

## 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 Peppinck  
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  
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 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](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. 19 Friday 2nd December, 2011

## What's Happening Semester 2....

### Calendar

#### December

5th:: College Council Dinner Meeting—6.30pm  
6th:: 2012 Year 7 Transition Day—No Year 8 & 9 Classes  
6th:: Booklists & Text Book Hire Due in  
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

#### January

30th:: General Office Opens

#### February

2nd:: Start Up Day (Day #1)  
3rd:: Start Up Day (Day #2)  
6th:: Normal Classes Commence

**Absence Line: 4433 4911**

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### Bendigo Education Plan (BEP) Update

On Monday of this week, Leanne Oberin, our school council president and myself attended a meeting at the Loddon Mallee regional office with the regional director, regional network leader, school council presidents and principals of the four other BEP schools where we signed the following commitment " the School Councils of the Bendigo Education Plan Schools commit to operate as a formal network of schools to oversee the ongoing implementation of the Bendigo Education Plan". This will ensure that we continue to work together as a group of schools to provide the very best in state secondary education for all students in the Bendigo area.

### Follow me on Twitter

In an attempt to find a variety of ways to communicate with parents and the broader community about what goes on at Weeroona College Bendigo I encourage you to sign up for a Twitter account <http://twitter.com/> and find me. My twitter name is [wcb\\_prin](#)

### Orientation Day

On Tuesday *December 6* the school will be holding our annual year 6 Orientation Day. Our year 7 students will be helping our transition leader Gary Schroeter and staff to host the day and make the students feel welcome.

A reminder that year 8 and 9 students are not required at school on this day.

### Whooping cough on the rise in 5-14 year olds

The number of children aged 5-14 years old catching whooping cough has increased dramatically in Victoria over the last four years. Whooping cough, also known as pertussis, is a highly infectious disease causing a severe, persistent cough. Whooping cough is spread by coughs and sneezes from an infected person. While most children and adults eventually recover, often after weeks or months of illness and household disruption, there is a serious risk if infected people pass the disease to young babies. Around one in every 200 babies under six months of age who catch whooping cough will die. Some babies will suffer permanent disability from brain and lung damage. Family members, including siblings and parents, are the main source of whooping cough infection in babies.

Timely immunisation offers the best chance of preventing the spread of whooping cough. Whooping cough vaccine is provided free for children at two, four and six months, at their fourth birthday, adolescents in Year 10 of secondary school and parents of newborn babies. The two month vaccine can be given early at six weeks to start protection earlier. Parents are urged to ensure their children are vaccinated on time and to consider their own whooping cough vaccination needs. Vaccination is recommended for

all adults caring for or working with young children, including school teachers, as well as all health care workers.

Parents should talk to their doctor or nurse if they have questions about the whooping cough vaccine. For more information search 'whooping cough' on [www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au](http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au)

### Learning Advisor 2012

Early this year we conducted a review of our current Learning Community Structure and the feedback from students, parents and staff was overwhelmingly positive for our current structure to continue with students from all year levels in each of the communities: Kappen, Katylil, Merin and Wannop.

However, also coming from the review committee was a recommendation that Advisory Groups be based on core groups rather than a mix of students across year levels as we currently have them arranged. For 2012, students in their core class group will be allocated a learning advisor who will be expected to maintain regular contact with each student through the scheduled 16 minutes session at the beginning of each day, several prearranged meetings with individual students throughout each term and regular contact with parents using the Ultranet as we come on line later next year. It is anticipated that a Learning Advisor would remain with the same core group for the time that the group of students is at Weeroona College Bendigo.

By making this change we believe that our learning advisors will be able to develop stronger relationships with their students and have a sound understanding of what support a group of students in the one year level requires. We are also trying to have all of our learning advisors allocated to teach their advisory group next year so that they will get to know them (and their parents) through working with them on a regular basis.

### End of year arrangements

**Monday 12 December** – Awards Evening – 7pm - BSSC

**Thursday 15 December** – last formal timetabled class

**Friday 16 December**- Whole school pool party (note to come home)

**Monday 19 December to Wednesday 21 December** – Learning Community based activities

**Thursday 22 December** – school cleanup day

*Leanne Preece*  
Principal

## VALEDICTORY DINNER 2011

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

## 2011 AWARDS' CEREMONY

Weeroona College Bendigo's Annual Awards Ceremony will be held in the Gymnasium at Bendigo Senior Secondary College on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December, starting at 7pm. The Awards Ceremony is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge our students' academic and sporting success and encourage other students to strive for success.

In the coming week 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 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/](http://www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au/)

## 2012 ARRANGEMENTS

**BOOKLISTS:** Booklists for 2012 have been sent home in the mail. **Please note they are due into the office by the 6<sup>th</sup> 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 when you apply for EMA.

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 have been sent home in the mail. 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 6<sup>th</sup> December in order for your child to receive these books next year.**

## **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. 1<sup>st</sup> Instalment is 70% for Semester 1 and 2<sup>nd</sup> Instalment is 30% for Semester 2.

## NETBOOK UPDATE

**Year 10 Students:** All netbooks **SHOULD** have been returned to the IT Technicians on or before **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> of November**. 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 the 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 years end. The students will be able to keep these netbooks over the Christmas break if they are returning to Weeroona College in 2012.

