WEROONA COLLEGE BENDIGO

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383 Napier Street I BENDIGO I 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
Sue Pollard
Sarah Smith

Learning Advisors
L7A Brian Edebohls
L7B Mark Adams
L8A Carolyn Jones
L8B Dianne Andrea
L9A Gary Schroeder
L1A Helen Peppinck

Wannop Leaders
Justin Hird
Vern Hardie

Learning Advisors
W7A Kris Purden
Jill McKenzie
W7B Geoff Dempster
W8A Monica White
W9A Tracey Lee
W1A Ben Lee
W1B Chloe Neath
Primary Paul Ellis

Merin Leaders
Helen Tuohey
Meryl Hayes

Learning Advisors
M7A Michelle Griffin
M8A Christine Henty
M8B Jean Stephens
Lai Khum Law
M9A Leigh Schroeter
Ryan Currie
M9B Meryl Hayes
M1A Tim Lawrence
Shawn McCormick

Kappen Leaders
Trent Bysouth
Sarah Trew

Learning Advisors
K7A Erin Pilkington
K8A Marion Stewart
Karen Dale
K8B James Ginnivan
K9A Paul O'Shea
K9B Amanda Southcombe
Kellie Roberts
K1A David Crowley
K1B Alan Aylward

WCB UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY
22nd Conveyance Allowance forms due in
28th EMA Applications due in

MARCH
5th Year 7 BBQ
7th Year 9 & 10 Sports Day
10th Labour Day Holiday
17th Year 7 & 8 Sports Day
18th Immunisations for:
Year 7 Boys and Girls
Year 9 Boys
Year 10 Boys and Girls
21st WCB Athletics Day-All Students Year 7-10

APRIL
4th Last Day of Term 1- 2.30pm finish
21st Easter Monday
22nd First Day of Term 2
25th Anzac Day

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
FROM OUR PRINCIPAL…

Creating a Respectful and Safe School Community
To all members of our school community, you will find included in this newsletter a copy of our Statement of Values; Promoting a Healthy, Safe and Respectful School Community at Weeroona College Bendigo and our Cares and Concerns Protocol. We believe that a safe, supportive and inclusive school environment is essential for providing quality learning opportunities for all students. Meaningful and active engagement within and between families is invaluable in boosting a young person's learning and wellbeing. We are committed to promoting a positive culture within our school community and ask that you read this document which outlines the expectations for how all members of our school community – principals, teachers, parents, students and visitors - should behave. Having a shared understanding of our expectations will ensure that all members of our community understand the shared responsibility for maintaining respectful, safe and orderly school environments that support student learning.

Statement of Values
Students at Weeroona College Bendigo are actively engaged in their learning which is personalised according to their needs and interests. Our students are independent; know what they need to learn and our teachers challenge and support them to achieve personal excellence. Our College Values are RESPECT, INTEGRITY and PERSONAL EXCELLENCE.

Weeroona College Bendigo recognises the importance of the partnership between schools and parents to support student learning, engagement and wellbeing. We share a commitment to, and a responsibility for, ensuring inclusive, safe and orderly environments for children and young people.

This Statement of Values sets out our behavioural expectations of all members in this school community, including the principal, all school staff, parents, students and visitors. It respects the diversity of individuals in our school community and addresses the shared responsibilities of all members in building safe and respectful school communities.

Discrimination, sexual and other forms of harassment, bullying, violence, aggression and threatening behaviour are unacceptable and will not be tolerated in this school. Our Statement of Values acknowledges that parents and school staff are strongly motivated to do their best for every child. Everyone has the right to differing opinions and views and to raise concerns, as long as we do this respectfully as a community working together.

