Weeroona College Bendigo Vision Statement

Students at Weeroona College Bendigo are actively engaged in their learning which is personalized 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.
FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

We have had a great start to the term with some very significant events combined with the usual activities of school life. As Principal I’m very fortunate to see what goes on in all our communities within the school and the leadership shown by our students. Each day there is a different community assembly led by the leaders or a student representative council meeting and they all do an excellent job. It’s wonderful see students of our College community developing real leadership skills and taking pride in their community and their school.

Our College ANZAC assembly was treated with a great deal of respect by our students and I was extremely proud of every one of our students in the way they conducted themselves and for the way in which our College captains, Taylor Fitton and Tom McKerrow, represented our school at the Bendigo RSL 11.00am service on ANZAC day.

Along with all other schools across the country, we commence NAPLAN testing next week for all students in years seven and nine. Whilst NAPLAN is an important tool for us as it provides comparative information for teachers, students and parents, it is not the only way that we assess our students. We do expect students at Weeroona College Bendigo to treat the NAPLAN testing seriously but remind everyone that this is a set of tests at one point in the year. NAPLAN or other similar tests will never replace the importance of the conversation between students, parents and teachers regarding a child’s work and their progress.

Leanne Preece
Principal

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dropping off and collecting students from school

I have some concerns regarding drop off and pick up locations of our students. Cars should not be pulling up to collect and drop off students in no stopping zones around the school. It creates a safety risk to our students and it is illegal. Parents should not be driving into the school grounds (staff car parks) or parking across driveways to drop off or collect students either as there are often students moving through these areas at these times of the day and creates an unnecessary hazard to student safety.

I am also concerned that a number of students have been crossing Napier Street at locations other than the traffic lights. Napier street is extremely busy after school and students must only cross at the lights. I would like to encourage parents to support the school in ensuring your children’s safety by discouraging this behaviour.

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE

Conveyance Allowance

Application forms for Conveyance Allowance are available from the General Office, or can be downloaded from our college website: 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 General Office by Friday 29th May. 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.

If you have already made a claim this year for a yearly pass you do not need to complete another form.

SPORT

Cross Country

The Weeroona College Bendigo Cross Country was held on Wednesday 6th May at the picturesque Lake Weeroona. Many students were involved in the events

NAPLAN

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008. This year NAPLAN testing will take place on the 12th, 13th and 14th of May.

The school will run a breakfast program for students in years 7 and 9 on each of the NAPLAN mornings. Toasted cheese sandwiches and drinks will be available.

NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The assessments are undertaken nationwide, every year, in the second full week in May.

NAPLAN is made up of tests in the four areas (or ‘domains’) of:
- Reading.
- Writing.
- Language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation).
- Numeracy.

NAPLAN tests skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time through the school curriculum. Please see page 5 for the NAPLAN timetable.

Jason Bysouth
Assistant Principal
and several of the races were extremely competitive. All girls plus boys in the 12-13 and 14 year age group ran a distance of 3 kilometres with the 15 year and 16 year boys age group running 4.4 kilometres.

The listings below are the top 5 competitors from each age division. These students will now represent Weeroona College Bendigo at the Sandhurst Division competition to be held at the Sebastian Harness Racing Complex on Tuesday 19th May. Competitors who win through to the next stage will then compete at the Loddon Mallee Cross Country championships to be held at St Arnaud (Nelson’s Park) on Tuesday 2nd June.

Well done to all participants who were involved in the 2015 Weeroona College Bendigo Cross Country event.

12-13 Girls - 3km
1. Lauren White (14.22)
2. Wendie Moules (16.03)
3. Cassie Sanderson (17.41)
4. Abbey Hromenko (18.38)
5. Zoe Costigan (18.40)

12-13 Boys - 3km
1. Jye Formosa (12.54)
2. Taine Lang (12.59)
3. Julian Langtree (13.05)
4. Kody Austin (13.07)
5. Khy Sawyer (13.15)

14 Girls - 3km
1. Sarah Bateson (14.45)
2. Rilee Coulson (17.40)
3. Mikayla Power (18.44)
4. Prue Harrison (19.26)

14 Boys - 3km
1. Cody Mooney (12.55)
2. Hakeem Johnson (15.20)
3. Harrison Anketell (15.50)
4. Mark Ralston (15.55)
5. Ryan Oppatt (17.04)

