

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**



### **Thankyou Bendigo and Northern District Community Enterprise**

Performing Arts staff, Christine Henty and Therese Johnston, presenting the cheque for \$1000 which has been kindly donated by Bendigo and Northern District Community Enterprise. This money will go towards a lighting tree and



### **Student Accident Insurance Arrangements**

Parents and guardians are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs.

Student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance and can be obtained by parents/guardians for individual students for a relatively low cost.

### **Advice from Consumer Affairs Victoria on Purchasing External Education Software**

Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) has issued a warning to parents on being approached by high pressure salespeople selling educational software.

Consumer Affairs Victoria recommends that anyone thinking of signing up for one of these programs should:

- o shop around - similar programs may be available for much less and price is no guide to quality, whatever the salesperson might say
- o be sure that you can afford it. If you sign a credit contract, it will cost you much more in interest
- o be aware you can cancel contracts in certain circumstances under the Australian Consumer Law. You have ten days to reconsider an 'unsolicited consumer contract' made through door-to-door or telemarketing sales.

N.B. The Department's eduSTAR software program provides students with over 80 PC and Mac software applications for school owned devices to support teaching

**Student Voice 2013**

This year we are aiming to give our students more of a voice at Weeroona College Bendigo. In order to facilitate this students have elected a learning advisor representative. These students and their learning advisors will hold regular class conferences and this feedback will be taken to Learning community meetings and then to SRC (Student Representative Council). A big congratulations to all students who have been nominated and taken on the very important role of representing their class, learning community and or school as we offer more opportunities for you to have your say.



**The following students make up our SRC for 2013**

- Rhapsody A
- Robbie B
- Josh B
- Shaleah B
- Isabelle C
- Mitch D
- Alec F
- Sophie M
- Bronte P
- Jake R
- Renee R
- Chloe S
- Leone S
- Sarah W  
and learning.

Human beings have an innate inner drive to be autonomous, self-determined, and connected to one another. And when that drive is liberated, people achieve more and live richer lives.

*Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us by Daniel Pink*

WCB Student Representative Council (SRC) / Student Voice Model 2013



*Leanne Preece*

**Principal**

**It's My School Too**

Weeroona College Bendigo is committed to a whole school program called 'It's My School Too!' The program is built on the following beliefs...

- Everyone has a right to participate in school life without being bullied or harassed.
- The majority of students at Weeroona College Bendigo support this belief AND live it.
- There is power in a majority to make a big difference for the better.
- It's really not that hard to get through a school day without harassing others!

As part of the program, each Learning Community will have their own 'It's My School Too' pledge board to display the names of all students in that Learning Community who have pledged their support to the programs belief statement. This creates a very clear and highly visual reminder to the whole college that the vast majority of students (if not all) do not believe it is OK to bully and harass others.

Students were asked on Start Up Day to commit to the pledge by signing it.

The pledge was-

*"All members of the Weeroona College Bendigo Community have a right to participate in school life without being bullied or harassed."*

If you have not returned your signed pledge please return it and give to your Learning Advisor.

*Helen Tuohey*

**Assistant Principal**

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**FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE...****Centrepay**

Weeroona College Bendigo is now registered for Centrepay. Centrepay is available for any family receiving a Centrelink payment. You can elect to put a nominated amount into your child's family account held by the college to go towards any school charges ie. Camps and excursions throughout the year. Centrepay is a great way to help families budget for school costs. Application forms are available from the college Office.

**Absences**

If your child will be absent, please call directly to our absence line on 4433 4911 or SMS 0427 016 199. Students who need to leave throughout the day will need a written note from a parent or a phone call to the Office.

**Country Buses**

This year due to the numbers of the school country buses being full, students who are not approved to travel on these buses cannot use them on a casual basis (friends going home with normal country bus travellers). Students who also aren't using their already approved bus place on a continual basis will lose this spot. For more information please contact Mandy Clayton on 5447 7722.

**A Reminder to Parents**

The Administration entrance of our new school can be found via the Napier Street carpark and you are asked to access the school via Administration for all visits.