RESPONSIBILITIES

As Principals and School Leaders, we will:
- Work collaboratively to create a school environment where respectful and safe conduct is expected of everyone.
- Behave in a manner consistent with the standards of our profession and meet core responsibilities to provide inclusive, safe and orderly environments.
- Plan, implement and monitor arrangements to ensure the care, safety, security and general wellbeing of all students in attendance at the school is protected.
- Identify and support students who are or may be at risk.
- Do our best to ensure every child achieves their personal and learning potential.
- Work with parents to understand their child’s needs and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly.
- Respond appropriately when inclusive, safe or orderly behaviour is not demonstrated and implement appropriate interventions and sanctions when required.
- Make known to parents the school’s communication and complaints procedures.
- Ask any person who is acting in an offensive or disorderly way to leave the school grounds.

As Teachers and all Non-Teaching staff, we will:
- Model positive behaviour to students consistent with the standards of our profession.
- Proactively engage with parents about student outcomes.
- Work with parents to understand the needs of each student and, where necessary, adapt the learning environment accordingly.
- Work collaboratively with parents to improve learning and wellbeing outcomes for students with additional needs.
- Communicate with the principal and school leaders in the event we anticipate or face any tension or challenging behaviours from parents.
- Treat all members of the school community with respect.

As Parents, we will:
- Model positive behaviour to our child.
- Ensure our child attends school on time, every day the school is open for instruction.
- Take an interest in our child’s school and learning.
- Work with the school to achieve the best outcomes for our child.
- Communicate constructively with the school and use expected processes and protocols when raising concerns.
- Support school staff to maintain a safe learning environment for all students.
- Follow the school’s complaints processes if there are complaints.
- Treat all school leaders, staff, students, and other members of the school community with respect.
As Students, we will:
- Model positive behaviour to other students.
- Comply with and model school values.
- Behave in a safe and responsible manner.
- Respect ourselves, other members of the school community and the school environment.
- Actively participate in school.
- Not disrupt the learning of others and make the most of our educational opportunities.

As Community members, we will:
- Model positive behaviour to the school community.
- Treat other members of the school community with respect.
- Support school staff to maintain a safe and orderly learning environment for all students.
- Utilise the school’s communications policy to communicate with the school.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will:
- Provide support and advice to principals to equip them to manage and respond to challenging behaviour of students, parents and staff.
- Provide practical guidance and resources to support schools to manage and respond to challenging behaviour of students, parents and staff.
- Provide practical guidance and resources to support schools respond to and prevent bullying and promote cyber-safety and wellbeing.
- Provide access to evidence based resources and strategies to increase student safety, wellbeing and engagement.
- Provide schools with practical and legal support as required.

Provide parents with practical guidance and resources to resolve conflicts with the school.

Consequences for failing to uphold the statement of values
Unreasonable behaviours:
Behaviours that are considered inappropriate on and adjacent to school grounds or in relation to school business and that do not uphold the principles of this Statement of Values include when a person:
- is rude, aggressive or harasses others
- sends rude, confronting or threatening letters, emails or text messages
- is manipulative or threatening
- speaks in an aggressive tone, either in person or over the telephone
- makes sexist, racist or derogatory comments
- inappropriately uses social media as a forum to raise concerns/make complaints against the school
- is physically intimidating, e.g. standing very close.

Consequences
Principals are responsible for determining what constitutes reasonable and unreasonable behaviour. Unreasonable behaviour and/or failure to uphold the principles of this Statement of Values may lead to further investigation and the implementation of appropriate consequences. This may include:
- utilising mediation and counselling services
- alternative communication strategies being applied
- formal notice preventing entry onto school premises or attendance at school activities. Written notice will follow any verbal notice given.
- an intervention order being sought
- informing the police which may result in a charge of trespass or assault

By agreeing to meet specified standards of positive behaviour, everyone in our school community can be assured that they will be treated with fairness and respect. In turn, this will help to create a school that is safe and orderly, where everyone is empowered to participate and learn.

