Weeroona College Bendigo

NEWSLETTER

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Email: Weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.weeroona.vic.edu.au

School Times:                         Office Hours:
Start: 9.00am          Monday—Friday
Lunch: 11.46am—12.34pm      8.15am—4.00pm
Recess: 1.47pm—2.07pm        8.15am—4.00pm
Finish: 3.20pm

Newsletter No. 18 Friday 18th November, 2011

What’s Happening Semester 2....

Calendar

November
23rd:: Year 7 Boys & Girls Immunisations
23rd & 24th:: Year 10 Exams—BSSC
24th—27th:: RACV Energy Breakthrough—Maryborough
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—No Year 8 & 9 Classes on this day
6th:: Year 10 Valedictory Dinner
7th—9th:: Year 8 Lorne Camp
12th:: Awards Evening—7.00pm at BSSC Gymnasium
22nd:: Last day of Term 4

Absence Line: 4433 4911
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Year 10 students
It is almost time to farewell our year 10 students as they head in to Bendigo Senior Secondary College for their end of semester exams and then a week of transition at their new school for 2012. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate this group of terrific students who have contributed so much during their time at our school, remind you all of the great times that you have had during your time together at Weeroona College Bendigo and encourage you to store the great memories somewhere for later reference. Think back to your first classes way back at the beginning of your first day at WCB when you came together as class mates not knowing each other let alone with whom you would end up being friends with. Remember favourite subjects and all those extra-curricular activities that you enjoyed and your favourite teachers who made you feel like they cared. All the very best to each and every one of you and I look forward to meeting up with you in the future.

End of Year Music Concert a great success
On Wednesday night we held the end of year music concert at the A.T. Dingle Performance Centre. The concert was a terrific way to end the year for all music teachers and students as once again a tremendous show was put on by all involved. I would like to congratulate all students and teachers on their efforts this year and look forward to another outstanding year next year.

Indonesia at Weeroona College Bendigo
This year we have had many wonderful opportunities for our Indonesian students including our trip to Malaysia, which we would like to also run again in 2013 for those students studying Indonesian.

Next year we have another exciting opportunity. Our school has been chosen as one of five schools in Regional Victoria to participate in a project run by RMIT University whereby we will deliver Certificate II in Indonesian as a VET in schools program. This project will enable students to obtain a nationally recognised VET qualification while undertaking their normal school study in Indonesian. This will be open to current year 8 students that would like to consider taking Indonesian in our elective program for 2012 or our current year 9 students going into year 10 in 2012.

Certificate II in Indonesian is a nationally recognised vocational qualification that focuses on delivering practical language skills and everyday communication in both social and vocational settings. Students will gain an understanding of learning the language by using it in real social, cultural and workplace contexts.

The VET program will be delivered flexibly through school based learning, university based language immersion activities, social cultural and workplace simulation and online learning. There may also be some in-country language and culture study tours. Having completed Certificate II in Indonesian at Year 9-10 students will be able to proceed to Certificate III or take VCE Indonesian in Year 11-12.

This course will be taught by Bu Smith and Ibu Penna allowing for maximum success for your child. If you would like more information on this please contact Sarah Smith.

Leanne Preece
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Immunisations for Year 7 students
The last round of immunisations is on Wednesday, November 23rd for all Year 7 boys & girls. Any girls who have missed their cervical cancer immunisations may be able to have it on this day also. Contact Angela Evans – Immunisation Coordinator at The Greater City of Bendigo 54346312 for information re this.

Helen Tuohey
Assistant Principal

2012 ARRANGEMENTS

BOOKLISTS: Booklists for 2012 will be given out next week. Please note they are due into the office by the 6th December. EMA cannot be used to pay for any of the stationary components on the booklist, but can be used for any school levies, electives etc. If you wish to use EMA to pay for these items, please do not fill it in on the booklist, we will sort it out on Start Up Day 2012. Next year we have changed the book lists for the Primary and Year 7 & 8 students. We are moving towards a pack for these students to make it easier for families (so you don’t need to order scissors for every subject etc!). Any queries please contact the General Office.

