WEROONOA COLLEGE BENDIGO
weeroona.co@edumail.vic.gov.au PO Box 566 I BENDIGO I Victoria 3550
www.weeroona.vic.edu.au 383 Napier Street I BENDIGO I Victoria 3550
Absentence Line | 4433 4911 P: 5443 2133 I F: 5442 7641
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

Katyil
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

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

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 Jonathan McIntosh

WCB UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY
6th | Bendigo Senior Secondary College Open Day
    @ BSSC 11am – 2pm
9th | Year 6 Information Evening – 7.30pm in Performing Arts Centre
15th – 17th | NAPLAN Testing – Years 3, 5, 7, 9 students
18th | Year 7 Girls Immunisations
21st | College Council – 7pm – 7.30pm – All Welcome
      7.30 – 8.30pm – College Council Regular meeting

JUNE
6th – 7th | Year 10 Exams
11th | Queen's Birthday Holiday
18th – 28th | Year 10 Work Experience
25th June – 2nd July | Year 10 Queensland Trip
18th | College Council – 7pm

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

School Review
As I reported in an earlier newsletter, this is a year of review for Weeroona College Bendigo as a part of the Accountability and Improvement Framework for Victorian Government Schools.

This Framework supports our school by enabling us to:
• evaluate progress towards the improvement goals and targets via an internal school self-evaluation and an external school review.
• plan for improvement via a four-year school strategic plan and an annual implementation plan.
• report on progress in core school performance indicators and other achievements via an annual report to the school community.

So far we have written our school self assessment document and shared this with our reviewer and we have had four days of school community consultation where our external reviewer met with a broad range of students, parents and staff members and spent a lot of time in learning spaces to elicit feedback about our school. A big thank you to everyone including the parents who gave up their time to met with the reviewer a couple of weeks ago.

On Tuesday 8 May we have our official Review Day. Once all of this is completed, the reviewer will write her report and this will be shared with all members of our school community. The school review is designed to provide an expert, independent analysis of our current school performance and practice, and to advise us on the goals for student outcomes and appropriate key improvement strategies that will help shape our next strategic plan and we look forward to the reviewers outcomes and future recommendations to ensure that we are providing the best possible education for all of the students at Weeroona College Bendigo.

Important message regarding NAPLAN
Next week all Year 3, 5, 7 & 9 students across Australia will participate in the NAPLAN Testing Program. Improving student literacy and numeracy skills is a college priority and we want to see our students perform well in these tests and try their very best. Competence in English and Maths is very important and teachers are working hard to help students develop key skills in these areas. This year it is our aim to maximise participation of our students in the NAPLAN to ensure that we have the best possible picture of how students and our school are performing and inform where we need to focus our efforts. The test schedule is outlined later in this newsletter. Please support us by ensuring that your child attends school to sit the tests on the following days:

Tuesday 15th May – Literacy (Language Conventions and Writing)
Wednesday 16th May – Literacy (Reading)
Thursday 17th May – Numeracy

Later in the year you will receive your child’s personal NAPLAN report. The report will describe your child’s particular skills in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. The report will also show how your child performed in relation to national minimum standards. These describe the minimum acceptable standards for students across Australia.

For more information about the tests, please visit the VCAA website at www.vcaa.vic.edu.au or the NAPLAN website at www.nap.edu.au.

Staff matters
In the past two weeks we have recognised the work of Mr Ron James and Ms Sue Bull who have recently retired, with formal farewells. Both of these teachers had long and distinguished teaching careers contributing well over 30 years each at our school and we wish them all the best with their future endeavours outside education.

A huge congratulations to Mrs Di Andrea and Mrs Therese Johnston who are both being recognised by the Education Department for 35 years of service. They have been invited to a dinner along with other DEECD employees in the Loddon Mallee Region who are also being recognised for this significant contribution to education.