15 Girls - 4.4km
1. Maddison Hooke (11.56s)
2. Gabby Rusbridge (12.23)
3. Skye Buckow
4. Cheyene Rouge-Day

15 Boys - 4.4km
1. Justin Sawyer (11.49)
2. Jack Lake (11.57)
3. Alex Short (12.27)
4. Ben Daley (13.11)
5. Nicholas Roberts (13.30)

16 Girls - 4.4km
1. Meg Rothenberger (14.33)

16 Boys - 4.4km

FISAF Aerobic Championships
Congratulations to Tahlia Etheredge, Hannah Etheredge and Kaili Biggs who on Saturday May 1st represented Weeroona College Bendigo in the FISAF Cadet Trio at the FISAF Aerobic Championships held in Torquay.

The girls did exceptionally well, winning their particular event. The girls will now compete in the School Aerobic Championships to be held in Geelong later in the month. Well done girls a fantastic effort.

Sandhurst Division Athletics Carnival
On Friday 1st May, the Sandhurst Division Athletics Carnival took place at the Latrobe University Athletics track. The WCB squad produced excellent performances throughout the course of the day. Highlights of the day included WCB winning the Division 2 Pennants in both the Boys and the Girls division. This is a fantastic collective result from the girls and boys who competed. Other highlights included Abbey Hromenko (12-13 Year Girls) and Gabby Rusbridge (15 Year Girls) being awarded Age Group Champion.

Well done to all who competed, especially the many students who replaced competitors on the day. The VET Sport and Recreation students also provided great assistance to the convenor throughout the day.

Below is a list of competitors who will now represent Weeroona College Bendigo at the Loddon Mallee Track and Field Championships to be held in Bendigo on Thursday 8th October.

Abbey Hromenko- 12-13 year Girls – 80m Hurdles, High Jump
Brayden McHeyzer- Bacchin - 13 Boys- Discus
Brooke Tecklenburg- 14 Girls- High Jump
Maddison Hooke- 15 Year Girls – 1500m
Gabby Rusbridge – 15 Year Girls - 400m, 800m (2.38.29 new record)
Daniel Mathers -15 Year Boys- 90m Hurdles
Adam Dwyer – 16 Year Boys – 100m (11.88 new record), 200m (23.76 new record)
Jake Hillson- 16 Year Boys- 400m (53.15 new record)
Braydan Torpey - 16 Boys- High Jump

We investigated the different ways of encrypting messages, how to decode and we had a chance to use these new skills in a computer program. Also, we learnt about how coding has evolved over time to keep up with modern technology.

We used these new skills using a computer program that put us in the shoes of a mathematician during World War 2. We watched a video about a serial killer in America named Zodiac and how he sent 4 cryptic messages to the press and only 1 of them has been decoded so far. It read “I love killing people because it is fun” and still even with today’s technology they still haven’t decoded the other messages that were said to contain his identity. Finally, we learnt about Nero-Plasticity. This is when you feel a new emotion or try a new activity and your brain creates new pathways.

Loddon Mallee Volleyball Championships
As winners of the Year 8 Sandhurst Division Volleyball competition, the Year 8 boys made the long journey to Mildura to compete in the Loddon Mallee Finals. The team won one of their games and were defeated in the other. Congratulations to all involved in making it to this stage.

Year 7, 8 and 9 Girls Football
Tuesday 28th April saw the Sandhurst Division Athletics Carnival take place at the Epsom Recreation Reserve. Well done to all involved.

Electronic Excitement
On Monday 16th March, four students from the STEM class learnt about Makey Makey, Little Bits and Humming Bird at Weeroona College Bendigo, thanks to Gary Staeger. Our class had to write a persuasive text to be able to go to Quantum Victoria, as a prize, we were chosen for the whole day workshop and to discover new things to pass on to other students. The lucky students that attended were: Georgia Mania, Kodi Graham, Prue Harrison and Bevan Tresize.

The Little Bits you connect pieces together which are magnetic and you can make a compass the draws a perfect circle. The Makey Makey program connects through a USB port and attaches wires so you can make a banana piano. The Humming Bird is more advanced because you have to program it which takes a lot of time even to do something small.
WEEROONA WORD WARRIORS

The junior and senior debating teams competed in the second round of debating at Bendigo Senior Secondary on the 21st April.