TEXT BOOK HIRE: This year we have a new online system to hire text books for students in 2012.

Student logon and passwords will be sent home next week. In order to complete the order, you must enter Visa/Mastercard details in or if you will receive EMA next year you may choose that option. Please note your Visa/Mastercard will not be charged until February 2012.

If you need access to the internet or a computer, please call into the college and we will arrange a computer for you to use. Please note this must be completed and lodged by the 6th December in order for your child to receive these books next year.

EDUCATION TAX REFUND

The Education Tax Refund is a Commonwealth Government tax refund to help with the cost of educating primary and secondary school children. Eligible parents, carers, legal guardians and independent students can be reimbursed for half the cost of items such as computers, educational software, textbooks and stationery.

For more information about the Education Tax Refund, visit www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au/
YEAR 10 EXAMS

Year 10 Exams: Wednesday 23rd November – Thursday 24th November

The Year 10 end of semester exams are fast approaching and the following important information will help students and parents plan to make the exam period both a rewarding experience and a less stressful one.

VENUE:
- Bendigo Senior Secondary College Gymnasium, Gaol Road entry.
  Students are not required at Weeroona College Bendigo during the exam period and are expected to make their own way to BSSC for each exam. Please contact the College if this is not possible on either of the days, (see important notice below regarding non-attendance.) The College bus will be available to convoy limited numbers to and from the exam venue.

DATES:
- Wednesday 23rd November: English / Science
- Thursday 24th November: Mathematics / Humanities

SESSION TIMES: (Both days)
- Morning
  9:30am – Assemble at BSSC gym in core groups, exam supervisors will direct students to allocated seats.
  9:45am – Ten minute Reading time begins
  9:55am – Exam begins
  11:25am – Exam finishes
- Lunch Break
  11:25am – 12:30pm
- Afternoon
  12:30pm - Assemble at BSSC gym in core groups, exam supervisors will direct students to allocated seats.
  12:45pm - Ten minute Reading time begins
  12:55pm - Exam begins
  2:25pm – Exam finishes

CODE OF CONDUCT:
- The College code of conduct, (except for the wearing of uniform,) applies for the exam period: students who do not adhere to this will be removed from the examination and will complete all further exams after 3.30pm at Weeroona College Bendigo.
- Students are not required to wear College uniform during the exam period; however, appropriate clothing and footwear must be worn: no singlet tops or thongs.
- Mobile phones, iPods etc are not allowed in exams, they may be stored, switched off, in your bag on the floor beside your exam desk.

PREPARATION:
- Complete all revision work given by your core class teachers.
- Talk to your teachers about work you don’t understand.
- Plan your own summary sheet for the exams for the subjects that allow them.
- Make sure you have pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, summary sheet, dictionary, calculator and water on the day plus it is a good idea to bring a book to read if you finish early. You cannot leave until the designated time.
- Get a good night’s sleep the night before and have a proper breakfast each morning. Also have something to eat during the lunch break. The BSSC canteen will be open for the purchase of food and drink.

NON-ATTENDANCE AT EXAMS
- It is a requirement for successful completion of Year 10 at Weeroona College Bendigo that students attend and participate in all scheduled exams unless a medical certificate is submitted to the General Office during exam week. This condition of completion may be waived, in certain circumstances, at the discretion of the Principal.
- Due to student commitments at BSSC for the following weeks it is not possible to hold ‘catch-up’ exams during the school day but time will be made available after 3.30pm in the week starting November 28th if needed.

Please contact Mr Edebohls at the College for further details regarding this or other exam issues.

Brian Edebohls
Assessment & Reporting Coordinator

VALEDICTORY DINNER 2011

Year 10 Valedictory Dinner will be held on Tuesday 6th December at the Platinum Room, Foundry Hotel, Golden Square. Cost for this function is $34. Please pay to the General Office prior to Monday 5th December.