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**Music Take Note!**

Oh what a night!!! We had a great turn up from parents and students for the Music recruitment afternoon/evening that went from 3.30pm – 7.00pm. Parents showed a keen interest in their children's choices of instruments and even had a go on some instruments.

Thank you to all the BIMP (Bendigo Instrumental Music Program) teachers and to the many helpers, including our own Leone S on guitar, who gave up their time to ensure a successful event. Our band gave a couple of wonderful performances as did the Bendigo Colleges Symphonic Band. Many thanks also go to our Principal, Leanne Preece who spoke on the value of learning a musical instrument and the lifelong skills that students gain.

**Students who were unable to attend the evening can still enrol in the program.** They need to get a form from Mrs Johnston in the Performing Arts Office.

**Music news!**

The response to the recruitment night has been very positive. Teachers have been busy meeting the new students, organising timetables and instruments. New students who have not made arrangements for their music tuition, will receive a phone-call from the teachers introducing themselves and welcoming the students to the Music Department.

If there are any enquiries, problems or difficulties, please contact me at the College on 54432133.



*Therese Johnston*  
School Music Coordinator

**NEWS FROM THE GLOBAL LEARNING CENTRE**

We have had a busy start to the year and have enjoyed seeing everyone back from their holidays, having read lots of exciting books. It has also been great to see all the new faces and keen readers in our new Global Learning Centre.

**VICTORIAN PREMIERS' READING CHALLENGE 2013**

Lots of reading is being done for the Premiers' Reading Challenge 2013. Unfortunately the site is not up and running yet, so be sure to remember the books you have read so they can be counted when the site is launched.



*Who is this bear reading the popular Phoenix File series?*

**BOOK HIRE**

We still have Book Hire textbooks to be collected from the Global Learning Centre.

Students who did not collect them with their class should collect them from the Global Learning Centre as soon as possible

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**FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE...**

**Immunisation Film Competition 2013**

This competition is aimed at all Secondary Schools in the Loddon Mallee and is aimed at improving the immunisation rates in secondary school students.

The competition is asking students to create a short digital film promoting immunisation to either year 7 and 8 students or year 9-10 students.

The prizes are \$3000- for the school and \$2000- for the students who created the film. There will also be a highly commended prize in each category for students of \$500-.

Early in 2013 I will be sent an information pack designed for schools that will incorporate a DVD that will have 2 sections:

1. A 3 - 5 minute presentations aimed at teachers, school nurses, welfare staff with information. T the students need to know about immunisation as well as some suggested classroom activities.
2. A 1 - 2 minute presentation for students with a short overview of the immunisation. It will also have information on the competition and some suggestions for the kind of content the competition is looking for.

In the meantime I have downloaded and printed out copies of information regarding immunisation. I am more than happy to work with you next year and help design something amazing to present from Weeroona College Bendigo.

### **Medications**

If your child suffers from Anaphylaxis, it is your responsibility to provide the general office with an up to date Epipen. All Learning Communities will carry a spare Epipen in the event of an emergency. If your child wishes to carry a second Epipen on them (or in their locker or bag) they are more than welcome to do so. We recommend notifying your advisor and learning community leader on Start-Up day.

If your child suffers from Asthma, all communities carry a spare puffer. However, we highly recommend your child has their own puffer and spacer with them, either in their school bag or locker.

### **Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes, Epilepsy (any medical condition)**

Weeroona College Bendigo takes individual student illness and medical conditions very seriously. If you have a child that may suffer from one of the medical conditions below it is vital that we are made aware. We have an overall responsibility for implementing strategies and processes for ensuring a safe and supportive environment for students at risk of any of these conditions:

- Anaphylaxis
- Asthma
- Allergies

- Diabetes
- Epilepsy
- Or any other medical condition

Action plans for any medical condition is highly recommended. Some can be found on our school website. Please print them off and then complete them with your doctor's signature.

If you are unable to print off the action plans you require, please see myself (Sarah – School Nurse) or the General Office and copies will be available.

Depending on your child's condition, medication is either kept with your child in their bag or locker. Some medication will be kept in the General Office such as Epipens.

