WEEROONA COLLEGE BENDIGO

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Follow our Principal on Twitter https://twitter.com/#!/wcb_prin

WCB CONTACTS

Principal | Leanne Preece
Assistant Principal | Helen Tuohey

ZEST College Support Team
Student Welfare Coordinator | Karen Dale
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 McIntnes

Learning Advisors
M7A Therese Johnston
M7B Meryl Hayes
M8A Leigh Schroeder
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 Edeboils
K9A Marion Stewart
K9B Stephen Hocking
K1A Alan Aylward
K1B Jonathan McIntosh

WCB UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY
29th | EMA / Conveyance applications due

MARCH
6th | Year 7 & 8 Sports Day
7th | Yr 7 Welcome BBQ - evening 6.00pm - 7.30pm
12th | Labour Day Holiday
19th-21st | Year 7 Camp
26th | Immunisations Year 7 & 10 Boys & Girls
30th | Last Day Term 1 – 2.30pm finish

APRIL
16th | Term 2 Resumes

MAY
18th | Year 7 Girls Immunisations

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS
Tuesday 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Thursday 8.30am – 12.00pm
PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

It is very pleasing to report that we have had an excellent start to the school year. Students have been going about their learning in a productive and responsible manner as we embed our Learning Protocols which were shared in the last newsletter.

School Council 2012 - 2013

As the number of nominations in both the parent representative category and the Department of Education, Employment and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) Employee category equals the number of vacancies I am pleased to report that we will have a full compliment.

Congratulations to parent representatives: Maxine Anderson, Sonia Evans, Stephen Oliver and Anita Whittle.

Congratulations to DEECD representatives: Jason Bysouth and Sonya Fergus.

Our first college council, with all our new members, will be held next month where we will elect office bearers and co-opt two further representatives.

A very big thank you to outgoing members: Leanne Oberin (president for the past two years), Leigh Randall (vice president), Shane Jones, Tori Barnes (co-opted student representative).

On Demand Testing

All students at Weeroona College Bendigo have begun On Demand testing for English and Mathematics. This is to assist students and teachers in measuring student progress over the holidays and establishing the current academic level of the students to help them develop their Personal Learning Plans in conjunction with their teachers and Learning Advisors. The students will be tested once per term using the On Demand tests that are provided for us by the DEECD and we will be looking for progress to be made by all students.

House Swimming Championships

Also pleasing was the attendance, participation and cheering for team members at our annual House Swimming Championships at the Bendigo Aquatic Centre last Friday. I note that over 75% of our students attended this day and are to be congratulated for their participation. If you are the parent of a student who did NOT attend I would ask that you try and encourage your child to attend all school events as we all know that regular and consistent school attendance is important.

School Review year for Weeroona College Bendigo

This year our school will undergo a review of the progress made in relation to the school strategic plan that was developed four years ago. The school review is a key component of the DEECD School Accountability and Improvement Framework and is designed to provide an expert, independent analysis of current school performance and practice, and to advise on the goals for student outcomes and appropriate key improvement strategies that will help shape a school’s strategic plan. See Page 2

Leanne Preece
Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Immunisations – Yrs 7 & 10.

Dates for this year’s Immunisations are-
March 26th - All year 7’s and 10’s
May 18th - Year 7 girls
September 18th - All year 7’s
Immunisations sessions begin at 9.30am.
Permission cards will be sent home with students when they arrive at the school.

This resource assists parents to be aware of the school-based immunisation program for Year 7 and Year 10 students, what they need to do, and how they can access free vaccine for their child if the vaccine is missed at school.

Student Accident Insurance Arrangements

Parents 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.

Helen Tuohey
Assistant Principal
Our year of self-evaluation, review and planning

An overview for the school community

Year of self-evaluation, review and planning

Purpose
This year we will be setting our school’s strategic direction for the next four years. Our primary goal is to provide an excellent education for every student. To do this we will evaluate our progress to date and plan a strategy that is critical to our school’s continued success – improving learning, engagement and wellbeing and successful transitions and pathways for our children and young people.

The Focus
The planning of the strategic direction for the school will be guided by the following questions:

- What outcomes did we aim to achieve?
- What outcomes did we achieve?
- Why did we achieve / not achieve improvements in student outcomes?
- How effectively did we manage our resources to support the achievement of student outcomes?
- What can we do in the future to continue to improve?

