

Contacts 2011

Personal Difficulties
College Support Team:
Sue Bull / Karen Dale
Chaplain: Carl Rusbridge
College Nurse: Sarah Warburton

Absences: (03) 4433 4911

Katylil
Learning Community
James Ginnivan / Bree Franks

Merin Learning Community
Leanne Miller / Tim McInnes

Kappen
Learning Community
Sue Pollard / Trent Bysouth

Wannop
Learning Community
Monica White / Paul Ellis

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

Katylil 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
WVG 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
Website: 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. 13 Friday 26th August, 2011

What's Happening Semester 2....

Calendar

September

5th:: College Council—7.00pm
23rd:: Last day of Term 3, 2.30pm Dismissal

October

10th:: First day of Term 4
26th:: Bendigo Cup Day Holiday (no school)

November

7th:: College Council—7.00pm
23rd:: Year 7 Boys & Girls Immunisations
23rd & 24th:: Year 10 Exams
25th—30th:: Year 10 BSSC Transition Day

December

1st & 2nd:: Year 10 BSSC Transition Day
5th:: College Council—6.30pm
6th:: 2012 Year 7 Transition Day
22nd:: Last day of Term 4

Absence Line: 4433 4911

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Learning Community Review

Half way through term three and so much has been happening at Weeroona College Bendigo. Amongst other things you may have been involved in a survey as part of our recent Learning Community Review which was conducted to enable us to determine if our current structure allows us to optimise our staff, resources and new learning spaces to ensure that all students are able to achieve their absolute best.

The major recommendation from the review committee has been to continue with the existing, cross year level structure for each of our 4 learning communities.

The review enabled a large amount of data to be gathered and for ease of understanding was divided into five key areas with the following recommendations:

Engagement and Wellbeing

- Staff and student feedback indicates that our current structure meets the expectations of the current engagement and wellbeing initiatives within our school.
- These findings in conjunction with 2011 student opinion data will validate or refute our findings and should therefore be further examined when this data becomes available.

Pathways and Transition

- A change to the advisory structure based on year levels would meet the concerns regarding pathways and transition. (Refer to advisory recommendations below).

Student Learning Team

- That time for Domain Learning Group's (DLG) is found by investigating the possibility of common non-teaching times for DLG teams within our timetable.
- The use of learning spaces has an effect on student learning. This needs to be considered when timetabling/organising/negotiating learning spaces.
- That student advisor play a more significant role in personalising learning for students and therefore allowing teachers to better stage relate.
- That teachers teaching across communities be minimised as much as possible.

Learning Community Leaders

- That further work is conducted on developing consistent protocols across all communities for managing student issues and that these protocols are shared with staff on a more regular basis at staff meeting to enable staff to feel more supported.
- At a future learning community leader meeting a process be discussed and decided on regarding protocols that must be followed to allow movement of students between communities.
- Communication to year levels is improved by implementing the advisory recommendations below.
- That computer technicians give all staff the ability to email year levels to improve communication to students

Advisory

- That a working party is developed to implement changes to our advisories structure for 2012 and whether or not staff transition with their advisories for 4 years.

Our recommendations are:

- Advisories become based around core groups
- The increase numbers may require more than one staff member or a greater time allocation to an advisory.
- Independent reading is moved to another location within the day.
- Advisors become more involved in personalising learning for students in their advisory.
- Advisors are more involved in student wellbeing and assisting students with extracurricular activities
- Investigate the timetable to see if there is room to increase the amount of contact time between advisories and students.
- That meeting time be created to enable advisors to meet at the particular year level at which they operate to allow consistency between communities to be lead by LC Leaders.(The focus of these meeting should be to ensure consistency between communities and may only be necessary once per semester or once per term)

Next Learning Community Review

- This learning community review team also recommends that the next Learning Community Review be conducted at a time after the whole school has operated in learning communities for a period of at least one full school year.

I would like to thank Jason Bysouth and members of the review committee for their time and effort put into this review as well as all parents, students and staff who were involved.

As a result of the recommendations I am currently considering how we will structure the Advisory groups for 2012 and more information will be made available to you in coming newsletters.