Students should arrive from 6.30 to 7.00pm in any unique way they care to! Parents are welcome to stay for the presentation of certificates and glasses from 7pm-7.30. The evening will conclude at 10.30pm.

Glasses for the presentation are priced at $5.50. Please place your order at the General Office before Wednesday 23rd November.

AWARDS’ CEREMONY

Weeroona College Bendigo’s Annual Awards Ceremony will be held in the James King Hall at Bendigo Senior on Monday 12th December, starting at 7pm. The Award’s Ceremony is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge our students’ academic and sporting success and encourage other students to strive for success.

In the coming weeks you will be notified if your child has received an award and we encourage everyone to come along and support the achievements of our students.

Bree Hodge
Awards Coordinator
EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to low-income families to help with education-related costs. If you have a child under 16, and hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is split evenly between the parent and the school, and is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The parent portion is often used for uniforms and excursions, while the school portion may be used for expenses such as textbooks, excursions, camps, fees, electives etc. You can elect to have the parent portion of the EMA paid into your nominated bank account or receive a cheque.

In 2012, the total annual amount is $235 for primary students and $470 for secondary students – these amounts are split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school. 1st Instalment is 70% for Semester 1 and 2nd Instalment is 30% for Semester 2.

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 out to families who have given a mobile number 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.

NETBOOK UPDATE

Year 10 Students: All netbooks will have to be returned to the IT Technicians on or before Friday 25th of November. This is the Friday after the Year 10 Exams. The expectation is that they will be returned in good condition with chargers and cases. Any repairs required will be invoiced to the family of the student. Any payments will be required before year’s end. Year 11 students at BSSC will be provided with BSSC Netbooks. BSSC will be given a list of any current Year 10 students that do not return Weeroona College Netbooks.

Year 9 and 7 Students: We are currently imaging these netbooks with the latest EduStar software. This will be completed by year’s end. The students will be able to keep these netbooks over the Christmas break if they are returning to Weeroona College Bendigo in 2012.

Year 8 Students: This is the final year of the 3 year lease. Next year students returning to Weeroona College Bendigo will be issued with another Netbook (Previously used in Year 10). The students will have an opportunity to transfer their data onto the new Netbook and at that stage their current Netbook will be reimaged for home use. These Netbooks will no longer be suitable for use at school.

Primary Students: Netbooks currently being used by Primary students will be collected at the end of the year. They will be reimaged over the break and then redistributed in 2012.

LAPTOP COMPUTERS FOR SALE

We have a number of excess laptop computers for sale (due to the acquisition of the student Netbook computers). Some in excellent condition for $275.00

Acer Extensa 4230
* Intel Celeron 900 @ 2.2GHz
* 2.00 GB RAM
* DVD/CD Burner
* Intel Graphics Media Accelerator X3100 up to 384MB
* 5-in-one card reader (Memory Stick, Memory Stick-Pro, Secure Digital, Multimedia Card, xD-Picture Card)
* 802.11b/g/draft-n dual-mode with SignalUp technology
* 1 x Modem port (56K ITU V.92 with PTT approval, Wake-on-Ring ready)
* 2 x USB 2.0 ports
* Ethernet (RJ-45) port
* 1 x External display (VGA) port
* 1 x Type II PC Card slot 1 x Express Card /54 slot
* 1 x line-in jack, 1 x Microphone-in jack
* 1 x Headphones/speaker/line-out jack
* Some Acer warranty left
* reloaded with standard Windows Vista image

All enquiries should be directed to Geoff Ellett (IT Co-ordinator) on 5443 2133.

