Contacts 2011

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

Absences: (03) 4433 4911

Katyil
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
MUS  Jean Stephens
MKD  Karen Dale
MLS  Leigh Schroeter
MRJ  Ron James/Abby Shuy
(Fridays)

MT  J Therese Johnston

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

Wannop
WBL  Ben Lee
WDC  David Crowley
WMG  Michelle Griffin
WKP  Kristen Purden
WMH  Meryl Hayes
WRL  Ron Lewellyn
WRU  Raeline Jeffrey
WSS  Sarah Smith
WTC  Tahlia Capciuchiano
WTL  Tracey Lee
WQU  Linda Quairner/Monica
F  WCN Chloe Neath

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

Absence Line: (03) 4433 4911

What’s Happening December to February

Calendar

December
22nd:: Last day of Term 4—1.30pm Dismissal

January
23rd:: Booklist Collection @ Education Plus (9am—5.30pm)
28th:: Booklist Collection @ Education Plus (9am—1.00pm)
30th:: General Office Opens

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

Absence Line: (03) 4433 4911
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
I would like to welcome everyone to the final Newsletter for this year. 2011 has been another year of significant change at Weeroona College Bendigo and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all students, parents and staff for their hard work and support throughout the year. The move into more new buildings, a new theatre and library will continue into 2012. The school has worked hard to officer the transition. The students have responded to working in the new spaces and everyone across the college has endeavoured to assist all students to achieve personal excellence. Most significantly this year we have been able to celebrate the knowledge that our NAPLAN data revealed that our Cohort growth for students from years 3 to 5 and years 7 to 9 in Reading and years 3 to 5 in Mathematics was above state average.

Year 10 Graduation Dinner
Last Tuesday evening we held the Year 10 Graduation at the Platinum Room, The Foundry. It was a beautiful evening and the crowd of onlookers enjoyed the exciting arrival of all of the students in their fine raiment. The various modes of transport!! It is always a memorable night and this was no exception! The students looked sensational and it was quite emotional to see these young adults at their school farewell and the nightly boat at the River Arms. Ashley has had a terrific move to commemorate this group of student’s time at WCB and this was enjoyed by everyone. Congratulations to all of the Year 10s. It was a wonderful evening and on behalf of our staff I wish you all the very best for the future. These students have been great leaders within the school and have shown strong leadership. This was exemplified by the way in which they conducted their exams, which were held at Bendigo Senior Secondary College. The exams have been a great transition opportunity for the Year 10’s and we look forward to continuing this relationship with BSSC in the future. Thank you to Chris Toose and the Student Action Team who organised the event.

Year 6 Orientation Day
Also last Tuesday was our Year 6 Orientation Day and the Year 7, 2012 students experienced their first day of school at W C B. We recognise that the beginning of secondary school is an important milestone for our students. It evokes a variety of emotions, behaviours and challenges for both the young adolescents and their parents or other caregivers. It can also provide students with an opportunity for a fresh start as we introduce them to the culture and expectations of our school. Students and teachers enjoyed the transition day and we look forward to coming together at the beginning of next year as we start the journey together. We are all excited about this new opportunity.

A big thank you to Mr Gary Schroeder for his organisation of this terrific day.

Awards Night
On Monday night we held a very successful Awards night at Bendigo Senior Secondary College. Everyone at Weeroona College Bendigo should be enormously proud of all that has been achieved throughout 2011. The Awards night highlighted many outstanding student achievements and is testament to the fantastic opportunities that our school offers. There are too many to cover on this one occasion and I am sure more will be proud of throughout the whole of their year. Congratulations to all students who have striven to achieve their true potential in a whole range of academic and extra-curricular achievements. Thanks to everyone involved in the organisation of this special night.

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

Leanne Preece
Principal

A NOTE FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE...
As we will be posting out the student’s reports at the end of Term 4, 2011 we would like parents to make sure that their postal address is up to date. Please advise us as soon as possible if your address has changed.

2012 ARRANGEMENTS:

Booklist
A reminder to parents that Booklists are to be collected from Education Plus, 108 Lowndes Street, Bendigo. Any enquiries can be directed to Education Plus on 5444 2527. Dates:
23rd March: Booklist Collection @ Education Plus (9am—5.30pm)
28th June: Booklist Collection @ Education Plus (9am—1.00pm)

Office Times
Please note the General Office will be closed from 3.00pm on Tuesday 22nd December and will re-open on Thursday 3rd January. Office hours are 8.15am to 4.00pm each day.

Start Up Day
A early notification to parents that the 2012 Start Up Day will be held on Thursday 2nd February (afternoon/evening) & Friday 3rd February (morning).
Packs will be posted out to families on the 20th January, 2012. These will include a log on (PTO online) which will allow you to book your appointment with your child’s Advisor. If you have any problems with logging on, you can contact the IT department from the 3rd of January for assistance.

Family Statements will be posted out separately on the 30th January. These will include all school levies and elective charges.

Parents will be able to claim for Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) on Start up Day also.