The school website is: <http://www.weeroona.vic.edu.au/> . All action plans will be under Welfare tab.

### **Immunisations for 2013**

Immunisation dates for 2013 are as follows:

<b>19<sup>th</sup> March 2013</b>	Year 7 Boys & Girls (Human Papillomavirus & Chickenpox) Year 9 Boys (Human Papillomavirus) Year 10 Boys & Girls (Boostrix: Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis).
<b>21<sup>st</sup> May 2013</b>	Year 7 Boys & Girls (Human Papillomavirus & Chickenpox) Year 9 Boys (Human Papillomavirus)
<b>15<sup>th</sup> October 2013</b>	Year 7 Boys & Girls (Human Papillomavirus & Chickenpox) Year 9 Boys (Human Papillomavirus).

All students who are to receive immunisations this year will be given an immunisation consent card on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February. **It is vital that all cards are signed (by a parent/guardian) and returned to their advisor by Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February.** If cards are not signed students will not be able to receive their immunisations.

If you require any assistance with filling out the cards or if you have any questions or concerns in regards to the immunisations, please do not hesitate to contact me on a Monday or Tuesday.

*Sarah Warburton*  
**School Nurse**

## WEEROONA COLLEGE SWIMMING SPORTS

Weeroona College Bendigo held their swimming sports on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February at the Bendigo Aquatic Centre

It was fantastic to see many students wearing their house community colours which added to the atmosphere of the day. It was great to witness so much colour and vibrancy. It was also good to see that the Staff team hold up their winning ways by defeating the student team in the 4 x 50 metre relay. Well done to all competitors and congratulations to all those who won events.

Event winners will now represent the college at the Sandhurst Division Swimming Carnival swimming carnival, to be held on Friday March 1st at the Bendigo Aquatic Centre.

Congratulations to the Weeroona College Bendigo Swimming Age Group Champions

These are the results -

### Junior Aggregate Results

1st –	Kappen	(98pts)
2nd –	Merin	(75 pts)
3rd -	Wannop	(69pts)
4th -	Katyil	(64 pts)

### Senior Aggregate Results -

1st -	Kappen	(106pts)
2nd -	Wannop	(97pts)
3rd -	Katyil	(58pts)
4th -	Merin	(32 pts)

### Overall Results

1st –	Kappen	(204 pts)
2nd -	Wannop	(166pts)
3rd –	Katyil	(122 pts)
4 <sup>th</sup> -	Merin	(107pts)



*Above: Individual Age Group Champions*



**Individual Age Group Championships**

16 Boys –	Mitch D - Wannop	16 Girls –	Brooke Dr -Kappen
15 Boys –	Bailey E – Katyil	15 Girls –	Jess P - Katyil
14 Boys –	Adam D – Kappen	14 Girls –	Meg R- Merin
12-13 Boys –	Riley L – Kappen	12 - 13 Girls –	Beth H – Wannop

Below are the individual winners of each particular event, and the individuals who will represent Weeroona College Bendigo at the Sandhurst Division Championships to be held on Friday March 1st.

**SANDHURST DIVISION SWIMMING CARNIVAL-2013****12-13 GIRLS**

- 50 MTR FREESTYLE- Beth H
- 50 MTR BACKSTROKE- Alysha H
- 50 MTR- BREASTSTROKE- Beth H
- 50 MTR BUTTERFLY- Irene M
- 50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY- Beth H, Irene M, Tayla N ,Taylah H

**12-13 BOYS**

- 50 MTR FREESTYLE- Connor B
- 50 MTR BACKSTROKE- Riley L
- 50 MTR- BREASTSTROKE- Riley L
- 50 MTR BUTTERFLY- Riley L
- 50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY- Connor B, Tom L, Riley L, Sean C

**14 GIRLS**

- 50 MTR FREESTYLE- Olivia R
- 50 MTR BACKSTROKE- Meg R
- 50 MTR- BREASTSTROKE- Emma D
- 50 MTR BUTTERFLY-
- 50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY- Olivia R, Meg R, B. L, Emma D

