money must be returned to the General Office by Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Money must be with orders and orders will not be accepted without payment. This will be the final chance to order Rugby Tops for 2011.

### Sunsmart – Term 1

Term 1 is the time of year when students are strongly encouraged to wear hats outside during recess, lunch, PE and sports electives.

The college policy re the wearing of hats applies during Term 4 and Term 1. The only hat to be worn is the college approved hat available through the Dobson's uniform shop. Peaked hats are not sunsmart, not approved by the Cancer

Council of Victoria, not part of the College uniform, and therefore are not to be worn.

### Late Arrivals

Students are reminded that when arriving late to school from home/dentist appointment etc are asked to 'sign in' through their Learning Communities so that attendance rolls can be changed and a Late Note given. Learning Community Leaders have a late arrivals diary that all students need to sign.

### Personal Goods Brought to School

Families are asked to note that 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.

This includes mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

## 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.

It is now a DEECD requirement that when picking up a student from school that identification be shown i.e. Drivers licence. This will be completed at the General Office. Please understand that this is now a directive of the Department of Education for schools, for the protection of your children.

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

## IMPORTANT REMINDER - COST OF MEDICAL TREATMENT

Parents/guardians are asked to note that Weeroona College Bendigo does not have a whole-of-school insurance policy and are therefore reminded of the following:

- parents/guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs; and
- reasonably low cost accident insurance policies are available from commercial insurers.

## 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 (1<sup>st</sup> February, 2011) and Term 3 (18<sup>th</sup> July). The EMA application must be submitted to the college by **MONDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2011** for the first payment and **FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2011** 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 Start Up Day, you do not need to apply again.**

## CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE

Applications for Conveyance Allowance should be lodged at the college no later than **MONDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2011**. 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/traveltooschool.htm](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/lifeatschool/traveltooschool.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](mailto: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.**



## SCHOOL PHOTOS CATCH UP DAY

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February we will be taking the remaining student photos that weren't taken on Start Up Day.

## ILLEGAL 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, even briefly, with or without the motor running. They must not stop 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. Drivers should also be aware that they cannot perform a U-turn over an unbroken or continuous dividing line.

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 and Bendigo Police will conduct random patrols throughout the school year to ensure that motorists are adhering to the Road Rules.



## MUSIC NEWS

**An information evening** about the instrumental music program will be held at the College on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm. The evening will open with a performance by the Bendigo Colleges Symphonic Band.

Come along and hear them play from 7.00pm onwards, to see what your child could be a part of next year.

This will be followed by a slide show that outlines the Instrumental music program and the remainder of the evening can be spent meeting your child's teacher and asking all the questions you need answered. I look forward to meeting you all.

Senior Band starts this Thursday morning 19<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 8.00am in the A.T.Dingle Performing Arts Building.

Therese Johnston  
Instrumental Music Coordinator

## W C B NETBALL

If any students, parents or friends of the college wish to coach a Weeroona College Netball team entered into Golden City Netball Association Winter competition, could they please contact Karen Dale on 5443 2133.

## PARENTS' CLUB

### Let's Do Lunch

A meet and greet luncheon for new and existing college parents / guardians will be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2011 at the Botanical Gardens Hotel at 12 noon. An opportunity to share the "whole college experience – from knowledge through to friendship". For more information phone Maxine on 5443 8869.

## SPORTS NEWS

A happy start to the New Year. 2011 will see a busy year relating to school based sport.

This year will see a restructure in the VSSSA structure. The structure will now be known as the School Sports Victoria. All sports, competitions and pathways to state finals will be very similar.

2011 will also see the B.D.S.C.S.A (Bendigo District Secondary Colleges Sports Association) change its name to the Sandhurst Division. The vast majority of competitions, sports and carnivals will stay the same. One major change will see the re-introduction of Catholic College into the Bendigo district structure (Sandhurst Division). This is fantastic for your district and will ultimately derive greater competition. Catholic College like all state based colleges will now have the opportunity to follow the pathway to School Sport Victoria State Finals.

Term 1 is especially busy with Swimming Carnivals, Athletic Carnival (college based) and a variety of Sport Days. It is important that individuals wishing to be engaged in school based sport ensure that they make genuine efforts in relation to their general studies.

It is also of the utmost importance that students READ the daily bulletin each and every day, as this is the ONLY forum to promote sporting opportunities and meeting times. Students wishing to be involved in college based sport need to ensure that they turn up to advertised (through the school bulletin) meetings. This is essential.

We look forward to an enjoyable year in relation to W.C.B College based Sport.

## Term 1 Sport Dates

### FEBRUARY

**11<sup>th</sup> February** - WCB Swimming Carnival  
Bendigo Aquatic Centre

### MARCH

**2<sup>nd</sup> March** - Sandhurst Division (district) Swimming Carnival  
Bendigo Aquatic Centre

**10<sup>th</sup> March** - Year 9/10 Sports Day  
(Volleyball, Cricket, Tennis, T-Ball)

**17<sup>th</sup> March** - WCB Athletics Throwing Events  
Bendigo Athletics Complex

**24<sup>th</sup> March** - WCB Athletics Carnival  
Bendigo Athletics Complex

**25<sup>th</sup> March** - Year 7/8 Sports Day  
(Volleyball, Cricket, Tennis, T-Ball)

**1<sup>st</sup> April** - Year 7/8/9 Girls Football  
Strathfieldsaye Recreation Reserve

*Shawn McCormick*  
**Sports Coordinator**

## Triple G – Girls Get Going Physical activity & Wellbeing Survey

Weeroona College is one of another eight schools within regional and rural Victoria chosen to participate in the Triple G – girls get going research project being conducted by the University of Ballarat. The project is about improving the physical activity levels and the physical and mental wellbeing of adolescent girls who live in rural and regional areas.