There were some feisty debaters in the seniors: Georgia McGuiness, Taylor Fitton, Dorien Gastin, Kate Stevens and Brooke Grenfell. The first topic was ‘That all educational institutions should reserve places for Indigenous students’, the team argued well and won the debate against Bendigo South East College. Dorien was selected as the best speaker of the round. In the secret topic round, the second team capably argued that Australians should not be able to sell their votes, but narrowly lost the debate to the Notre Dame Team from Shepparton.

The junior team debated ‘That music is the most important art form’, Harrison Anketell, Caitlin Jackson and Imogen Ford were extremely organised and gave the Bendigo South East Team a very competitive debate. Unfortunately we missed one of the debates due to some of the team being down in Melbourne at a Robotics workshop.

If there are any students still interested in debating the next round is on May 26th, please see Ms Jones in Kappen if you would like to participate or help research the next debates.

MUSIC

Our choir members had an absolute ball at the rehearsals and the Saturday evening performance to celebrate the opening of Ulumbarra Theatre. They joined a massed choir of 250 voices. They looked and sounded amazing and there was much positive feedback from other teachers about the way our students conducted themselves. They were great ambassadors for our College. Performing Jailhouse Rock with James Morrison was of course a significant highlight.

Our Senior Band also took part and entertained a most appreciative audience in the freezing, cold conditions on Sunday morning. They played for half an hour and had everyone toe tapping and singing along with many well-known charts such as New York, New York and I Will Follow Him. Parents can be so proud of their childrens’ participation in this momentous and historical event.
Graded 6 Information Evening

Thankyou to all our music students who provided some light entertainment before the formalities began for the Grade 6 Information Evening. I would also like to extend a big thankyou to the students who performed in the communities. This was much appreciated and it created a lovely ambience in the buildings.

Therese Johnston
School Music Coordinator

EDUCATION WEEK

The benefits for children involved in maths from an early age and throughout their education journey are enormous. Curiosity and a sense of adventure are the perfect combination for getting young inquisitive minds interested in maths. Maths stimulates key developmental and behavioural skills such as problem solving, patience, creativity and teamwork. Studying maths throughout their school years also builds a strong foundation for children to pursue one of the hundreds of rewarding career paths

in maths and computer coding related fields. The following websites provide a great introduction to mathematical concepts, methods and outcomes with simple activities that you can do at home with your child during Education Week and beyond.

http://nrich.maths.org
http://nlvm.usu.edu/
http://splash.abc.net.au/

FROM THE WELLBEING TEAM

Most parents can tell when something is out of the ordinary. Below are some warning signs to look out for if they’re new, noticeable and last a few weeks.

Get more info on what you can do and how headspace can help at http://www.headspace.org.au/parents-and-carers

Julie Nicol
Student Wellbeing Coordinator

[Warning signs diagram]