Congratulations also to Ms Christine Toose who has recently completed her Masters of School Leadership, Specialising in Literacy at Monash University. Please see below the photo of the Graduation on 26 April 2012.

We are very fortunate to have such terrific staff at Weeroona College Bendigo.

Leanne Preece
Principal
FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE...

Communications
Newsletters will now be emailed out to parents with whom we have email addresses. Please ensure your email address is up-to-date with the Office so we can send these out. We will also be endeavouring to email out notes applicable for whole school activities.

If you have any other communication ideas please contact Sonya Fergus on: fergus.sonya.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

Contact Information
Please contact the school if you have changed contact information for your children, i.e. address, home phone, mobile numbers or work contact details.

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 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.

PATHWAYS UPDATE - WORK EXPERIENCE

Work Experience
Most Year 10 students will be taking part in Work Experience during the last week of Term 2; Monday 25th June to Friday 29th June. Students who wish to go on the Year 10 Camp have the option to complete their Work Experience the week prior to the camp; Monday 18th June to Friday 22nd June (with approval from Pathways Staff) or during the July holidays. Only students with Work Experience placements organised will be permitted to participate in the Year 10 Camp. Year 10 students who are yet to organise a work experience placement should be in the process of doing so. If you are having difficulty gaining a placement, now is the time to ask for help. The very last day for Work Experience Arrangement Forms to be returned is Friday May 18.

A reminder that the following employers should NOT be contacted by students. If you are interested in Work Experience at these places, please ask for an application form from the Pathways Office. If you have already been given a form please ensure this is returned to the Pathways Office by Tuesday May 8th. Applications will not be considered after this date.

• All Child Care Centres, Pre-schools and Kindergartens.
• All Hospitals, Hostels and Nursing Homes.
• RSPCA.
• Bendigo Bank.
• Bendigo Advertiser.
• Spotlight.
• Government Departments (such as VicRoads and Magistrates Court).
• Powercor.
• Thales (Formally Australian Defence Industries (ADI)).
• Victoria Police (Not Available).
• 3BO/ Star FM (not available).

Current Work Experience Opportunities
If you are having difficulty gaining a work experience placement and interested in the below opportunities please go to the Pathways Office;

• Office Administration
• Business Administration
• Cabinet Making
• Carpentry
• Automotive (Heavy Duty)
• Hospitality

Construction Induction Training
Students undertaking a Vocational Education and Training (VET) subject this Semester will have the opportunity to complete Construction Induction Card (CIC) Training. This was previously known as the RED CARD TRAINING. A CIC card is required for workers on most trade work sites. This is a very valuable certificate as many employers ask students to complete this training before they start work experience or start work as an apprentice. Notes will be handed out in the coming days, if you don’t receive one and are interested please go to the Pathways Office.

Pre-Apprenticeship Opportunities
BRIT are currently offering Pre-Apprenticeships in Plumbing. The course will commence in August and run until November. It will be held at the Charleston Road Campus and you must be at least 15 years of age to apply. Applications are to be made through the Pathways Office.
If you are interested or have any questions about Work Experience, the above opportunities or any other Pathways or Careers related matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Bree Hodge
Pathways/ Transition Leader

MUSIC NEWS

Last week of Term Two
The 24th Annual Music week will be held at the Connect Church in Solomon St Bendigo from 25th – 27th June. The final rehearsal day and evening concert will be held on Thursday, 28th June at the Bendigo Baptist Church 757 McIvor Hwy Junortoun.

It is essential for all Instrumental music students and especially beginners to give Music Week much consideration. Students have intense tuition for four days and the improvement on their chosen instrument is astounding.

Students need to contact their teachers to ensure they catch up on missed work. A deposit of $50 is required now and the remainder of $70 is due by June 15th. If there are financial difficulties please discuss this with your Instrumental Music teacher as scholarships are available.