Introduction of Student Flying Program in Bendigo

Our year 9 and 10 students now have an exciting option available to them if they are interested in flying or any other aspect of the aviation industry. The Bendigo Flying Club (BFC) and Bendigo Aviation Services are offering student flying programs that cover both recreational flying and general aviation. The BFC Flying School has developed a student program to offer RA-A (Recreational Aviation Australia) pilot training for secondary students and four of our students have already started the program.

Bendigo Aviation Services have recently become a Registered Training Organisation and are offering industry certified General Aviation courses that can be accredited as part of students' VCE programs.

Aviation courses are run by several Victorian schools and on Monday, August 22, a fleet of 11 aircraft, all piloted by secondary school students from Woodleigh School, visited Bendigo on their way to a week of flying training at Tocumwal. Weeroona College Bendigo students, Patrick Dole and Francois Swart, met with the students. Francois was interviewed for the WIN News coverage of this event that screened on Monday evening.

For more information on the Bendigo secondary school training options, contact Brian Brennan at Weeroona College Bendigo.

Leanne Preece
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Every minute matters



Attendance at School

Students are reminded that as a college we have a commitment re students with unapproved absences.

Centrelink have informed us that if a student has 5 or more unapproved absences a term then we are able to notify them they will then terminate the student's Youth Allowance.

Now that we a definite Centrelink contact number we will be more diligent with this.

It is an expectation that all students attend school each day unless unwell and parents are able to contact the college through the absence phone line to notify us of this.

Helen Tuohy
Assistant Principal

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE...

College Newsletter

Our College newsletter is available on the college website www.weeroona.vic.edu.au on Friday's fortnightly. We will send a reminder SMS and email out to families who have given a mobile number and email address each fortnight. Printed copies are available at the office for any families that do not have access to the internet.

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.

Late Arrivals

If students come late to school, they MUST sign in at the GENERAL OFFICE. 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 you will receive a text message from the college.

WCB UNIFORM SHOP HOURS – DOBSONS

Please Note: The Uniform Shop is now in the portable opposite the school canteen. Phone: 4433 4947

Term 1 SHOP HOURS:

Mon - 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Thurs - 8.30am – 12.00pm

Lay-by and Credit Card facilities available. Some items of second-hand uniforms available.

PARENTS' CLUB

Cadbury Chocolate Raffle

The Parents Club will be selling raffle tickets for \$1 each for one lucky winner to receive a huge 10kg block of Cadbury's Chocolate. Small books of 10 tickets will be distributed from advisory sessions in the next few weeks with the raffle to be drawn on Friday the 23rd of September. All money raised will go towards the purchase of a new TV for each of the learning communities. Sold tickets with money can be returned to any Learning Community or the General Office.

Next Meeting

Our next Parents Club meeting will be held in the Merrin Community on Wednesday the 14th of September at 9.15am. Leanne Miller one of the community leaders will be our guest speaker at this meeting. All college parents and guardians welcome. Tea and coffee provided.

Father's Day Stall

Once again we will be holding a Father's Day Stall for all College students at Lunch time on Friday the 2nd of September.

Gifts will be priced from \$2 and can be purchased from the Father's Day gift table next to the covered basket ball court near the Wannop community.

Brick BBQ/Selkirk Named Pavers

The Parents Club main focus this year will be the construction of a brick BBQ in the college grounds with the area surrounding to be landscaped with the Selkirk named pavers that have been purchased by past and present students and staff. The opportunity still exists to purchase a named paver for \$30. The order form can be downloaded from the college website.

2011 Committee - President Kym Blume, Secretary Joanne Kingdon, Treasurer Gay Huggard. Ph 54412715

TAX FILE NUMBERS

All Year 9 students will have the opportunity to obtain a Tax File Number through the College in Humanities at the beginning of Term 4. If any student is requiring a TFN before this date you will need to get an application form from the post office.