The Process
School self-evaluation provides an opportunity for our school community to reflect on our achievements, our strengths, and areas where improvement is needed. After we have completed our self-evaluation, an external reviewer will work with us to offer independent and expert advice on our progress. With their experience and knowledge of Australian and international best practice they will be able to help identify the most effective strategies for us to continue to improve into the future.

The self-evaluation and the review provide a powerful information base from which we can develop our new strategic directions for the four-year school strategic plan.

We will:
- review the school’s core purpose and values
- take a ‘futures perspective’ of the needs of children and young people and the context of our school
- agree on the outcomes we are striving to achieve for our students
- choose the few most important strategies that are critical to our success.

*Schools are partnerships, in effect, between teachers, legislators, parents, students and community members…a shared vision effort in school should begin by calling people to come together to think and act, with the power they already have, about the things that are important to them* (Senge, Schools that Learn, 2000).

People Involved
School leaders, staff, students and parents will work together over the course of 2011 to set the strategic directions for the school.
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Sunsmart – Term 1
Term 1 is the time of year when students are strongly encouraged to wear hats outside during recess, lunch, PE and sports electives. The college policy re: the wearing of hats applies during Term 4 and Term 1. The only hat to be worn is the college approved hat available through the Dobson’s uniform shop. Peaked hats are not sunsmart, not approved by the Cancer Council of Victoria, not part of the College uniform, and therefore are not to be worn.

Personal Goods Brought to School
Families are asked to note that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance nor does it accept responsibility for private property brought to school by students, staff and visitors.

This includes mobile phones, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE...

Late Arrivals / Leaving the College
Students who need to leave the College during the day MUST bring a note signed by a Parent / Guardian to their child’s Learning Community Leader or Parents can phone the College to give permission for their child to leave.

It is now a DEECD requirement that when picking up a student from school that identification be shown i.e. Drivers licence. This will be completed at the General Office. Please understand that this is now a directive of the Department of Education for schools, for the protection of your children.

If students come late to school, they MUST sign in also with their Community Leader. They should have a note signed by a Parent / Guardian or a Parent can phone the college letting us know their child is late; otherwise they will be marked ‘late unexplained’ and receive a text message from the college.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. To be eligible for receipt of the EMA 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 foster parent.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (1st February, 2012) and Term 3 (16th July). The EMA application must be submitted to the college by WEDNESDAY 29TH FEBRUARY, 2012 for the first payment and FRIDAY 3RD AUGUST, 2012 for the second payment. The EMA provides an annual amount of $235.00 for primary students and $470.00 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. Please note if you completed an EMA application on Start Up Day, you do not need to apply again.

CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE
Applications for Conveyance Allowance should be lodged at the college no later than WEDNESDAY 29TH FEBRUARY, 2012. Students who reside more than 4.8 km RADIALY from Weeroona College Bendigo or their nearest bus stop may be eligible. For more information go to: www.education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool/leaveschool/traveltoschool.htm

Parents who have applied in previous years and have not changed their address do not need to reapply again. We would like to pay parents by direct deposit starting from this year. If you have previously applied for Conveyance Allowance, please notify the office or email: weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au of your BSB and bank account numbers.

Those who enrolled an additional sibling at the college will need to lodge an application for that student. Application forms are available at the General Office. Application forms need to have a map attached and marked also.

PATHWAYS UPDATE

Work Experience Opportunities
Some fantastic Work Experience Opportunities have been made available to our Year 10 students. Please see Miss Hodge in Kappen for information on the following:

- Bendigo Advertiser-
  Suitable for students interested in pursuing a career in Journalism, Photography or the Media.

- Business Administration
  Students will be based at the CVGT Bendigo Office and assist with a range of tasks, including typing, proof reading, and customer service and reception duties.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VET??
The University of Melbourne is holding an open day at their Veterinary Hospital on Sunday 25th March from 10am to 3pm. Highlights of the day include:

- Behind the scenes tour of a world class Veterinary Hospital including the Equine Centre and Emergency and Critical Care Clinic.
- Experience demonstrations including Horse Health, Victoria Police Dog Squad and Reptile Education.
- Meet past Melbourne Cup Winners at the World Class Equine Centre.
• Attend public lectures featuring the Head of Emergency and Critical Care and specialist surgeons.