Mrs Therese Johnston
School Music Coordinator

Below is a picture of our Year 7 band members

Homemade Musical Instruments by M7A W7A and K7A

LIBRARY NEWS

We are well on the way to making this our best year yet for the Victorian Premiers’ Reading Challenge. There is still plenty of time to register for the Challenge and count all the books read since February. Registrations forms are available from the Library and on the website. We have now read 450 books! Great job everyone!

Library Returns
Thanks to all those people who have organised for the return of overdue books and payment for lost books. It is great to be able to replace those lost books and give other students a chance to read them.

PARENTS’ CLUB

Parents’ Club Meeting will be on Wednesday 16th May, 2012 at 9.15am. The meeting will be held in the Merin Community. All are welcome to attend.

Parents’ Club will be holding a Mother’s Day stall on the Friday 11th May.
ZEST NEWS

Immunisation
Immunisation is considered the safest and most effective way of giving protection against significant life-threatening diseases, and the more people in the community who are immunised, the greater the chances of eliminating these diseases.

Young people should make sure all immunisations are up to date. Many vaccines are routinely provided free of charge under the National Immunisation Program. You can for a limited time catch up on ones you've missed for free. Vaccines recommended for teenagers are:
- Diphtheria
- tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough)
- chickenpox
- HPV (virus that causes cervical cancer - for girls only).

Other immunisations are available for teenagers. Issues to consider include:
- Check with your parents to find out if you’ve been fully immunised against measles, mumps, rubella or polio. If not, you haven’t missed out. You can be immunised against these diseases at any age. These are called ‘catch-up’ immunisations. However, most vaccines are not free.
- If you are unimmunised, it is recommended that you have a meningococcal C vaccine, as the risk of disease increases between 15 and 24 years of age. A medical doctor’s (GP’s) prescription is required as the dose is not free.
- Influenza (flu) vaccine is not free for teenagers unless you have a chronic medical condition that increases your risk of complications from influenza. The vaccine is also free if you are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent and 15 years of age and older. Students (in senior years especially) may consider immunisation as a safeguard against losing a week or more of study time to the flu.

If you require any further information regarding immunisations for teenagers, younger children, adults, for those travelling, you can contact the following people:
- Your doctor
- Your local community health centre
- Your local council
- School Nurse/ZEST Welfare Team.

WEEROONA WARRIORS NEWS

Year 7 - 9 Girls Football
Friday 20th April saw the Sandhurst division Year 7, 8, 9 Girls Football carnival take place at Strathfieldsaye Recreation Reserve.

All games were played in very warm conditions. All girls had an enjoyable day and it was fantastic to witness their positive approach and effort.

The WCB side were drawn to play Eaglehawk Secondary College. The game was a relatively even affair with many strong endeavours at the football, with Eaglehawk edging in front at the final siren winning 4.1-25 to WCB 3.2.20

The second game saw Weeroona paired to play the strong Bendigo South East, final scores were 5.10.40 to WCB 0.0.0. The final game saw Weeroona play strong competitive football with a strong victory against Girton Grammar. Final scores were WCB 2.4.16 to Girton 0.0.0.

Best players for Weeroona throughout the course of the day included Brooke D, Ruby C, Alanah G and Karly M.

Well done to all girls involved in the carnival. A special mention must go to the VET Sport and Recreation students who were excellent in their efforts in helping to convene the carnival.

Bendigo Dragon Mile
Congratulations to Spain N who came 3rd in the Dragon Mile that was held Easter weekend.

UP-COMING SPORT DATES

MAY
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
**ANZAC DAY - REMEMBERING FROMELLES**

On the 22nd of May, we are extremely fortunate to have Lambis Englezos deliver a presentation on his involvement in the identification of Australian servicemen in the Battle of Fromelles, World War 1. The presentation is open to community members and will be in the Performing Arts Centre at **9:15am concluding at 10:25am**. Communication with the General Office regarding attendance would be appreciated for seating purposes.