CAREERS NEWS

Bendigo TAFE Open Day

Open Day – Sunday 28th August, 2011

For more information visit: www.bendigotafe.edu.au

Latrobe University Open Day 2011

Bendigo - 28th August

www.latrobe.edu.au/openday ph: 1300 135 045

SPORTS NEWS

Year 7 & 8 Table Tennis Sports Day

On the 11th of August 7/8 girls and boys went to the Eaglehawk badminton/table tennis complex. The year 7 girls won 2 matches and finished 3rd in third place, year 8 girls won 0 matches and finished equal fifth, year 7 boys won 2 matches and finished fifth, year 8 boys group one won 1 match and finished sixth, and year 8 boy group 2 won 2 matches and finished fifth. All up it was a good day everyone showed good sportsmanship, a special mention to Mitchell Davey for only losing one game match the whole day well done mate, and well done to all of the Weeroona students for behaving and representing the school.

Year 7/8 boys and girls Basketball report

Weeroona College entered 4 teams into the interschool basketball tournament held at the Bendigo stadium on the Thursday 11th of August. All 4 teams; year 7 boys and girls, year 8 boys and girls participated at a high level finishing 5th out of 8 schools. The year 7 girls missed out by 1 point in making the major semi-final. All students demonstrated a great level of sportsmanship and all the students behaviour was of the highest level. Thanks also to the 6 helpers and Mr Bowe who also attended the day and help coach/score all the teams.

It was great to see so many students from Weeroona College who are passionate about basketball and may even be future Braves players; I am looking forward to the year 9/10 basketball tournament on the 9th of September.

Year 7 & 8 sports day – HOCKEY

Weeroona College Bendigo had both a boys and girls team involved in the Hockey carnival held at the Bendigo Hockey Complex, Ironbark. Although both teams did not win the carnival, it was pleasing to see that teams were competitive and from all reports all individuals portrayed WCB in a strong manner. Well done to all students involved in the carnival including the year 10 students and VET Sport and Recreation students who assisted in the competition. Special thanks to Mrs Ryan who helped coach the teams on the day.



Members of the year 7/8 Hockey team

CLAY TARGET COMPETITION –ECHUCA

Thursday 11 August saw the regional Clay Target Shooting Championship take place at Weeroona College Bendigo. Weeroona College Bendigo had 5 competitors involved in this competition. The event was made more difficult with a strong wind blowing throughout the competition. Competitors competed in 2 sets of 10 shots. Below is a breakdown of the results.

Laura W – 15 targets, WINNER OF THE JUNIOR GIRLS COMPETITION.

Garth D - 15 targets, 3rd in JUNIOR BOYS COMPETITION

Brad H – 13 targets

Jayden C – 7 targets

Rowan K – 4 targets

Congratulations to all competitors and good luck to Laura Woolley who will now represent the college at the upcoming State championship to be held at the Woodvale Gun Club, Bendigo.



NETBALL

If any students are interested in playing twilight netball for Weeroona College Bendigo, they can get an entry form from Ms Dale. The first round of games at Golden City Netball courts begin on Wednesday 14th September. Times of games will begin at 4pm and last round is usually complete by 7pm (depending on number of entries). Forms and entry fees must be returned by 1st September.

Ms Dale

Upcoming Events

Year 9 & 10 Sports Day - Thursday 15th September

(Basketball – Schweppes Centre, Table Tennis – Victoria Street Eaglehawk, Hockey – Bendigo Hockey Complex Ironbark)

We actively encourage any parents / guardians to come along and support the teams on the day of the event.

*Shawn McCormick
Sports Coordinator*

NETBALL SKILLS WITH BULLEY AND COX



The Bendigo Football Netball League in conjunction with Luke Drummond Builders has the pleasure of offering a netball skills and development clinic with Australian Diamonds representatives Rebecca Bulley and Cath Cox.



This is a great opportunity for local players and coaches to learn from two of the nation's most experienced players.

The clinic, held on Friday September 2, is designed to provide young players the opportunity to interact with elite role models and develop their netball skills and is aimed at players aged 10-16 years. The clinic will run for two hours and will include a specialist component in attack and defence.

The clinic is not only designed to enhance the skills of junior netballers, but is also designed to accommodate coaches, including discussion of how to prepare for training sessions as well as the season ahead. In addition to skills advice, the clinic will also include a 30 minutes coaches' seminar.

