



# WEEROONA COLLEGE BENDIGO

weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au

PO Box 566 | BENDIGO | Victoria 3550

[www.weeroona.vic.edu.au](http://www.weeroona.vic.edu.au)

383 Napier Street | BENDIGO | Victoria 3550

Absence Line | 4433 4911

P: 5443 2133 | F: 5442 7641

Follow our Principal on Twitter [https://twitter.com/#!/wcb\\_prin](https://twitter.com/#!/wcb_prin)

## WCB CONTACTS

**Principal** | Leanne Preece

**Assistant Principal** | Helen Tuohey

**ZEST College Support Team**

**Chaplain** | Carl Rusbridge

**College Nurse** | Sarah Warburton

### Katyl

#### Leaders

Jason Bysouth  
Bree Franks

### Learning Advisors

**L7A** Gary Schroeder

**L8A** Jaime Gray

**L9A** Helen Peppinck

**L9B** Mark Adams

**L1A** Carolyn Jones

**L1B** Dianne Andrea

### Merin

#### Leaders

Leanne Miller  
Tim McInnes

### Learning Advisors

**M7A** Therese Johnston

**M7B** Meryl Hayes

**M8A** Leigh Schroeter

**M9A** Christine Toose

**M9B** Michelle Griffin

**M1A** Christine Henty

**M1B** Jean Stephens

### Wannop

#### Leaders

Justin Hird  
Monica White

### Learning Advisors

**W7A** Tracey Lee

**W8A** Geoff Dempster

**W8B** Chloe Neath

**W9A** Sarah Smith

**W9B** Kristen Purden

**W1A** David Crowley

**W1B** Ronald Llewelyn

**Primary** Paul Ellis

### Kappen

#### Leaders

Sue Pollard  
Trent Bysouth

### Learning Advisors

**K7A** Erin Pilkington

**K7B** Ryan Currie

**K8A** James Ginnivan

**K8B** Amanda Southcombe /  
Brian Edebohls

**K9A** Marion Stewart

**K9B** Stephen Hocking

**K1A** Alan Aylward

**K1B** Christine Edgar



## WCB UPCOMING EVENTS

### OCTOBER

**22<sup>nd</sup>** | College Council – 7pm

**24<sup>th</sup>** | Proposed half day Stop Work Action

**31<sup>st</sup>** | Bendigo Cup Holiday

### NOVEMBER

**12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>** | Year 8/9 Surf Camp – Lorne

**23<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>** | Energy Breakthrough - Maryborough

**23<sup>rd</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>** | Year 10 Exams - BSSC

**28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>** | Primary Camp – Swan Hill

### DECEMBER

**11<sup>th</sup>** | WCR Awards Evening



### SCHOOL TIMES

Start 9am

Lunch 11.43am - 12.33pm

Recess 1.44pm - 2.04pm

Finish 3.15pm

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

8.15am - 4pm

### UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Tuesday 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Thursday 8.30am – 12.00pm

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

### 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.

### Further Industrial Action

The College will be disrupted by further industrial action as Australian Education Union members impose work bans and stopworks across the state. These are in support of their log of claims in negotiating a new work place agreement with the Government. The impact of these has so far been managed by the College but has caused significant challenges to the some aspects of the work that all schools do. I would hope that these industrial issues can be resolved quickly so that schools can return to normal day to day operations.

The current work bans by AEU members will have the following impact on our College. Not all staff members are involved in these.

- Ban on the use of the Ultraset as a tool by teachers.
- Ban on surveys conducted by the Education Dept. (DEECD).
- Ban on "comments" written on reports by AEU members. Some reports may only include a VELS level if this is implemented by teachers.
- Half day rolling stop work actions across the state.
- Ban on the planning of all camps and excursions for 2013.

Although there are aspects to the action these have and will have the most impact on our College. Our College will be affected by a half day stop work action on WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER during the morning. Parents will be notified of the impact of this on students but it is likely to cause significant disruption. A letter will be sent home with students regarding the implications of this and the classes the College will have the capacity to run. NORMAL CLASSES WILL OPERATE DURING THE AFTERNOON FOR ALL STUDENTS.

### New School Nearly Complete

After over three and a half years of being part of a building site, it is fantastic to begin term four with all of our school community in our new school. Staff and students in our newest Learning Community – Katyl have reported a very smooth start to the term as they have quickly adapted to their innovative, new, learning spaces. After much unpacking, staff in the Administration, ZEST- Wellbeing Team, Global Learning Centre (Library), Canteen, Hospitality Kitchen and Information Communication Technology are almost fully operational and already reporting positively on their new spaces. We still have a bit of landscaping yet to be done, along Napier Street, and now that the portables have been removed, this can commence. All staff involved in the move are to be congratulated on a job well done.

### HOUSE CHANGES 2013

After consultation with the student body, the college based school community and the broader college community, 2013 will see the changing of the Weeroona College Bendigo sporting houses. The names Derrinal, Metcalfe, Kimbolton and Coliban have been in existence since 1967 and have served White Hills Technical College, White Hills Secondary College and Weeroona College Bendigo extremely well. These names will be honoured in the college gymnasium with the particular banners hung and on display and there are other plans to honour them.