Weeroona College Bendigo has been offered a **FREE** bus service which will leave from the Bendigo TAFE car park at 7:30am and return at approximately 5:30pm.

Please email Brodie Wales brodie.wales@unimelb.edu.au to book your place on the bus- PLACES WILL FILL FAST!! For further information about being a vet please go to www.vet.unimelb.edu.au

**Breannon Hodge**
Pathways/ Transitions Leader

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**PARENTS’ CLUB**

**Brick BBQ/Selkirk Named Pavers**

The construction of a new 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 24th of March 2011. Please print off the order form and complete your details to be returned to School with payment.

**2012 Committee**
President Kym Blume 5442 2541
Vice President Maxine Anderson
Secretary Joanne Kingdon
Treasurer Mary Mitchell

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**HELLO FROM ZEST - WEEROONA COLLEGE SUPPORT TEAM**

**SPAN**

The Suicide Prevention Awareness Network suicide walk on March 24 is designed to allow those touched by suicide to remember loved ones, friends, and work or school mates and to raise awareness of the issue of suicide across the broader Central Victorian community. The walk will be approximately 3 km.

9.30am: Registration opens in Dai Gum San Chinese precinct at 1-11 Bridge Street, Bendigo. $15 with SPAN walk T-shirt. Free with no T-shirt.

10.50am: Official welcoming ceremony.

11am: SPAN suicide awareness walk starts.

Noon: Walk finishes at Dai Gum San Chinese precinct.

12.10pm: Official speeches by guest speakers and Butterfly.

Remembrance ceremony.

12.20pm: Free sausage sizzle lunch served.

12.20pm: Entertainment provided by Chasing The Ace youth band and Victoria Police Pipe Band.

Follow event news at www.bendigoadvertiser.com.au

Sponsorship and general inquires: Alannah McGregor by email at alannahm@vic.chariot.net.au or phone 0408 541 082.

Leading Senior Constable Neil Crouch, Bendigo Police Station by email at neil.crouch@police.vic.gov.au or phone 0409 536 035.

**Positive Mental Health Poster Competition!!**

SPAN (Suicide Prevention Awareness Network) is holding a poster competition open to the following year levels at Weeroona College Bendigo:

- Grade 5 & 6
- Year 7
- Year 8 & 9
- Year 10

The poster must contain either a photo, drawing, cartoon or painting of something that represents “Health or Positive Mental Health”. Examples include:

- What makes you happy?
- How can you make other people happy?
- Who can you talk to?

The following criteria must be included:

1. It must be on A3 paper.
2. The poster must contain the following details:
   - Lifeline 13 11 14
   - Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800 or www.kidshealth.org.au
   - Beyond Blue Information line 1300224 636
   - Youth Beyond Blue www.youthbeyondblue.com
   - Your Local GP or Bendigo Community Health 54300500.
   - Suicide Helpline (VIC only) 1300 651 251
   - Headspace www.headspace.org.au
   - Reachout www.reachout.com
   - SANE www.sane.org

All posters must be handed into the ZEST Welfare Team no later than **Friday 16th March 2012**.

Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and commended and will be donated by Danny Clapp – The Good Guys.

The posters who receive a prize will be placed on display in the foyer of the Bendigo Library from Monday 19th March – Saturday 24th March.

If you have any questions regarding the competition, please do not hesitate to see a member of the ZEST Welfare Team.

**Sarah Warburton**
School Nurse – ZEST Welfare Team

**Health Dates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>29th February 2012</td>
<td>Teal Ribbon Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th March 2012</td>
<td>International Women’s Day.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>World Kidney Day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th March 2012</td>
<td>Crazy Hair Day.</td>
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MUSIC NEWS

Music Makes a Difference
All year 7 students had a wonderful time trying out all the music instruments available for tuition at our College. This tryout session was followed up with a Music Expo on Wednesday evening from 4.00pm – 8.00pm. Parents and students were welcomed by the Principal and many took the opportunity to hear the Bendigo Colleges Symphonic Band and try out the instruments. Teachers, students and parents had a lot of fun and we look forward to many more enjoyable get-togethers throughout the year and beyond.

We hope this will be a very exciting adventure for all our Year 7 students and their parents.

Please get your GREEN Application form into the General Office as soon as possible, preferably next week. Students will be contacted shortly by their teachers.