A question and answer session will also be provided at the end of the clinics for players and coaches as well as photo and autograph opportunities, and all players will receive goodies to take home. *There are limited places available so be quick.*

*Date: Friday 2nd September Location: Flora Hill Stadium
Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm Cost: \$35.00 per person*

Registration forms available from: www.bendigofnl.com.au, Sports Focus, 14 Nolan Street or contact netball@bfnl.com.au Registration forms and payment due by Monday 29th August to admin@sportsfocus.com.au or at Sports Focus, 14 Nolan St Bendigo.



LITERACY AND NUMERACY WEEK

Monday 29th August to Friday 2nd September

Each lunch time, students from all communities are encouraged to participate in some fun literacy activities and games in Merin.

On Wednesday 31st August, all students from across Australia will simultaneously be reading a Shaun Tan little book called *ERIC*. It's a quirky little tale of a foreign exchange student's visit and about the different things that he notices but we take for granted.

On Friday 2nd September, **Jacinta Allan MP** will be visiting our school. She will read an excerpt from her favourite book as a child and will talk to Humanities students about her pathway to Parliament. Years 7, 8 and 9 are currently studying Government, so her talk will be timely.

Students from across the College have recently completed their final round of On Demand reading tests and entered their results on their netbooks. Please ask your child to share their *My Individual Data* plan with you at home. It is so important that each child is reading several times a week if we are to see an improvement in comprehension and enjoyment of books.

"Book before you sleep."

Christine Toose
Literacy Coordinator

KAPPEN TABLE TENNIS COMPETITION

Over the past fortnight the students of Kappen Learning Community have been involved in a round robin Table Tennis Tournament to decide Year Level Champions. In the two finals decided so far the Year 7 champions are:

- Boys – Josh F and Brayden D who defeated Morgan T and Tyler D in a very close match, (11-10, 8-11, 13-11)
- Girls - Michaella P and Sam G who defeated Brianna B and Jazmin H (11-4, 11-8)

All other finals, including Open, will be decided this week and prizes of canteen vouchers given out at a Learning Community assembly next week.

VIETNAM VETERAN'S DAY

After the national 'Welcome Home' parade in Sydney (1987), then Prime Minister Bob Hawke announced that August 18th would be known as Vietnam Veterans' Day. A day commemorated for the battle of Long Tan (18th August 1966) in which 18 Australians were killed, 24 wounded. We pay particular respect to Private David Thomas, a Bendigo local, who was killed in this battle aged 21, and is interred in the Kangaroo Flat cemetery.

So whilst commemorated for the service of those who took part in the battle of Long Tan, this day has special significance also for all veterans of the Vietnam War- approximately 60,200 Australians and 3,500 New Zealanders.

Major Harry Smith's (Commander, D company, 6th Royal Australian Regiment) account of the battle can be accessed: <http://www.awm.gov.au/warime/35/article/> Lest We Forget.

IMMUNISATION NEWS

Limited Time Left for Year 8's to Access Cervical Cancer Vaccine for Free

There are only 4 months left in school year to go for girls in Year 8 to finish their HPV immunisation course free of charge. Once the school year is over, any missed dose of the cervical cancer vaccine will need to be purchased from a GP or other health service provider at a cost of approximately \$150 each.

The HPV - or human papillomavirus - vaccine has been provided to girls in Year 7 since 2007 as part of the National Immunisation Program. To get free immunisation in Victoria, girls must commence the course in Year 7 and complete all doses by the end of Year 8. After that time, any missed dose must be paid for.

Ideally all three doses will be given within a 6 month period - 0, 2 and 6 months – however research shows if the second and third doses are given later than planned, the body still responds to the vaccine and makes antibodies which protect against HPV infection. This means it is still beneficial to complete the full three-dose course of the vaccine, even if doses aren't received at the correct intervals.

The HPV vaccine protects against four types of HPV which cause around 70 per cent of cervical cancers. It is important for all girls to complete the full course to ensure the best possible protection against the disease and other HPV-related illnesses.

If your daughter has still not completed the HPV vaccine course, please contact your local health provider as soon as possible. Missed doses can be obtained through public council immunisation sessions and your local GP.