With the completion of the new facilities it is an opportune time to align the college based house system with the designated college communities. Consequently students in the Merin community will now represent Merin House, students in Katyl community will now represent Katyl house, students in Wannop community will now represent Wannop house and students in Kappen community will now represent the Wannop house.

The colours and symbols of the new houses incorporate the following,

**Kappen - Green – Earth**  
**Katyl - Blue- Running Water**  
**Merin – Yellow- Wind**  
**Wannop – Red- Fire**

We look forward to the new houses being as successful as the structure which has served the college well in the past, and anticipate new tradition and history to be forged with the alignment of Communities and Sporting Houses.

### **SEXTING**

'Sexting' means sending sexually explicit photos or videos electronically (eg by mobile phone, app, chat, social networking or email). With modern technology this can be done instantly, but it can have serious and lasting consequences.

For people under 18, sexting is illegal. It is a **criminal offence to take, possess, or transmit a naked image of a person under the age of 18 years**. It doesn't matter if your child took their own photo and willingly sent or published it. You cannot 'give someone permission' to break the law. Penalties for these offences are very serious and can result in your child being placed on the sex offender's register.

It is important that you regularly talk to your child about their experiences with communications technology. Make sure that you continually reinforce that your child should come to you if they have any problems, if they see something that they know is wrong or anything that upsets them.

If you require further support, please speak to your child's Learning Community Leader, Chaplain or myself. See attached flyer for more information.

*Leanne Preece*

**Principal**

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### **CANTEEN**

We will also not be opening the canteen on Mondays starting from week 2 of Term 4.

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### **SPORTS NEWS**

#### **LODDON MALLE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

The Loddon Mallee Athletics carnival took place at the Latrobe University Athletics Complex, Flora Hill on Thursday October 10<sup>th</sup>. Conditions were damp but this did not dampen the efforts of all Weeroona competitors. Congratulations to all competitors involved in the carnival.

Competitors who won through this stage will now represent Weeroona at the School Sport Victoria Track and Field Carnival to be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October at the Albert Park Athletics Complex, Melbourne.

Students who represented the college at the Loddon Mallee carnival included Bailey E (1500mt, 800mt), Josh D (High Jump), Bailey E (1500 metre, 800 meytre), Zac S (visually impaired 100 metres, 200 metres, Long jump and Shot put), Ruby C (Javelin ), Karly M (Discus), Kaitlyn B (Discus), Matt C (400 metres, 800 metres), Alice G (Hurdles) and Zoe D (Hurdles, Long Jump & High Jump).

**Congratulations and good luck to to Matt C who saluted in the 16 Boys 800 metres, Karly M who easily won her Discus event and Zac S who won the 100 metres, 200 metres, Long Jump and Shot Put events. These individuals have won through to the School Sport Victoria Track and Field Championships to be held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October.**

*Shawn McCormick*

**Sports Coordinator**

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Department of Education and  
Early Childhood Development

## EMA - Newsletter Information 2013



### Education Maintenance Allowance - information for parents currently receiving EMA

#### Changes to the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 2013:

The EMA continues to help families on lower incomes with financial assistance to cover the cost of educational expenses including **textbooks**, **stationery**, **uniforms** and **excursions** for their child up until the age of 16.

From 2013, the Victorian Government is restructuring the EMA to better target financial support to families on lower incomes. Payments made direct to parents will be increased for eligible recipients at all year levels up to age 16, with an additional increase for parents with students in Years Prep and 7 in recognition of the additional costs at these transition points.

In 2013 the annual EMA payment for families with children in primary school (years 1-6) will receive a payment of \$150. Families with children in secondary school (Year 8 up until the age of 16) will receive an annual payment of \$250.

The School Start Bonus which was previously received by EMA families has been discontinued as a separate payment from 2013. However, additional funding has been incorporated into the EMA meaning that parents of children in Prep and Year 7 will receive boosted EMA payments of \$200 and \$300 respectively in those years.

From 2013, the EMA will no longer be paid 50/50 between the parent and the school. The 50% school portion of the EMA will no longer be paid to schools on behalf of parents. However, \$62 million over four years will be redirected to the State's most needy schools to assist families on lower incomes. These funds will form part of the school Student Resource Packages to be allocated at the local level.

#### New EMA payment option

From 2013, on the EMA application form you can choose to have your EMA payment;

- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your nominated bank account **or**
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection **or**
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses

The introduction of the new payment option to have the EMA payment directed to the school provides parents with extra flexibility to assist with budgeting towards education expenses.

**Eligibility:**

To be eligible for the EMA in 2013, you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; **and**
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*\* **or** be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner **or** be a temporary foster parent.

\* i.e – the parent/guardian must be the holder of a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at **29 January 2013** (Instalment One) and **15 July 2013** (Instalment Two).

**Payment Amounts - 2013:**

	Prep	Years 1 - 6	Year 7	Year 8 – Age 16
<b>Instalment One</b>	\$140	\$105	\$210	\$175
<b>Instalment Two</b>	\$60	\$45	\$90	\$75
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$150</b>	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$250</b>

\*Student year level (or age for ungraded and special school students) will determine the amount payable. Parents of students turning 16 years in 2013 are paid on a pro rata basis.