**14 BOYS**

50 MTR FREESTYLE- Adam D

50 MTR BACKSTROKE- Adam D

50 MTR- BREASTSTROKE- Adam D

50 MTR BUTTERFLY- Adam D

50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY- Adam D, Luke B, Kane McN, Dallas V

**15 GIRLS**

50 MTR FREESTYLE- Jess P

50 MTR BACKSTROKE- Jess P

50 MTR- BREASTSTROKE- Georgia C

50 MTR BUTTERFLY- Jess P

50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY- Jess P, Georgia C, Rhapsody A, Caroline P

**15 BOYS**

50 MTR FREESTYLE- Bailey E

50 MTR BACKSTROKE- Matt G

50 MTR- BREASTSTROKE- Bailey E

50 MTR BUTTERFLY- Brock B

50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY- Bailey E, Harry B, Trent D, Ethan C

**16 GIRLS**

50 MTR FREESTYLE- Ruby C

50 MTR BACKSTROKE- Brooke D

50 MTR- BREASTSTROKE- Brooke D

50 MTR BUTTERFLY- Brooke D

50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY- Ruby C, Brooke D, Tarra V, Emily B

**16 BOYS**

100 MTR FREESTYLE- Brandon M

50 MTR FREESTYLE- Jess V

50 MTR BACKSTROKE- Mitch D

50 MTR- BREASTSTROKE- Toby L

50 MTR BUTTERFLY- Toby L

50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY- Jess V, Mitch D, Jayden C, Frank B

### **THE CARLTON NAVY BLUES VISIT WEEROONA**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February saw three players from the Carlton Football Club visit Weeroona College Bendigo. Carlton midfield star Marc Murphy, livewire forward Mitch Robinson and rising star Kane Lucas were in attendance and spoke to over 230 of the WCB Students over the course of Friday afternoon. These players were involved in the AFLs Community based camps which saw Carlton FC visit Bendigo for 2 days.



The players spoke of life on an AFL list, nutrition, healthy lifestyle, making the right decisions, the importance of education and goal setting. All students involved displayed excellent maturity, asking a diverse range of questions to the visiting players. Countless students gained autographs and pictures with the trio of Blues over the course of the sessions. Well done to all involved.



### **KARLY M**

Congratulations are in order for Karly M who produced excellent results in the recent State Athletics championships. Karly won the Women's Under 16 State Hammer Throw with a throw of 38.73 metres, and was third in the Women's Discus Throw. It is an excellent result for Karly, who is a Country Athlete competing against Metropolitan Athletes at State Level. Karly has joined the Bendigo Harriers Athletics



Club and gained a scholarship through the college based Building Stronger Links Program. On behalf of the college community, Well Done Karly.

### **BUILDING STRONGER LINKS PROGRAM**

The Weeroona College Bendigo Building Stronger Links Program aims to engage youths in sport through community based sports organisations and clubs. The program is involved with many community sports groups within close proximity of the Weeroona College Precinct.

These Sporting groups include:

Bendigo Harriers Athletics  
 Bendigo Umpires Association  
 South Bendigo Football and Netball Club  
 Barry Findlay Cricket Services  
 Sandhurst Weeroona Cricket Club  
 Bendigo District Cricket Association

The program also aims to share resources and ideas between members and ultimately enhance outcomes for the student body at Weeroona College Bendigo and partners involved in the program. The Building Stronger Links Program is offering students at the college to be actively engaged in these fine sporting groups.

Please contact Mr McCormick if you wish to be involved in any of these programs.



### **Bendigo YMCA Harriers Athletics Club – 3 Scholarships Available**

Please make contact with Mr. McCormick if you are interested in being considered for one of these building stronger links scholarships or wish to be involved in one of these clubs.