Therese Johnston
School Music Coordinator

Page | 5
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year 9 Session 1</th>
<th>Year 7 Session 1</th>
<th>Year 9 Session 2</th>
<th>Year 7 Session 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assemble and Entry Point</strong></td>
<td>9:15am-9:30am Kappen Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
<td>9:15am-9:30am Merin Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
<td>10:40am-10:50am Kappen Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
<td>10:40am-10:50am Merin Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Test Times</strong></td>
<td>9:30am-9:40am Admin / Intro 9:40am-10:25am Testing</td>
<td>9:30am-9:40am Admin / Intro 9:40am-10:25am Testing</td>
<td>10:50am-11:00am Admin / Intro 11:00am-11:40am Testing</td>
<td>10:50am-11:00am Admin / Intro 11:00am-11:40am Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Test Type</strong></td>
<td>Year 9 Language Conventions Kappen Learning Community 45 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
<td>Year 7 Language Conventions Merin Learning Community 45 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
<td>Year 9 Writing Test Kappen Learning Community 40 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
<td>Year 7 Writing Test Merin Learning Community 40 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year 9 Session 1</th>
<th>Year 7 Session 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assemble and Entry Point</strong></td>
<td>9:00am-9:10am Kappen Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
<td>9:00am-9:10am Merin Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Test Type &amp; Location</strong></td>
<td>Year 9 Reading Kappen Learning Communities 65 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
<td>Year 7 Reading Merin Learning Communities 65 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year 9 Session 1</th>
<th>Year 7 Session 1</th>
<th>Year 9 Session 2</th>
<th>Year 7 Session 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assemble and Entry Point</strong></td>
<td>9:15am-9:30am Kappen Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
<td>9:15am-9:30am Merin Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
<td>10:40am-10:50am Kappen Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
<td>10:40am-10:50am Merin Forecourt in Core Groups: Alphabetical Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Test Times</strong></td>
<td>9:30am-9:40am Admin / Intro 9:40am-10:20am Testing</td>
<td>9:30am-9:40am Admin / Intro 9:40am-10:20am Testing</td>
<td>10:50am-11:00am Admin / Intro 11:00am-11:40am Testing</td>
<td>10:50am-11:00am Admin / Intro 11:00am-11:40am Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Test Type</strong></td>
<td>Year 9 Numeracy - Calculator Kappen Learning Communities 40 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
<td>Year 7 Numeracy - Calculator Merin Learning Community 40 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
<td>Year 9 Numeracy – Non Calc Kappen Learning Communities 40 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
<td>Year 7 Numeracy – Non Calc Merin Learning Community 40 minutes + 10 mins admin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Weeroona College now offers students the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program, allowing students to participate in activities, events and other initiatives to develop their skills through the use of hands on inquiry based learning and innovative technologies.

For more information on enrolments for 2016 at Weeroona College or the STEM program please contact our office on 5443 2133

What does it mean to you to be a leader at school this year?

Tom: It means heaps to me, it means I'll be able to help improve things for generations to come, it means I can help improve people's day to day schooling lives.

Taylor: Setting a good example for younger generations and being able to make a difference at school and in life in general.

What have been the highlights so far?

Tom: Year Seven BBQ, running assemblies, sausage sizzle and other fundraisers.

Taylor: Building my self confidence and speaking skills, being able to represent the people I speak for.

What advice would you offer younger students?

Tom: Be yourself, don't change to fit in with others. In the end you will find people like you, who you fit in with perfectly.

Taylor: Be yourself, people will like you for being you, and if they don't, they're not the kind of friends you need.
CROSS COUNTRY WINNERS
There will be a Fundraising evening on Tuesday 19th May, 6.00PM at the Bendigo Schweppes Centre. The evening is for all interested students and families to come along enjoy a meal and learn a bit about the WCB Energy Vehicles Program.

If interested in attending can you contact Alannah McGregor via her email address one week prior to the 19th May.

alannah.m.15@gmail.com
WELCOMING FAMILY WANTED!

Fast-track your language skills!
Be immersed in a new culture without leaving home!
Enrich your family by welcoming an international visitor!

Introduce a language learning student from FRANCE to your home and family for a few weeks from 21st June 2015. No experience necessary! Learn about another culture combined with promoting our Australian lifestyle whilst developing new friendships!

Seize the experience of a lifetime! Call Nacel Australia on 1300 735 732

E-mail: info@nacel.com.au  www.nacel.com.au
Give your pooch a real treat by taking them (and the rest of the family) along to Bendigo’s Million Paws Walk! The picturesque 1.5km around the lake can be completed once or twice and anybody can enter this unique event, so grab your lead, attach your pooch and come along.

In addition to the Walk, this exciting event also includes food and refreshments, raffles and prizes, vet stalls with free teeth checks, weighing, behavioural advice & demonstrations, a Puppy Photo Booth & plaster Paw Painting tent.

Funds raised through walk registrations, merchandise sales and online fundraising will go towards RSPCA programs, adoption, veterinarian services, campaigns, and our Inspectorate.

So register now on www.millionpawswalk.com.au and set up your fundraising page to support the Bendigo RSPCA Shelter.

**Walk location:** Lake Weeroona, Bendigo  
**Walk commences:** 10:00 am, Sunday 17 May  
**Walk length:** Around 1.5km, flat walk on boardwalk and sealed paths  
**Event concludes:** Midday  
**On day registration:** 8:30am (Registration on Napier Street near public toilets).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry Fees</th>
<th>Pre registration (online)</th>
<th>On the day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>$17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child (under 16)</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family (2 adults, 2 children)</td>
<td>$25</td>
<td>$27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concession</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>