Below are some pictures of the tryout sessions.

Therese Johnston
Music Coordinator

MATHS’ NEWS

Your child should have just completed their on-demand testing during week three. This is something that they will do in each of the four terms throughout the year. The results from this testing is made available to your child and will be placed in their MID tool which is on their netbook. Ask your child how they performed in this testing and discuss their results with them. The MID tool helps you determine where your child is expected to be at this point in time and where the results of this test has placed them. It was decided that all year levels would be tested on their skills in the number dimension (the other four dimensions being, working mathematically, space, structure and measurement chance and data) and this will remain consistent throughout the year. Once the testing is completed, your child’s teacher will assist them set goals that they should work towards to improve their results in the next level of testing.

If you have any questions around this, please speak with your child’s teacher or Learning advisor.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge is finally online for 2012. We have lots of students who are keen to register for the Challenge and we are looking forward to our best year of participation yet, especially as this year we are celebrating the National Year of Reading 2012.

Last year our school read over a thousand books and we believe we can easily ‘smash’ that record! Please find the information about the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge and the permission form available from the school website. Please return permission forms to the library. Forms will also be available from the library.

Information and Permission Forms
Students have a chance to take part in the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge (Challenge) in 2012. As a means to promote the importance of reading among students in Victorian schools and to encourage families and parents to be more involved with supporting children’s reading, in and beyond school, the Victorian Government has continued its support. Details of the Challenge are available at www.education.vic.gov.au/prc.
PLEASE NOTE:
SECTION 1 of the consent form attached must be signed if your child is to participate in the Challenge and receive a Certificate of Achievement.

SECTION 2 of the consent form below is optional.
In October/November 2012 an Honour roll lift-out in The Age will contain the names of all Victorian children who completed the Challenge (publication only with the permission of their parents or guardians). Consent is sought from students and parents for the publication of names following the conclusion of the Challenge.

When consenting, you authorise collection of the names of the students who are participating and their schools by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

This information will only be used for the purpose of conducting the Challenge in 2012 and printing certificates of achievement for students who meet the Challenge. If you consent, the student will be issued by their school with a username and password.

If you have any concerns about providing this information please email readingchallenge@edumail.vic.gov.au.

All queries will remain confidential and all information that is to be provided to the Department will be held via a secure website and kept confidential in accordance with the Information Privacy Act 2000.

SPORTS NEWS

Weeroona College Bendigo Swimming Carnival
Weeroona College Bendigo held their swimming sports on Friday 17th February at the Bendigo Aquatic Centre.

It was fantastic to see many students wearing their house 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 BDSCSC swimming carnival, to be held on March 2nd at the Bendigo Aquatic Centre.

These are the results -

Junior Aggregate Results -
1st – Kimbolton (96 pts)
2nd – Derrinal (70 pts)
3rd – Coliban (66 pts)
4th - Metcalfe (25 pts)

Senior Aggregate Results -
1st - Derrinal (103 pts)
2nd - Coliban (75 pts)
3rd - Kimbolton (59 pts)
4th - Metcalfe (25 pts)

Overall Results
1st - Derrinal (173 pts)
2nd - Coliban (155 pts)

3rd - Kimbolton (141 pts)
4th - Metcalfe (63 pts)

Individual Age Group Championships
Boys -
Open Boys – Matt Cindric
16 Boys – Nathan Jennings
15 Boys – Mitch Davey
14 Boys – Bailey Evans
12-13 Boys – Adam Dwyer

Girls -
Open Girls – Freya Fogliani
16 Girls – Jemeale Morris
15 Girls – Brooke Dwyer
14 Girls – Georgia Coverdale
12 - 13 Girls – Nikayla Spofforth

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 2nd.

