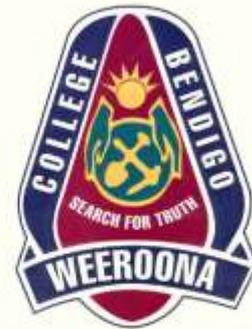


WEEROONA COLLEGE BENDIGO

PO Box 566 | BENDIGO | Victoria 3550
 383 Napier Street | BENDIGO | Victoria 3550
 Phone: 5443 2133

weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.weeroona.vic.edu.au
 Absence Line | 4433 4911



WCB CONTACTS

Principal | Leanne Preece

Assistant Principals
 Helen Tuohey | Jason Bysouth

Student Wellbeing Team
Student Wellbeing Team Leader | Julie Nicol
Chaplain | Carl Rusbridge
College Nurse | Sarah Warburton

Katyil Leaders
 Bree McKern
 Sue Pollard

Learning Advisors
L7A Carolyn Jones
L7B Dianne Andrea
L8A Gary Schroeder
L9A Helen Peppinck
L1A Brian Edebohls
L1B Mark Adams

Wannop Leaders
 Justin Hird
 Monica White
 Ron Llewelyn

Learning Advisors
W7A Monica White
W8A Tracey Lee
W9A Ben Lee
W9B Chloe Neath
W1A Sarah Smith
W1B Ron Llewelyn
Primary Paul Ellis

Merin Leaders
 Helen Tuohey
 Tim McInnes

Learning Advisors
M7A Christine Henty
M7B Jean Stephens
M8A Therese Johnston
M8B Meryl Hayes
M9A Leigh Schroeter
M1A Michelle Griffin
M1B Geoff Dempster

Kappen Leaders
 Trent Bysouth
 Leanne Miller

Learning Advisors
K7A Marion Stewart
K7B James Ginnivan
K8A Erin Pilkington
K8B Amanda Southcombe /
 Kellie Roberts
K9A David Crowley
K9B Paul O'Shea
K1A Alan Aylward

WCB UPCOMING EVENTS



DECEMBER

16th Learning Community Activities
 17th Learning Community Activities
 18th WCB Pool Day
 19th Learning Community Activities
 20th Clean Up Day – 2:30pm finish

JANUARY – 2014

20th Book Collection Day
 24th Office Opens
 29th Start-Up Day (pm)
 30th Start-Up Day (am)
 31st First Day of School



SCHOOL TIMES

Start 9.00am
 Lunch 11.45am - 12.35pm
 Recess 1.45pm - 2.05pm
 Finish 3.15pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday
 8.15am – 4.00pm

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Tuesday 2.00pm – 5.00pm
 Thursday 8.30am – 12.00pm



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



As the year draws to a close I would like to offer everyone my best wishes for a happy holiday, lots of sunshine, family and friends, and the relaxation you need after a hectic 2013.

2013 Weeroona College Bendigo Awards Night Highlights

On Tuesday night we celebrated the achievements of many of our wonderful students and staff at our annual awards night. My thank you to all of our terrific staff members who contributed to the success of the evening.

In particular I would like to highlight the following awards:

- ★ Weeroona College Bendigo Dux for 2013 – Congratulations to Brianna B.
- ★ Weeroona College Bendigo Student of the Year 2013 – Congratulations to Sarah.
- ★ 30 Year Service Award – Congratulations to Ms Christine Toose.
- ★ 35 Year Service Award – Congratulations to Mr Ron Llewelyn and Ms Mandy Southcombe.
- ★ 40 Year Service Award - Congratulations to Mr Paul Ellis.
- ★ 45 Year Service Award - Congratulations to Mr Chas Odgers.

I would also like to congratulate all of our students who received awards. It is pleasing to note the increase in the numbers of our students being awarded Academic Excellence awards for scholastic excellence over the course of this year. I put the challenge to ALL our students to be awarded this honour in 2014.

My thanks and best wishes to our outgoing College Captains Sarah W and Leone S for the leadership they have shown throughout the year. It gives me great pleasure to announce our student leaders for 2014:

Boy College Captain – Tallis M
 Boy College Vice Captain – Ethan C
 Girl College Captain – Milly B
 Girl College Vice Captain – Georgia C



Leanne Preece
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Learning Community based activities – Last week of the school year

Next week each Learning Community has organised activities for their students. Hopefully all students will be aware of what the activities are and the arrangements for each day. Learning Communities may have already organised letters home to parents with the details.

Wednesday December 18th is a Pool Day at the Aquatic Centre.

Hopefully all students have remembered to return all hire books to the library along with any other outstanding library books.

Thank You

As this is the final newsletter for the school year I would like to congratulate all students for their efforts this year. All students found the 'Kickstart' program to be beneficial in that they were able to meet their teachers for next year and become familiar with the first unit of work for 2014.

I would like to thank parents and families for their continued support. The parents I have had contact with across the school year are always supportive of the college and more than willing to work with us for the best interests of their child.

Finally I would like to thank staff for their dedication and commitment to providing the best educational opportunities they can for the students in our care at Weeroona College Bendigo. I hope everyone has a well-earned Christmas break and remains safe.

Helen Tuohey
Assistant Principal

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody in the Weeroona College Bendigo Community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I would also like to thank the wonderful staff and students who have made 2013 such a productive year.

Looking forward to 2014, all parents/guardians will receive Start-Up Day information packs in the mail for each child during January. Please take the time to read all enclosed information carefully and if you have any concerns please contact the General Office on 5443 2133. Once again we look forward to seeing you all back at Weeroona College Bendigo to begin the 2014 year.