Girls in Year 7 will receive their third and final dosage of the vaccine at school on **23rd November, 2011**.

If you are unsure of your daughter's immunisation record, contact your local council (Year 7 students) or the National HPV Vaccination Program Register (Year 8 students) on 1800 478 734. If you need more information, visit: www.cervicalcancervaccine.org.au

You can also call the Department of Health Immunisation Section on 1300 882 008 or call the Cancer Council Helpline on 13 11 20.

FROM THE COLLEGE SUPPORT TEAM

FOOD FOR THOUGHT...

This is the road to happiness and meaning as explained by Rabbi Harold Kushner. It comes from his book *'When All You've Ever Wanted Isn't Enough'*. I found this to be very liberating, see what you think:

"You don't become happy by pursuing happiness. You become happy by living a life that means something. The happiest people you know are probably not the richest or most famous, probably not the ones who work hardest at being happy by reading the articles and buying the books and latching on to the latest fads. I suspect that the happiest people you know are the ones who work at being kind, helpful, and reliable, and happiness sneaks into their lives while they are busy doing those things. You don't become happy by pursuing happiness. It is always a by-product, never a primary goal. Happiness is a butterfly – the more you chase it, the more it flies away from you and hides. But stop chasing it, put away your net and busy yourself with other, more productive things than the pursuit of personal happiness and it will sneak up on you from behind and perch on your shoulder."

Carl Rusbridge (Chaplin)

WANTED

If you have any unwanted uniforms at home we would be glad to take them off your hands. We are also looking for spare green shopping bags to help with our College food bank. We would be very grateful if you could leave any of these items at the General Office. Thank you.

Welfare Team

Can you befriend
a socially isolated family?



Become a mentor today!

- Do you live in or near Bendigo?
- Can you spare two hours a week?
- Do you like children and want to support families within your community?
- Want to learn new skills and make friends?

YES? Why not become a home visiting volunteer and support a family in need?

NO? Please help us by forwarding this chain email to anyone who you think might be interested.

If you are interested, please call Jane today on 03 5441 1047, or email jworthington@baptcare.org.au

Case Study:

Ann started receiving support from a home visiting volunteer two years ago. She was highly anxious around people, suffered from postnatal depression and was extremely isolated. She was matched with a volunteer, Elle, who was able to observe the impact depression and isolation was having on Ann and her children. Elle reported that Ann's depression prevented her from doing simple things like going outdoors, and often caused her to stay in her darkened lounge room. Ann would rarely laugh and was extremely wary of strangers.

Elle took a gentle approach towards engaging Ann, and over time an open and honest friendship was established. Elle worked with Ann to improve her confidence and to encourage her to participate in social activities. The first activity involved taking the children to the local pool. Ann was reluctant to go at first and she didn't want to swim. On the second trip, Elle was amazed at the change in Ann, and pleased that Ann wanted to swim with her children.

Nearly two years later, Ann smiles, talks and laughs more and has expanded her horizons. Now that she is happier as a person, she has become happier as a parent.



ELEVATE MAD CAMP 2011

Mon 26th September - Fri 30th September
Camp Coolamatong, Banksia Peninsula, Gippsland

\$100 per person

(Covers accommodation, food, activities.)

Transport may be extra & will be negotiated in regions)

Make new friends from around the state
Get into the action with watersports
Melt some marshmallows around the campfire
Hang out at 90 Mile Beach
Run a community action project
& explore how YOU can make a difference in the world!

Grab a form from your ELEVATE or youth leader

or contact Charlene

charlene@suvic.org.au

0431 123 652

www.suvic.org.au/suschools



WOMEN'S STRENGTH BUILDING

A ten week program for women experiencing anxiety and/or depression.

The group will support women to develop strategies, share resources and include information on:

- Depression & Anxiety
- Medications
- Change
- Self Esteem & Assertiveness
- Strengths
- Stress Reduction
- Relaxation and Life Direction.

When: Thursday 29th September – Thursday 1st December, 2011
from 12 noon – 3.00pm.

Venue: 8 Olinda Street (corner of Olinda & Carpenter Streets).

Please contact Chris at St. Luke's on 5448 1100 for more information.