### **SPORT DATES FOR TERM 1**

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Sandhurst Division Swimming Carnival
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Volleyball (Year 9 & 10 Boys and Girls) Cricket (Year 9 & 10 Boys) Tennis (Year 9 & 10 Boys and Girls) Golf (Year 9 & 10 Boys & Girls)
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Athletics (Throwing Events. Flora Hill Athletics Track)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Loddon Mallee Swimming Carnival - Swan Hill
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	WCB Athletics (Flora Hill Athletics Track)
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	SSV Swimming & Diving (MSAC)

### **LOCAL COMPETITION**

On Thursday nights at the Tom Flood Sports Centre, students have been participating in the Hilson Builders Sprint Series.

Students from Weeroona College contesting the series were Kevin W, Spain N, Leone and Iliesa S and Kyle H. Over the ten rounds, Bendigo Harriers Club mates Kevin and Spain tied with 66 points winning the series aggregate putting them in to the Grand Final with Kyle H.

In the Final Kyle H gained 15 points to be the joint Grand Final winner. Winners were presented with sashes, plaques and vouchers for their efforts.

With students performing like this, it is hoped that students support the School in the Bendigo Bank Dragon Mile on Easter Sunday conducted by the Bendigo Harriers, where students can be rewarded individually, and in a school team with the school receiving a monetary voucher to purchase sporting equipment.

The School has been successful in past years and it would be pleasing to see the school students successful in this year's event Sunday March 31, for more information see Mr. McCormick or Ivan Kitt here at School.



*Shawn McCormick & Ivan Kitt*

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**MATHEMATICS NEWS**

It has been a busy start to the year with students and staff getting straight down to work.

Your child will have completed or be about to complete, an on-demand test based on number. The core teachers will be using these results to help the children set goals aimed at improving their abilities in the areas highlighted as needing attention. These results will be recorded in the MID tools that your child has on their netbook and we encourage you to please look at these.

Your child has also been working on an outline of work depending on the level they are at in mathematics. Formal testing for the first unit will be occurring during the week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> March.

Homework for secondary students is found to have a strong positive effect on students' outcomes and we ask that you encourage your child to complete homework on a regular basis and prepare thoroughly for the end of unit test. Regular study is the key rather than a cram the night before which may leave your child tired and confused.

**DOBSON'S UNIFORM SHOP**

Tuesday 2:00pm – 5:00pm

Thursday 8:30am – 12noon

**AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CADETS**

Do you have an interest in aviation? Want to improve your leadership skills? Maybe you're considering a career in the Defence Force or aviation. Do you love to challenge yourself, have fun and meet new friends?

If you are aged between 13 and 17 the Australian Air Force Cadets could be for you!

Come along to our information night Monday 4<sup>th</sup> of March from 7:30-9:30pm or call

On any Monday evening during term from 7-9pm for a chat.

"Passchendaele Barracks" 101 Atlas Road, Junortoun.

Call 54495546 or 0406564663 for more information

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**BENDIGO BMX CLUB**

BENDIGO BMX Club will be holding a National Sign on Day on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2013 at 10am at the EAGLEHAWK BMX track, VICTORIA STREET, EAGLEHAWK.

BMX is a fast, fun action sport with jumps and turns on a dirt track, which can be between 300 and 400 metres long. The sport is exciting; action packed and is great exercise for kids and adults alike.

The upcoming National Sign On Day at BENDIGO is an excellent opportunity for anyone who is interested in BMX to try the sport for free.

BENDIGO BMX Club will be giving the chance for any member of the community to come and try the thrill of BMX racing.

Club president BRETT HOBBS said the National Sign On Day would be an excellent opportunity for the public to try the sport. 'BMX is such a fun sport that can be enjoyed by the whole family. We are inviting any member of the public who has wanted to give the sport a try to come down to our track for the sign on day to experience firsthand the speed and excitement of BMX.'

The sport continues to grow in the wake of its first Olympic medal at the 2012 London Olympic Games. Sam Willoughby (SA) and Caroline Buchanan (ACT) both made the final at the Olympics with Sam going on to win Silver capping off a tremendous season after he was crowned World Champion, as was Caroline for winning the Time Trial.