Research first conducted in 2002 by Lambis identified a site on the outskirts of Fromelles. A geophysical survey in 2007 found a burial site now known as “Pheasant Wood”. The survey gave readings consistent with pits containing the remains of hundreds of soldiers. A subsequent metal detector survey led to the discovery of Australian Army artefacts at the site. For his efforts, Lambis was made a Member of the Order of Australia medal in 2009.

Exhumation of bodies at the site began in May 2009 and ended on 14 September, at which point the skeletal remains of 250 allied soldiers had been recovered, of whom 203 were subsequently identified as Australian. Identification of unknown servicemen still continues to this day.

Fromelles was a combined operation between British troops and the Australian Imperial Force (AIF). It would be the first occasion that the AIF saw action on the Western Front. After a night and a day of fighting, 1,500 British and 5,533 Australian soldiers were killed, wounded or taken prisoner. The Australian War Memorial describes the battle as “the worst 24 hours in Australia’s entire history.”

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**Bendigo Senior Secondary College Open Day - Sunday 6th May, 2012**

Bendigo Senior Secondary College is opening its doors for its first Open Day for 2012 from 11am – 2pm on Sunday 6th May. This is a fantastic opportunity to tour our new and existing facilities and start the conversation about what the college can offer your child in 2013.

Over the past year BSSC has undergone significant building works resulting in a new Trade Training Centre, Language Centre and English classrooms. The Open Day on May 6th will provide you and your child a chance to see the results of this work and speak with teachers from across the college. Tours of the college grounds, led by members of the Student Council, will start from in front of the library and operate throughout the day.

Another exciting development is the implementation of our specialist programs. A broad range of these will be available in 2013 and Open Day is the perfect opportunity to hear what they have to offer.

College Principal Dale Pearce will also be presenting information about the college in James King Hall at 12.00noon and 1.00pm.

All current and prospective parents and students are welcome to attend.

**Bendigo Chaplaincy**

You are invited to two events in support of Chaplaincy in our Bendigo schools:

1. The screening of ‘The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel’ at the Star Cinema Eaglehawk on Saturday 12 May at 1.30 for 2pm preceded by refreshments. Cost: $15. RSVP with payment ASAP and by 10th May to J. Rainsford, 175 Station Street, Epsom 3551. 5448 3912 a.h.; email bjrains@bigpond.com


RSVP to Ray Harvey 9 Samuel Court, Spring Gully 3550 (5442 1732) before 21st May, 2012. Speaker: Dr. Evonne Paddison CEO of Access Ministries.
**WCB NAPLAN Test Schedule 2012**

All students should attend Advisory in the morning and then make their way promptly to their test venue with an eraser, a pencil, some water and something to read.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Test Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>Tuesday 15 May</td>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>9.30am -10.10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>10.30am -11.10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 16 May</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>9.30am -10.15am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 17 May</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>9.30am -10.15am</td>
<td>Socratic Studio 1 - Wannop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>Tuesday 15 May</td>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>9.30am -10.10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>10.30am -11.10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 16 May</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>9.30am -10.20am</td>
<td>Socratic Studio 1 - Wannop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 17 May</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
<td>9.30am -10.20am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Tuesday 15 May</td>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>9.30am-10.15am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>10.30am -11.10am</td>
<td>Learning Neighbourhood 2 - Kappen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 16 May</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>9.30am -10.35am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 17 May</td>
<td>Numeracy – Calculator Test</td>
<td>9.30am -10.10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Numeracy – Non calculator test</td>
<td>10.30am – 11.10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Tuesday 15 May</td>
<td>Language Conventions</td>
<td>9.30am -10.15am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>10.30am -11.10am</td>
<td>Katyil / Merin students – Merin Learning Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 16 May</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>9.30am -10.35am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday 17 May</td>
<td>Numeracy – Calculator Test</td>
<td>9.30am -10.10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Numeracy – Non calculator test</td>
<td>10.30am – 11.10am</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: students who are exempt or withdrawn will have special arrangements made for them and should check with their teacher advisor.