Cares and Concerns- WHY DO CONCERNS ARISE?
Schools are very busy places - there are lots of things that happen and there are many decisions made every day.
At the same time, the community is quite diverse, with many individuals or groups having vastly different opinions on how things should be done.
It is inevitable, therefore, that times will arise when some parents agree with the school’s actions while others disagree and wish to discuss the matter with the school.
We welcome such discussions, and encourage parents to raise issues so that they may be dealt with speedily and resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned.
Concerns, after all, are not a negative experience – so long as they are dealt with positively by everybody.
The following process for presenting and managing community cares or concerns has been developed by School Council in consultation with the community.
We believe it works well, and it is the way we will manage all concerns at our school.

Agreed complaints process
We ask that the following process be used to resolve cares or concerns at our school.

STEP 1 - Try and find out the facts before contacting the school. Many concerns are quickly resolved once the parent is aware of all the facts.
STEP 2 - Let the school know via letter, telephone or make an appointment to meet to let someone know that you have a concern, providing details of the issue. Our aim is to acknowledge receipt of your concern within two school days.
STEP 3 - We aim investigate your concern in a timely manner and the most appropriate person will contact
you to discuss the matter, or to organise a meeting. Almost all issues are resolved by this point.

**STEP 4** - If, however, the matter remains unresolved, make a formal appointment to discuss the issue with the Principal/Assistant Principal.

**STEP 5** - The Regional Office can be contacted to help solve problems. The Principal/Assistant Principal can provide contact details.

**Things to always remember:**
- Problems are best resolved using a positive attitude. Anger is usually counter productive to solving problems.
- People need time to investigate and resolve many problems; a quick fix is not always possible or desirable.
- Our school is large and complex – very few decisions will suit everybody.
- There are always at least two sides to every story – with students there are often as many stories as there are children.
- Not all disagreements can be resolved – sometimes we simply have to agree to disagree.
- Opinions vary widely – disagreement is a natural part of life.
- Everybody is doing what they believe is right, even if it’s different to what we think.

**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.

Thank you for taking the time to read this important information.

*Leanne Preece*
Principal

**FROM OUR COLLEGE COUNCIL PRESIDENT...**

**College Council Matters**
It gives me much pleasure to announce that our principal, Leanne Preece, has had her contract renewed for a further five years. On behalf of the school community I would like to congratulate Leanne on her leadership of our school during her current term and wish her well in her new term. During her time as our principal, Leanne has overseen the rebuild of our school and significant improvements to teaching and learning and we are fortunate to have Leanne leading our great school.

At the last meeting of the current college council, the following outgoing members were thanked for their valuable contributions to our school.

- **Parent Representatives** – Fran Shaw, Sonia Evans, Stephen Oliver and Maxine Anderson (who has had a 12 year association with WCB).
- **DEECD Representatives** – Jason Bysouth and Sonya Fergus.
- **Community Representatives** – Phalen Taylor and students Isabelle Cindric and Chloe Sanders.

The new council will be announced when the election process as concluded.

*Sonia Evans*
WCB Council President

**FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL...**

**Country Bus Travelers**
A reminder to all country bus students: Bikes, Skateboards and Scooters are NOT PERMITTED to be taken onto the country school bus system.

**Parking around the school**
When picking students up at the end of the school day, it is important that parents/guardians adhere to all parking signs. Knight Street has some parking bays that are 2 minute drop off and pick up zones during the beginning and the end of the school day. Napier Street is very busy at the end of the school day. Both the town bus and country bus stops are located at the front of the school in Napier Street.

Parking is not permitted at the front of the school as indicated by the no stopping signs. If parking on the other side of Napier Street, please encourage students to cross at the traffic lights. It is very dangerous to be crossing the busy road at that time of the afternoon. Parking in the staff car parks (both Knight Street and Napier Street) is not permitted at the end of the school day; this poses a safety risk for students that are leaving the school grounds.

*Jason Bysouth*
Assistant Principal
**FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE...**

**Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)**
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided by the Victorian Government to lower-income families to help with education-related costs.

If you have a child under 16, and you hold a valid Health Care Card, Pension Card, or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible to receive the EMA. The allowance is paid in two instalments, one in March and one in August.