All girls in Years 7 -9 are being asked to complete two surveys – one in Term 1, 2011 and a similar one in Term 1, 2012. The survey will ask questions about their participation in physical activity, their physical and mental wellbeing as well as factors which affect their participation in leisure and sport activities.

Students will receive parental permission forms and information regarding this project in the first week of school and we ask that the permission forms are returned to school by Monday February 14<sup>th</sup> at the latest, to allow for the administration of the survey to be conducted prior to the end of February. It is hoped that all girls will be permitted to take part in this important research project.

If you have any further questions regarding this project please do not hesitate to contact me on 54432133.

Thank you in anticipation.

*Dianne Andrea*  
**PE Teacher**

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

At a recent Victorian Track and Field Championships held in Ballarat – two Weeroona College Bendigo students & Bendigo YMCA Harriers team members Matthew C and Brayden S were successful in being Victorian Under 16 Champions. Brayden won the Under 16 Men's Javelin and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Long Jump.

Two other students from Weeroona last year Brenton H was third in the Under 18 Javelin and Richard K was third in the Under 18 Discus.

Matthew won the Under 16 men's 400 metres, 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 800 metres and 1500 metre events.

On 21-23<sup>rd</sup> January Victorian country champs u16 boys Gold medal in 400m time of 52.52 (fastest time for boy his age in 2010/2011 track season in Victoria) new Bendigo record, Silver in 800m, Bronze in 1500m. Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January Matthew ran the 800m in 201.55 (fastest time recorded for his age in Victoria) and broke the Bendigo record that's stood since 1988. On Australia day Matthew was awarded Mclvor Young Australian Citizen of the year award For Leadership Academic and Sporting Excellence.

On 26-28<sup>th</sup> February, 2011 Matthew will be competing in Vic Youth Championships at Olympic Park competing in the 200m, 400m, and 800m events. On 10-14<sup>th</sup> March Matthew heads to Sydney for the Youth Nationals as a member of the u16 boys Victorian team running the 400m and 800m events. All the best Matthew.

### Cross Country

With the Summer season nearly completed, the Cross Country season will follow starting in April, any students or families interested in participating in a friendly fitness activity that the whole family can participate in.

It will be held Saturday afternoons between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm.

For further information you can contact Miss. Purden or Ivan Kitt at Weeroona College Bendigo or further information will be put in later newsletters.

## WCB UNIFORM SHOP HOURS – DOBSONS

### Term 1 SHOP HOURS:

Mon - 3.00pm – 6.00pm      Thurs - 8.30am – 12.00pm

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

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### White Hills Junior Football Club Registration Day

The White Hills Junior Football Club will be holding a registration day for under 10, under 12, under 13 ½ and under 15 age groups, on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2011** at the clubrooms in Scott Street White Hills - **10am-12pm**.

### **UNDER 12, 13 ½ & 15**

The fees for the 2011 season are \$140.00 for the first child and \$135.00 for all subsequent children, but if paid on registration day will attract a \$5.00 discount per child.

### **UNDER 10**

The fees for the under 10 players have been set at \$90.00 for the first child and \$85.00 for all subsequent children, but if paid on registration day will attract a \$5.00 discount per child. Fees are payable on the day or alternatively a payment plan can be arranged with the Treasurer.

**Present and potential players are urged to attend registration day** so we can determine team numbers. If you are unable to attend but wish to play with the club, please contact Debbie Sawyer prior to the date. Inquiries or further information may be obtained from: Club President - Debbie Sawyer, 54483436.

### Epsom Soccer Club

We are having our registration day on the Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2011 at the Epsom Huntly Recreation Reserve between 4.00pm - 6.00pm.



### Eaglehawk Junior Football Club

The Registration Day for the Eaglehawk Junior Football Club will be held at the football club on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February from 11am until 1 pm. All current and new players are invited to come along to sign up for your age group team, including Youth Girls players.

There will be a BBQ lunch available and players who register and pay their fees on the day will receive a free membership to the Eaglehawk Football Club which will give free entry to all home games for one adult. There will also be a boot swap so bring along your old boots that don't fit and swap them for a pair that you can use for the season. For further information, contact Brad on 0448 558 085.

### “RUN WITH YOUR EYES OPEN”

**FUN RUN EVENT:** 4km run/walk and 8km run on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2011. 8:30am at Crusoe Reservoir. Entry into the event will cover the cost of a cataract operation for a blind person living in poverty. Great family day. Opportunity for your family to take action against poverty and avoidable blindness.

Register - [www.bendigosteopath.com.au/runwithyoureyesopen](http://www.bendigosteopath.com.au/runwithyoureyesopen)