Hire Books/Bonds

We have decided to simplify the hire process by only refunding hire book bonds when students transfer (year 10 or before if moving). This way parents only have to pay the bond once, and won’t have to worry about backing the cheques at the end of each year also!

For students going into year 8 & 9 in 2012, this will automatically roll over. A further $25 bond and $50 hire amount of $50- will need to be paid. For students going into year 10, as the bond they previously paid was only $15- (or half hire of $7.50) they will need to pay the difference up to $50-.

For students currently in Year 10, cheques have been posted out. If you still have students at Weeroona College in 2012, we have processed a credit note against your family account, instead of a cheque, which can be used in 2012.

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/.

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 to tal annu al 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.

LIBRARY NEWS

We have had a great year in the Library this year with lots of enthusiastic students reading and recommending fantastic books to others. For try-six students to meet the Victorian Premier’s Reading Challenge and many more had a really good try. Remember to bring all books back to the library as soon as possible unless you have made arrangements with the library staff to finish books over the holidays.

Wishing you a safe and happy holiday,
From Mrs. Payne, Ms. Oliver and Mr. Walker

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 have 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 aIso 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 the transition to Weeroona College Bendigo end shift to tertiary education whilst at Weroona 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 you 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.

Giving oneself at Christmas is the best gift of all

Christmas is a time of contrast. All at once it can be a very happy, sad, busy and lonely time. It is a time when we are pulled into consumerism – buying lots and eating lots, but is also a time many of us recognise the birth of a man who saw beyond such things to come beside those who were hurting and speak up for those whose voices weren’t heard.

Christmas is a time when we can be excited about getting some great pressies but it also a good time to take a step back and remind ourselves that the giving of oneself can be the best gift of all – and it usually doesn’t take up huge amounts of time, money, resources or energy.

Maybe this Christmas as you could visit a lonely relative; maybe you could make mum a cup of tea so she can put her feet up for five minutes; maybe you could say hello to a scruffy looking stranger and wish them a merry Christmas; Maybe you could ask Santa for a goat from one of those Useful Gift catalogues to support people in a poor village. Whatever it is will only be guided by your heart and imagination.

The ZEST – College Support Team would like to give everyone our best wishes for a blessed Christmas and a refreshing holiday time. We look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year. Thank you.

Zest – College Support Team.

YEAR 8 NETBOOKS

Insurance for the Year 8 Mini 10 N etbooks ceased as of 13/12/2011. Warranty will continue until the end of the year. This is the final year of the 3 year lease. Next year students returning to Werroona College Bendigo will be issued with another Netbook. The students will have an opportunity to transfer their data onto the new Netbook and at that stage their current Netbook will be reimagined for home use. These Netbooks will no longer be suitable for use at school.

NEW SCHOOL TIMES FOR 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Advisory Group</th>
<th>Session 1</th>
<th>Changeover</th>
<th>Session 2</th>
<th>Lunch</th>
<th>Session 3</th>
<th>Recess</th>
<th>Session 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.00am – 9.16am</td>
<td>9.16am – 10.27am</td>
<td>10.27am – 10.32am</td>
<td>10.32am – 11.43am</td>
<td>43am – 12.33pm</td>
<td>12.33pm – 1.44pm</td>
<td>4pm – 2.04pm</td>
<td>2.04pm – 3.15pm</td>
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PARENTS’ CLUB

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 delive red and the next order to be placed shortly. A ny past or present students and staff wishing to purchase the eir 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 na med 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.

SPORTS NEWS

Super 8’s – Year 7 & 8 Finals

Late November saw the Cricket Victoria Super 8’s Finals take place at McPherson Park, Melton. The boys were fantastic with their ap plication and effort. The team were successful in all of their preliminary games. The bowling was collectively tight and the fielding was of a very high standard. A highlight of the games was the big hitting of Brayden S, Steve R and Mitch D.

After the 3 victories Werroona was pooled to be in the final. The final was tight as both teams were playing a great game of skills. After a titanic struggle both sides were tied on the same score. Sadly We eroona lost 6 wickets against the opposition losing 4 wickets. Consequently Werroona lost by the narrowest of margins.

Thanks to Mr Novak for taking over the coaching of the team at short notice and the parents who made the journey down to watch the team in action. A terrific effort from all the boys involved. Well done.

Shawn McCormick
Sports Coordinator

WCB UNIFORM SHOP HOURS – DOBSONS

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

HOURS FOR JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2012

Wed 25th January – 11am – 5pm
Thurs 26th January – AUSTRALIA DAY HOLIDAY-CLOSED
Fri 27th January – 11am - 5pm
Mon 30th January – 11am – 5pm
Tues 31st January – 11am – 5pm
Wed 1st February – 11.00am – 5pm
Thurs 2nd February – 1pm – 8pm – START UP DAY
Fri 3rd February – 9am – 2pm – START UP DAY

As of Tuesday 7th February the Uniform Shop hours will be: Tuesday – 2.00pm–5.00pm
Thursday - 8.30am–12noon