The payment is intended to assist with school charges. You can elect to have your EMA paid in one of the following ways:
- Paid by direct deposit (Electronic Funds Transfer) into your own nominated bank account; or
- Paid to the school to be held as credit which you can use towards education expenses; or
- Paid by cheque which will be posted to the school for collection.

In 2014, the annual EMA amount per student is:
- $150 for students in years 1 – 6.
- $300 for year 7 students.
- $250 for students in year 8 – until age 16*.

* A pro-rata amount is payable for students turning 16 in 2014.

To apply, contact the school office to obtain an EMA application form. Closing Date: You need to obtain an EMA application form from the school office and return by 28 February 2014. For more information about the EMA, visit [http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/parents/financial/Pages/default.aspx)

**Conveyance Allowance**
Application forms for Conveyance Allowance are available at the office, or can be downloaded from our college website: [www.weeroona.vic.edu.au](http://www.weeroona.vic.edu.au). We now require a completed application form each year for each student/family. Application forms need to be returned to the Office by Friday 22nd February. Please note those students claiming for a public bus pass also need to send in a copy of their receipt of their yearly or half yearly pass in order for their application to be approved.

**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 i.e. 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.

**Curriculum Resource Levy**
A number of families have asked for a breakdown of what our College Curriculum Resource Levy covers. While this charge is not compulsory, it makes a huge difference, for our college in how well we can provide resources for all students.

We thank all families who have already paid this charge. We understand it is an expensive time of year for you, and appreciate your diligence in paying this so quickly. Please see below for the breakdown:

**Year 7 & 8 Students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounds</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$200.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Year 9 & 10 Students**
As it is a little more difficult for Year 9 & 10 students due to electives, a charge of $45.00 is spread between the subjects listed under the ‘Elective’ heading.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>(Class Materials &amp; Equipment - Media, IT, Visual Art, IT, Ceramics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOTE</td>
<td>(Photocopy Sheets, Class Materials incl. food, DVD Resources, Subsidise, performances)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Weeroona College Bendigo

Sport $10.00 (Sport Day Subsidies including Travel, Registration & Uniforms).

Library $30.00 (Library Books)

Grounds $15.00 (Maintenance & Gardening)

TOTAL $200.00

Absences
If your child will be absent, please call directly to our absence line on 4433 4911. 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 the bus coordinator, Mike Bulmer, on 4433 4317.

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SPORT…

Athletics
On Sunday Karly M competing at the Victorian State Athletics Track and Field Championships at Lakeside Stadium in Melbourne, won Silver in the Women’s Under 18 Hammer Throw.

Karly threw the Hammer 40.78 metres finished second, Karly also finished fourth in the Discus at the same Championships with a throw of 30.70 metres.

Karly has had a successful season and will now focus on Netball during the winter months, before returning to Athletics in October.

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UNIFORM SHOP…

The uniform shop has moved! It is now located at the front of the R.A Llewelyn Shed which is behind the tennis courts and the Gym on Napier Street.

Trading hours will remain the same and are:
Tuesday 2:00pm until 5:30pm
Thursday 8:30am until 12 noon

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MUSIC…

The recent Music Information evening for all year 7 students was very well attended. Parents and students enjoyed a BBQ to start the evening and many thanks go to Ralph Hartmann and his son, Mitchell for taking charge of the cooking.

Our Principal, Leanne Preece opened the information session with a few words about the benefits of learning a musical instrument. Parents and students were then treated to a concert by the Bendigo Colleges Symphonic Band and a demonstration of all the instruments by the teachers of the Bendigo Instrumental Music Program (BIMP).

It was a lovely evening and everyone had fun trying the instruments. There are still a few places left and students can get enrolment forms from the Music office. Please do so ASAP.

Continuing students should have contacted their teachers, received a timetable and lessons should be underway this week. Senior band rehearsals are every Wednesday morning at 8.20am.