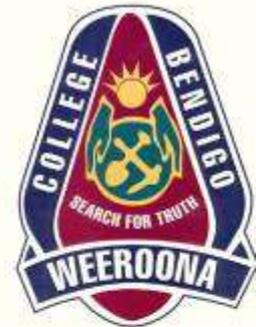
Jason Bysouth
Assistant Principal

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE

Awards Evening Certificates

If your child received an award but was not there to collect it on the night, please note that these will be included in their end of year report.

Please also note that the office will be closing on Friday 20th December and re-opening on Thursday 23rd January, 2014.



SPORT...

Australian Schools Basketball Championships

On the 2-6th December the U17 Girls + Boys Basketball teams represented WCB in the Australian Schools Basketball Championships. With both teams having trained once a week for a semester, all were eager to put their skills to the test. At the start of the week the girls were amazed by the pace and physicality of the competition and with injuries found it very difficult. The boys started slowly and narrowly missed out on finals.

The students who participated in the tournament were:

<u>U17 Girls</u>	<u>U17 Boys</u>
Meg R	Tyler P
Brooke D	Chris G
Lauren M	James M
Taylor F	Jordan W
Sophie M	Connor A
Emily H	Xavier S
Molly P	Jake R
Maddie R	Lachlan C
Laura C	Robert B



The results were as follows:

Boys:

Weeroona College (43) were defeated by Gapuwiyak Boys Team (50).

Weeroona College (32) were defeated by UHS Junior Boys (71).

Weeroona College (28) were defeated by Macquarie College (38).

Weeroona College (34) were defeated by Pyramid Hill College (45) in the Final.

Girls:

Weeroona College (19) were defeated by Monivae College (81).

Weeroona College (25) were defeated by Gapuwiyak Girls Team (41).

Weeroona College (7) were defeated by Aquinas College (74).

Weeroona College (17) were defeated by Phoenix P-12 Community College (73).

Shepherdson College (66) defeated Weeroona College (28).

Boort Secondary College (71) defeated Weeroona College (8).

Most Valuable Player Award (Voted by peers) - Brooke D (U17 Girls) + Lachlan C (U17 Boys). The team would like to thank all of the sponsors who made it possible and without their support students wouldn't have been able to experience such an elite level tournament. These businesses were:

-YMCA

-Hume + Iser

-Geotechnical Testing Services

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE...

Medications

If your child has medication kept in the General Office please remember to collect it before the end of the school year. All medication must be taken home and returned in 2014 on Start-Up Day if required. 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.

If you have any further questions regarding your child's medication, please feel free to see our School Nurse, Sarah Warburton, on Start-Up Day in 2014. She will be located in the Student Wellbeing Office (located in the General Office building).

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:

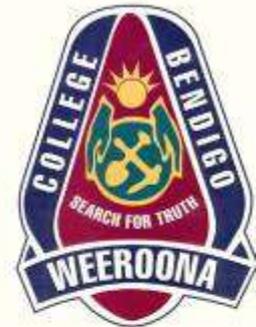
-Anaphylaxis.

-Allergies.

-Diabetes.

-Epilepsy.

-Or any other medical condition.



Action plans for any medical condition is highly recommended. Copies of particular action plans for anaphylaxis, allergies, asthma, epilepsy & diabetes have been included on the school website for you to print off. If you are unable to print off the action plans you require, please see our School Nurse, Sarah Warburton. There will also be copied available from the General Office.

You may not use these particular action plans as your health specialist may have already developed one for you. It is very important that you remember to bring all completed action plans or letters from your doctor with you on Start-Up Day in 2014. After you have met with

your Advisor, please see Sarah in the General Office to go over your forms or to talk in further detail about your child's condition.

Medication that your child requires should be brought with you on Start-Up Day. 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.

FROM THE STUDENT WELLBEING TEAM

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Now, we all know that Santa Claus is real and that he is pretty good at sneaky gift giving and throwing presents down chimneys, but you may not be aware of some of his lesser known exploits. The name Santa Claus comes from the Dutch nickname Sinterklaas which is derived from Saint Nicholas (Nick to his mates). Nick was a Greek bloke who lived over a thousand years ago. His parents were wealthy but both died when he was still young so he inherited their riches.



Despite his wealth Nick was known for his generosity and compassion for those who were doing it really tough. There is one story about a poor villager who had three daughters but he couldn't afford for them to be married.

Back then, this basically meant the daughters would have to be sold into slavery (probably prostitution) in order just to survive. Upon hearing the plight of these three young women Saint Nick secretly threw three purses full of gold coins into their home so that they would be able to afford to be married.

In one account of the story one of the daughters had just washed her stockings and hung them near the fire place to dry and the coin purse was thrown down the chimney and landed in one of the stockings. This may be where the Christmas Eve tradition of hanging stockings above the fireplace in readiness for gifts first derived from.

Christmas should be a joyful time of spending time with family, having a much needed break from work, feasting and celebration. However, there are people around us that do it really tough at Christmas time – they may be mourning the loss of a loved one or have no one to share a meal with. It would great if we could look for ways to share our own Christmas joy with these people and embody the kindness, generosity and heart for the hurting that Saint Nick aka Santa Claus would become known for. It could be something as simple as wishing a lonely neighbour 'Merry Christmas' that has a bigger impact than you would ever know!

I would like to leave you with a suitably Christmassy (is that a word?) quote from another famous saint that was known and loved for her generosity and kindness toward those who were really struggling. Mother Teresa once said: *"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you... yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand."*

On behalf of the Student Wellbeing team at Weeroona College Bendigo, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a safe holiday period and every blessing for the New Year.

Carl Rusbridge
School Chaplain