EMA application forms will be available from the General Office on Start Up Day 2013 to lodge your application. The closing date for EMA application forms to be submitted to the school is **28 February 2013**.

**COMMUNITY NEWS****A Celebration of Maple Street Primary School - Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2012**

**Invitation: To all former students and staff of Maple Street Primary School. You were part of the history. Celebrate the end AND the new beginning.** The School buildings will be open from 11am to 4pm.

Photos and memorabilia on display in each room plus a sign-in Visitor's book in each room.

People will be free to wander through the building and (new) gymnasium and view plans of the new school on display in the entry foyer of the gym.

**BBQ lunch – 12.00- 1.30 – sausages/ hamburgers /cold drinks/ tea & coffee will be available**

Items of Maple Street 'collectables' will be offered for auction. Some will be silent auction and some will be auctioned by our auctioneer. Silent bidding closes @ 2.30pm.

*Time capsule (interred 1985) will be opened @ 2.00pm by all former Principals present.*

**ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAM FOR OUR PRIMARY STUDENTS**



Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission

**Active After-school  
Communities**

Helping kids and communities get active

**WEEROONA COLLEGE**

**TERM 4, 2012 ACTIVITY PLAN**

**Session times: 3.30 – 4.30pm**

Date	Activity	Coach	Date	Activity	Coach
Wed, 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct to Wed, 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Judo</b>	Josh Meldrum <small>(Judo Bendigo)</small>	Thur, 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct to Thur, 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	<b>Skateboarding</b>	Fraser Myers Paul Johns <small>(Bendigo Regional YMCA)</small>
			Thur, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov To Thur, 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<b>Orienteering</b>	Kelsey Chandler <small>(Bendigo Orienteers)</small>

No activity on Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> October – Bendigo Cup holiday






For people under 18, sexting is illegal and penalties can be very serious.

## What is 'sexting'?

'Sexting' means sending sexually explicit photos or videos electronically (e.g. by mobile phone, app, chat, social networking or email).

With modern technology this can be done instantly, but it can have serious and lasting consequences.

## What are the possible consequences of 'sexting'?

Once digital images are sent, there is no way to get them back. They are not private, and they are permanent. They can resurface again when least expected, such as during a job application. They can be published and found by anyone, including friends, family members, complete strangers, and sexual predators. Images can be used to bully and harass.

## Possible legal consequences

For people under 18, sexting is illegal. It is a **criminal offence to take, possess, or transmit a naked image of a person under the age of 18 years**. It doesn't matter how you came to possess the image. It doesn't matter if you took a photo of yourself and willingly sent or published it. It doesn't matter if the person in the image is your girl- or boy- friend or if you are the same age. You cannot 'give someone permission' to break the law. Penalties for these offences are very serious and can result in being placed on the sex offender's register.

## What are the reasons for 'sexting'?

Young people are naturally curious and interested in exploring sexuality. They are also exposed to a wide range of sexual imagery, in songs, video clips, movies, advertising and online. This can promote the idea that sexual behaviour has no repercussions. Unfortunately the reality is more complicated and young people often only become aware of this after the event.

The Pew Internet Project and the University of Michigan (2009) conducted six focus groups with middle and high school students in three cities as part of a wider study. In this study teens described the pressure they feel to share sexually explicit images. One high school girl wrote:

*When I was about 14-15 years old, I received/sent these types of pictures. Boys usually ask for them or started that type of conversation. My boyfriend, or someone I really liked asked for them and I felt like if I didn't do it, they wouldn't continue to talk to me. At the time, it was no big deal but now looking back it was definitely inappropriate and over the line.*

# Sexting

## Talk with your child.

Ensure that you regularly talk with your children about their experiences with communications technology. Ask them what they have seen or done, and if they have had any problems.

Make sure that you continually reinforce to your children that nothing is so bad that they can't talk to you about it. Let them know that they should come and tell you when they have any problems, if they see something that they know is wrong, or anything that upsets them.

Children often fear telling a parent an issue as they think this will result in blocking access. Don't threaten to disconnect your child – this will only cause them to keep problems hidden from you.



## What do I do if I find explicit images of my child?

- Don't yell, scream or panic. Try to remain calm. It is really important to be able to speak rationally to your child about this issue.
- Talk to them about your concerns or suspicions and allow them time to respond.
- Try to work out how/where this has happened and who else may be involved. Where are the images now? Who may have them?
- Make an appointment to speak to someone at the school such as a counsellor, teacher, or principal, and let them know what has occurred.
- Be aware that in some instances, police may need to be involved and schools have certain obligations in relation to the reporting of incidents. Please don't withhold information from the school because you are concerned about police involvement. Police are very well placed to deal with these issues and have tools to minimise the impact. They have the ability to retrieve data and trace electronic communication. The important thing is to act as soon as you are aware.
- If you believe that the 'sexting' is a result of your child being the victim of an online sexual predator rather than adolescent naivety, please notify the police immediately.