Therese Johnston and Christine Henty
School Music Coordinators

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HUNTLY FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB…

On behalf of the ViewPoint Huntly Football Netball Club, we would like to invite you to join the Under 17 team in the 2014 season. The Huntly Football Club is a family orientated club with both strong netball and junior football teams. The club prides itself on conducting a number of support programs for the under 17 and junior teams which include.

If you are interested in joining the club, please contact Ian Sladden by phone on 0427 158 882 or by email on isladden@hazeldenes.com.au. Thanks again for your consideration to join the Huntly Under 17 team this year.

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NORTH BENDIGO JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB…

Registration
- Under 9’s & 10’s - $90 per player
- Under 12’s, 14’s & 16’s - $140 per player
- Under 18 girls - $140 per player

For further information contact:
Tom Nicholson (President) 0417308490
Nicole Logan (Treasurer) 0414594157
Flicks and Pics

These days, sending and downloading images and videos is easy. The difficult part is if you can trust the person you’re sending it to. Here’s some stuff you need to know to help protect yourself.

Sharing images and video

- Remember that it’s easy to forward photos and videos sent by text or email and posted online, so if you wouldn’t want a photo or video, or some information about you displayed at your school assembly, think twice before you post it online or text it to anyone.
- As well as potentially damaging your reputation, you can actually be charged in court with making child pornography if you share nude or explicit photos of yourself.
- To protect your own safety, it’s not a good idea to send a photo or video of yourself to someone you don’t know in real life.

Using cameras

- Considering other people is a big part of using technology safely and respectfully. So it’s best not to take a picture of someone unless they know you’re doing it and agree to it. That’s especially true if they are doing something that they might regret or be embarrassed by later, or might get them into trouble.

Other peoples images and videos

- Webcams can help us stay in touch, but it’s important to think carefully and consider your safety before you accept a file or webcam feed from someone you do not know or trust in the real world.
- Remember that web cam images can be faked – so even if you think you’ve seen someone you’re chatting to online, they might not be who you think they are.
- If you see something online or get a text which scares or worries you, tell a trusted adult right away, and see if you can block the person who sent it to you.
The Suicide Prevention Awareness Network suicide walk on March 23 is designed to allow those touched by suicide to remember loved ones, friends, 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.

12.30pm: Official speeches by guest speakers and Butterfly Remembrance ceremony.

12.40pm: Free sausage sizzle lunch served.

12.40pm: Entertainment provided by Mez Whittle and the Castlemaine Pipe Band.

Follow event news at www.bendigoadvertiser.com.au

Sponsorship and general inquiries: Alannah McGregor by email at alannah.m.15@gmail.com or phone 0408 541 082
Parent involvement – the secret ingredient to children’s school success

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as holding their school in high regard.

If you want the best outcomes for your child or young person then it’s important that you become involved in as many aspects of your child’s education as practical.

The involvement of parents helps break down the mystique about school that can exist for some children. Their chances of success are better when they see school as an extension of home rather than merely an institution for learning.

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school. Children copy many of their parents’ views so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Parent Involvement takes energy

Many primary schools offer parents classroom jobs such as hearing kids read, taking small groups in elective activities and assisting children when writing stories.

Unfortunately, finding parents who are willing to take part in these activities is increasingly difficult. Many parents find themselves worn out from working too hard or being involved in a variety of activities. They find themselves with no energy left to be involved in their child’s school.

Make sure kids are school ready every day

Participating as a parent can be much broader than helping out in the classroom. There is a range of simple things you can do at home that will assist teachers to maximise the learning of your child.

These include: talking with your child about their day, hearing young learners read, helping with homework and making sure kids go off to school happy, healthy and having had plenty of sleep.

Here are some more ideas to help you participate in your child’s education in positive ways:

- Find out what your school is trying to achieve for your child and show your support for its aims. Discover what sets your child’s school apart from others.

- Support a broad, balanced curriculum that offers children a variety of educational experiences rather than a program that focuses narrowly on the traditional 3 R’s.

- Direct conversations through the correct channels such as your child’s teacher, the principal or the school’s governing body. Gossip or thoughtless criticism within the general community can easily tarnish a school’s reputation.