**Year 8 Students:** This is the final year of the 3 year lease. Next year students returning to Weeroona College 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.

## MUSIC NEWS

The BIMP (Bendigo Instrumental Music Program) is holding its Summer Program for 2011 in December. It will be 4 days of music with Bendigo Colleges String Orchestra and Bendigo Colleges Symphonic Band.

Several of our students have expressed interest in this end of year activity and will be attending from Monday 5/12/11 – Friday 9/12/11. Students need to be at Bendigo Senior Secondary College from 9.00am - 3.00pm each day.

## ZEST – COLLEGE SUPPORT TEAM

### Anaphylaxis & Asthma Action Plans

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. At Weeroona College Bendigo, our key to prevention of anaphylaxis is the knowledge of students who are at risk, awareness of triggers and prevention of exposure to these.

We have an overall responsibility for implementing strategies and processes for ensuring a safe and supportive environment for students at risk of anaphylaxis. If your child suffers from an allergy/anaphylaxis it is your responsibility to:

- Inform WCB of your child's allergies and whether they have been diagnosed with anaphylaxis.
- Complete an ASCIA Action Plan and provide a copy to the school that have been signed by your child's medical practitioner and has an up to date photograph (We have provided a copy of the ASCIA Action Plan on the school website for you to download and have completed).
- Provide WCB with an EpiPen and any other medications.
- Replace the EpiPen before it expires.
- Assist school staff in planning and preparing for your child prior to school camps, trips, excursions etc...
- Inform staff of any changes to your child's emergency contact details.

If your child suffers from Asthma you will need to complete an Asthma Action Plan. This form is also available on the school website. You must also provide WCB with the appropriate medication and replace it before it expires.

It is important that Zest College Support Team have copies of all Medical/Health Assessments (whether it is related to illness or mental health). We require this information so that we can best support your child in their transition to Weeroona College Bendigo and their future study time whilst at Weeroona College Bendigo. Zest College Support Team will contact you to discuss your child's needs once we have received all necessary information.

### Medication

Please be reminded that all EpiPens, asthma pumps or other medication must be collected from the General Office on the last day of school. It must not be left at school over the holiday period.

If your child requires specific medication related to a health condition in 2012, could you please bring all relevant paper work, actions plans and medication on Start up Day next year.

### RDA - Riding Develops Abilities

Throughout Term 4 the college has had 4 students volunteering their time on alternate Wednesday afternoons to assist this organisation. Mikaela A, Georgia C- S, Kourtnie P and Crystal C have made many very positive contributions helping as side walkers for various clients, assisting in the running of activities, packing up gear and attending to the horses at the end of the day.

Many of the adults at RDA have repeatedly commented on the very positive contributions that the students from Weeroona College Bendigo have made to the program and the clients that attend. As the member of staff who attended RDA with these students I wish to acknowledge how proud I have been of their efforts and the manner in which they have given of their time and energy to help others in our community.

*Sue Bull (ZEST team member)*

Thank you, Zest – College Support Team.

## PARENTS' CLUB

### Annual General Meeting

Please be advised that the Weeroona College Parents Club **Annual General meeting** will be held on Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of December at 9.15am. This will be held in the Weights Room in the gym.

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 24<sup>th</sup> 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

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> December – CLOSED

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> December – 2pm - 5pm (Orientation Day)

Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> December – 8.30am - 12pm (Last Trading Day for 2011)

### HOURS FOR JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2012

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> January – 11am – 5pm

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> January – AUSTRALIA DAY HOLIDAY – CLOSED

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> January – 11am - 5pm

Mon 30<sup>th</sup> January – 11am – 5pm

Tues 31<sup>st</sup> January – 11am – 5pm

Wed 1<sup>st</sup> February – 11.00am – 5pm

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> February – 1pm – 8pm – START UP DAY

Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> February – 9am – 2pm – START UP DAY

**As of Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 the Uniform Shop hours will be:**

Tuesday – 2.00pm – 5.00pm      Thursday 8.30am – 12pm

## SPORTS NEWS

### Congratulations Matt C

A major congratulations is again in order for Matt C who has produced excellent results in Track and Field events in 2011. Matt was crowned State Champion in the 15 boys 800 metre event at the School Sport Victoria Championships he also repeated this effort at the All Schools National Championships. A fantastic effort. Matt was also nominated and will ultimately receive a Loddon Mallee Sports Award at the Conservatory Room at the All Seasons Complex at 4.30pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December, in recognition of his efforts. On behalf of the college community - well done Matthew.



## 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

\* 160GB HDD

\* 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.





---

**2011 VSCA Canteen of the Year Awards**

---

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

On Monday 28 November 2011,  
at VSCA's 2011 Annual Canteen Rewards Evening  
held in the Burke & Wills Room at Moonee Ponds Bowling Club

**BRONWYN HOPCOTT**

**Canteen Manager**

**Weeroona College Bendigo**

was announced

**HIGHLY COMMENDED**

**2011 VSCA Secondary / P-12  
Canteen Manager of the Year**

We acknowledge and applaud the great work  
that Bronwyn does in your school community  
and congratulate you all on her achievements.