SANDHURST DIVISION SWIMMING CARNIVAL-2012

12-13 GIRLS
50 MTR FREESTYLE: Nikalah S
50 MTR BACKSTROKE: Nikalah S
50 MTR BREASTSTROKE: Nikalah S
50 MTR BUTTERFLY: Nikalah S
50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY: Nikalah S, Sinead B, Bridie L, Emily T

12-13 BOYS
50 MTR FREESTYLE: Harley T
50 MTR BACKSTROKE: Adam D
50 MTR BREASTSTROKE: Adam D
50 MTR BUTTERFLY: Lachlan C
50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY: Harley T, Dallas B, Adam D, Lachlan C

14 GIRLS
50 MTR FREESTYLE: Karly M
50 MTR BACKSTROKE: Georgia C
50 MTR BREASTSTROKE: Georgia C
50 MTR BUTTERFLY: Georgia C
50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY: Karly M, Jessica P, Emma B, Rhapsody A

14 BOYS
50 MTR FREESTYLE: Patrick D
50 MTR BACKSTROKE: Tyler P
50 MTR BREASTSTROKE: Morgan T
50 MTR BUTTERFLY: Bailey E
50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY: Patrick D, Bu Gay La M, Trent D, Kyle C

15 GIRLS
50 MTR FREESTYLE: Brooke D
50 MTR BACKSTROKE: Brooke D
50 MTR BREASTSTROKE: Brooke D
50 MTR BUTTERFLY: Brooke D
50 MTR FREESTYLE RELAY: Brooke D, Sophie M, Claudia F, Ruby C

15 BOYS
50 MTR FREESTYLE: Jess V
50 MTR BACKSTROKE: Josh T
50 MTR BREASTSTROKE: Toby L
50 MTR BUTTERFLY: Mitch D
Above: WCB Age Group Champions 2012

Sports Dates for 2012

Term 1

March

Friday 2nd - Sandhurst Division Swimming Carnival

Tuesday 6th - Volleyball (Yrs 7&8 Boys, Yrs 7&8 Girls)* fill in hard copy
T-ball (Yrs 7&8 Girls)*
Cricket (Yrs 7&8 Boys)
Tennis (Yrs 7&8 Boys, Yrs 7&8 Girls)

Wednesday 14th (AM) - Athletics (Throwing Events. Flora Hill Athletics Track)

Thursday 15th – Loddon Mallee Swimming Carnival - Swan Hill*

Monday 19th – Volleyball (Yrs 9 & 10 Boys Yrs 9 & 10 Girls)*
Cricket (Yrs 9 & 10 Boys)
Tennis (Yrs 9&10 Boys, Yrs 9 & 10 Girls)

Friday 23rd – WCB Athletics (Flora Hill Athletics Track)

Thursday 29th - SSV Swimming & Diving (MSAC)*

Term 2 Begins Monday 16th April

April

Friday 20th – Yr 7, 8 & 9 Girls Football

May

Thursday 3rd – Netball (Year 7 A & B Teams) Year 8 A & B Teams)*
Soccer (Yrs 7&8 Boys, Yrs 7&8 Girls)
Badminton (Yrs 7&8 Boys, Yrs 7&8 Girls)*

Monday 14th – Sandhurst Division Athletics Carnival

Friday 18th – Netball (Yrs 9&10, A&B Teams)*
Soccer (Yrs 9&10 Boys, Yrs 9&10 Girls)
Badminton (Yrs 9&10 Boys, Yrs 9&10 Girls)*

Tuesday 22nd – WCB Cross Country

Thursday 31st - Sandhurst Division Cross Country – Marong

June

Tuesday 5th – Loddon Mallee Region Cross Country - St Arnaud
Tuesday 19th – Yr 8 Boys Football
Wednesday 27th – Yr 7 Boys Football

**JULY – Term 3 Begins Monday 16th July**

Tuesday 17th – SSV Cross Country – Melbourne*

Thursday 26th - Basketball (Yrs 7&8 Boys, Yrs 7&8 Girls)*
Table Tennis (Yrs 7 & 8 Boys, Yrs 7&8 Girls)*
Hockey (Yrs 7&8 Boys, Yrs 7&8 Girls)*

**AUGUST**

Wednesday 1st – Yr 9 & 10 Boys Football

Wednesday 8th – LMR Football – Swan Hill

Thursday 16th – Basketball (Yrs9&10 Boys, Yrs 9&10 Girls)*
Table Tennis (Yrs 9&10 Boys, Yrs 9&10 Girls)*
Hockey (Yrs 9&10 Boys, Yrs 9&10 Girls)*

**SEPTEMBER**

*Term 4 Begins Monday 6th October*

**OCTOBER**

Thursday 11th – Loddon Mallee Region Athletics (Bendigo)

Tuesday 23rd – SSV Athletics- Albert Park.

*Further dates to be listed when confirmed.*

Shawn McCormick  
Sports Coordinator