- Become an advocate for your child’s school and promote its positive features throughout the wider community. Encourage your child to take pride in their school through your example.

- Attend school activities such as open days, concerts, sports events and celebrations. Invite other members of the community along as well.

- Consult with your child’s teacher about practical ways that you can assist both at home and at school.

Positive parent participation in school and learning is a proven contributor to student success. One practical way to assist your child as a learner is to become actively involved in his or her school life.
Going to school every day is the single most important part of a child’s education. Students learn new things at school every day – missing school puts them behind.

Why it’s important

We all want our students to get a great education, and the building blocks for a great education begin with students coming to school each and every day.

Students develop good habits by going to school every day – habits that are necessary to succeed after school, whether in the workplace or in further study.

Missing school can have a big impact on students academically and socially. It can affect their test results, including VCE, and, just as importantly, it can affect their relationships with other students, and lead to social isolation.

There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a student misses puts them behind, and can affect their educational outcomes.

Each missed day is associated with progressively lower achievement in numeracy, writing and reading.

Getting in early

It’s never too late to improve attendance – going to school more often can lead to better outcomes. Even at Year 9, when attendance rates are lowest, going to school more often can make a big difference. Every day counts. Schools are there to help – if you’re having attendance issues with your child, speak to your school about ways to address those issues.

What we can do

The main reasons for absence are:

Sickness – There are always times when students need to miss school, such as when they’re ill. It’s vital that they’re only away on the days they are genuinely sick, and setting good sleep patterns, eating well and exercising regularly can make a big difference.

“Day off” – Think twice before letting your child have a “day off” as they could fall behind their classmates – every day counts.

Truancy – When students choose not to go to school without their parent’s permission. There can be many reasons for truancy, the best way to address this is for schools and parents to work together.

While all absences are bad for academic performance, unexcused absences are a much stronger indicator of lower reading and maths achievement.

If for any reason your child must miss school, there are things you can do with your school to ensure they don’t fall behind:

• Speak with your classroom teacher and find out what work your child needs to do to keep up.

• Develop an absence learning plan with your teacher and ensure your child completes the plan.

Remember, every day counts. If your child must miss school, speak with your classroom teacher as early as possible.

Openly communicating with your child’s school about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated to a School Attendance Officer. Attendance issues that are escalated can lead to an Infringement Notice.

If you’re having attendance issues with your child, please let your year level coordinator, principal or other relevant staff member know so you can work together to get your child to school every day.

For more information and resources to help address attendance issues, visit:
www.education.vic.gov.au
WANTED for the First Ever…
“Buskers in the Borough 2104”
on Saturday 15th March at the
Dahlia & Arts Festival.

We are looking for about 30 buskers to perform on the side-walks of Eaglehawk between 10&11am.

Primary & Secondary students only.

The application form will be on the Eaglehawk Dahlia & Arts Festival Inc. website from 21 Jan, 2014.

Website: dahlia.bendigo.net.au

Entries close on 21st Feb, 2014 @ 5pm

“Winning buskers” will receive a $50 voucher to be used at selected Eaglehawk business’.

More info…
Peter Major - Mob: 0419118107
Judy Richards
jrichards@iinet.net.au
Support Chaplaincy in Bendigo Schools

Come and Join the Fun

at a Trivia Night

on Monday 17th March 2014

in the Eaglehawk Town Hall

at 7 pm for 7.30 pm start

Make up a table of six or less.
(NB More than 6 to a table not accepted)
Major and minor prizes
• Mystery Balloons $5; Silent Auction

Admission: $15.00 each
BYO Nibbles, Non alcoholic drinks & glasses
Tea & Coffee available during the evening

BOOKINGS: Ph/Fax 5448 3912 AH
Email: bjrains@bigpond.com
by FRIDAY 14th MARCH

(Part of the Eaglehawk Dahlia & Arts Festival Opening Wednesday 12 to Friday 21 March 2014)