WINNERS FOR THE PRODUCTION RAFFLE

1st Prize – Ruffel Jewellers (voucher) - Hassell Family
2nd Prize – Sens Jewellers (clock) - Meks
3rd Prize – Games World (board game) - M Swart
4th Prize – Toy World (Match Box car set) - Jake Kenyon
5th Prize – My Hair (hair products) - Ron James
6th Prize – Bicknells Sports (large bag) - Hassell Family
7th Prize – Toy World (Fisher Price car) - Matt Higgins
8th Prize - Toy World (Fisher Price baby)-Marla and Jamie Watson
9th Prize – Blue Illusion (soap) - Sarah Smith
10th Prize – Organise My (hand cream) - Michele Mason
11th Prize - Bicknells Sports (small bag) - Hellen Lyle
12th Prize – Granny Mays (alarm clock) - G Huggard
13th Prize – AFL Shop (St Kilda CD) - G and P Murley
14th Prize - AFL Shop (St Kilda CD) - Alison Woolley
PARENTS’ CLUB

Lunch
All college parents and guardians are invited to join us for lunch to be held at the Manchester Arms Hotel on Wednesday the 23rd of November at 12md. $5 Kris Kringle gift optional.

Annual General Meeting
Please be advised that the Weeroona College Parents Club Annual General meeting will be held on Wednesday the 7th of December at 9.15am. Venue to be advised.
All college parents and guardians welcome to attend. Tea and coffee provided.

Brick BBQ/Selkirk Named Pavers
The construction of a new brick BBQ in the college grounds will be commencing soon with the surrounding area to be landscaped with the Selkirk named pavers. The first order of named paver bricks have already been delivered and the next order to be placed shortly. Any past or present students and staff wishing to purchase their named paver for $30 are encouraged to do so promptly. The order form can be downloaded from the college website. When on Home page scroll down to the news item named Personalised Pavers posted on the 24th of March 2011. Please print off the order form and complete your details to be returned to School with payment.

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

SPORTS NEWS

NATIONAL SCHOOL’S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT IN BENDIGO DURING DECEMBER
11 boys ranging from years 8 to 10 will be representing Weeroona College in basketball in the under 16 National School’s Tournament held in Bendigo at the Bendigo Stadium and Flora Hill stadium on the 5th – 9th of December. The boys will play minimum 5 games against schools from all over Australia. They have been training hard during their lunch times at school for the last 2 months and would benefit from any support that students and parents can give during that week by attending and cheering them on. The 11 boys are: Connor A, Tom C, Kyle H, Leone S, Brayden F, Rhyce D, Josh D, Kyale P, Coree M, Brayden S, and Shannon T. Good Luck boys you will do the College proud.

Mr Novak

WCB UNIFORM SHOP HOURS – DOBSONS
Please Note: The Uniform Shop is now in the portable opposite the school canteen.

Term 4 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.

HOURS FOR DECEMBER
Mon 5th December – CLOSED
Tues 6th December – 2pm-5pm (Orientation Day)
Thurs 8th December – 8.30am-12pm (Last Trading Day for 2011)

COMMUNITY NOTICES

White Hills Pool
I am very excited (and a little nervous being my first year as President) to announce that the 2011/2012 swimming season kicks off on Saturday 3rd December. We have a great day in the planning. It will be "FREE" entry all day commencing with the grand opening by the mayor of Bendigo Rod Fyffe at 11am so put that day aside. It promises to be a day of great family fun!

Council are presently completing extensive works to ensure our pool is brought up to the standard of the other Bendigo pools. (We will even have hot showers this year!)

Seasons tickets are now available. These can be purchased direct from me and prices are as follows:

Child seasons ticket $65
Adult seasons ticket $86.60 concession $77.80
Family seasons ticket $167.00 concession $151.

Please buy your tickets from us. They are valid at every outdoor pool in Bendigo, but purchasing from us ensures your local pool is supported. We are very proud of our local family pool and extremely grateful to our volunteer committee which ensures the continuation of our great pool from year to year. We look forward to welcoming YOU and your family there this year.

We will again be offering an affordable swimming program at White Hills which will commence on the 10th December for beginners and advanced.

Rosie Taylor
President White Hills Pool CoM.
Ph 54483920 or 0417164973