The National Sign on Day provides the public an opportunity to try the sport in a fun environment with coaches giving expert tuition and assistance for those new to the sport. There is no cost involved in taking part on the day. Anyone who would like to attend can bring their own bike, otherwise the club may have some bikes and equipment available for those who do not have either.

Participants that attend will receive a show bag filled with products such as a BMX hat, 'BMX with Wade Bootes' DVD, Wristband, Pen and JetBlack BMX Grips (numbers limited).

For more information please contact BRETT HOBBS on 0437 441 592 or go to [bmxaustralia.com.au](http://bmxaustralia.com.au) – or Facebook updates at BENDIGO BMX CLUB

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### **NORTH BENDIGO FOOTBALL CLUB U/17**

The North Bendigo Football Club is looking for players for the upcoming season. Training will be at Atkins Street Oval from 6.00pm every Tuesday and Thursday. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested, see Mr Currie for more information.

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### **WEEROONA COLLEGE BENDIGO - CURRENT ESMART STATUS**

Cyberbullying, sexual predation, identity theft and accessing and sending inappropriate images and content are some of the real cybersafety risks facing young people today.

To reduce our students' exposure to these risks, and to help the whole College community embrace the benefits of technology, Weeroona College Bendigo has become involved in eSmart.

Funded in Victoria by the State Government, eSmart is an initiative of The Alannah and Madeline Foundation. It was developed by the RMIT School of Education, with the input of many other cybersafety and education experts.

Weeroona College Bendigo has successfully completed the first stage of accreditation and is now moving through the implementation stage of the initiative. This involves the further development of existing policies, establishing clear procedures to deal with incidents as they arise and delivering curriculum around the smart, safe and responsible use of technology.

Parent and student will be sought as these new initiatives are developed and implemented.

Further information is available from Mrs Helen Tuohey, Assistant Principal, at the College.

#### **Leaving a trail**

**Technology is great but every time you use it, you leave a trace of yourself. It could be in an email, a text or an uploaded image so take care with these simple hints.**

#### **Your digital footprint**



Almost everything you do with technology leaves a trace: something called a digital footprint. Your digital footprint is a bit like a map of everywhere you've been with your technology - everyone you've spoken to (and sometimes, what you've said), every image or comment you've posted, and every file you've downloaded. Digital footprints are very hard, in fact almost impossible, to erase. Here are some examples:

Text messages and emails can be saved by the person you sent them to, and forwarded to many more people than you ever intended.

You can delete a blog, or a comment or image you've put on a site like MySpace or Facebook, but you don't know how many people have downloaded it before you delete it – and a copy is always saved in the site's archive.

Even a one-on-one IM chat can turn into a public conversation if the person you're talking to decides to record or copy it.

Technology is great, but you do need to take some care about how you use it.



# Goldfields Gap Year & Student Exchange Expo

**Date: 13 March 2013**

**Time: 7 to 8.30 pm**

## VENUE

**Catholic College Bendigo**

**Marian Centre**

Cnr. Wright & Valentine Streets Bendigo

Wright Street runs parallel to View Street, between Barkly and Valentine Streets

Parking is available off campus in the streets nearby. If you park in Valentine St, please park only on the school side of the street.

7.00 to 7.30 pm

### *Welcome & Introduction*

A panel of people including representatives from La Trobe University, Centrelink and Careers Teachers from the Bendigo Region Careers Association will speak about the key issues you should think about when considering a Gap Year. Information about the current situation regarding Youth Allowance will also be provided.

7.00 to 8.30 pm

### *Student Exchange & Gap Year Expo*

Approx 20 stallholders available to answer your questions and provide information. If your key interest is student exchange programs, please visit the Expo from 7.00 pm instead of the Gap Year talk.

In Year 12 or at University and considering a GAP YEAR?

In Years 9 - 10 and considering an EXCHANGE YEAR?

### **Don't miss this expo!**

Find out about a variety of options including information about:

- Travel
- Organised Gap Year Programs
- Secondary School Exchange Programs
- Overseas Work
- Traineeships and Employment at home
- Youth Allowance and **MUCH MORE**



### **CONTACT PERSON**

**Ben Goode**  
03 5445 9143

