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

What a wonderfully successful term three we have had here at Weeroona College Bendigo.

Doctors in Secondary Schools program
It is very pleasing to report that our application for the Doctors in Secondary Schools program has been successful. The program will provide $43.8 million over three years to fund general practitioners (GPs) to attend up to 100 Government secondary schools to provide medical advice and health care to those students most in need.

As part of the program, schools will be provided with:
• An adolescent health trained GP to attend up to once a week to provide health support
• Support for staff coordination and access to specific program training
• Modern, fit-for-purpose consultation rooms, where required.

Site inspections to assess infrastructure requirements are expected to commence from September and will take place throughout 2016. A Departmental representative will contact me to provide more information on GP provision, infrastructure, staff coordination and training, and operational policy in September 2016 so stay tuned for more information over coming months.

WCB showcasing the fantastic students and programs that we offer
Staff, students and parents have been involved in a range of additional activities to mark the end of term three. These include the Bendigo and District State Secondary Schools Combined Student Art Show at Ulumbarra, our Parent/Student/Teacher conferences, the College Debutante Ball and the College production of ‘Aladdin: the story of a boy’. A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone involved. Whilst on the subject of the recent conferences I would like to acknowledge that the changes in the booking system due to the introduction of Compass, our online learning platform, did lead to some unnecessary confusion for which I apologise. We thank those who have taken the time to give us feedback on our communication and are already looking to address your concerns for the beginning of the 2017 school year. A reminder that if you missed out on making appointments with your child’s teachers, you are welcome to ring and arrange a time to meet at your convenience and I encourage you to log onto Compass as you will find quite a bit of information in relation to the learning progress of your child.

A reminder about Compass as provided on our College website and information mailed home to you earlier in the year. At the start of Term 2, Weeroona College Bendigo started using Compass School Manager as our parent portal and learning management tool. Compass is very intuitive to use and has many functions including the ability to:
• Access your child’s assessments from each teacher.
• Book your Parent/Student/Teacher conferences (replacing the PTO system).
• View class and school attendance information.
• Approve or enter upcoming or past absences.
• Access information regarding upcoming events and news.
• Update your registered email and mobile number (used for SMS alerts) details.

Please sign into Compass Now

Wet Weather
As the school holidays are approaching, you may have plans to travel on Victoria’s roads. Significant rain has fallen over much of Victoria in the last few days, which may has resulted in flooding.

Because of this rainfall, there is an increased risk to those travelling on our roads, and it is possible that houses across the State may be impacted as well.

I urge you to heed the following advice from emergency services
• You should never drive through floodwater – it only takes about 15 centimetres of water to lose control of your vehicle.
• Drive to the conditions around you and be aware of road hazards such as mud, debris, damaged roads and bridges.
• Roads in your area could be damaged by the bad weather so plan your journey and monitor VicTraffic for road condition updates and any road closures, see: Vic Traffic
• Never swim, walk or play in floodwater, it is dangerous and may contain hazardous debris or toxins.
• If your property is at risk of flooding, please raise belongings onto tables, benches or beds and if you are on a farm, consider moving your livestock to higher ground.
• Remain informed with emergency broadcasters to ensure you are up-to-date with the latest conditions and if possible, make sure your neighbours are aware of the situation. For more information, see: Vic Emergency.

Leanne Preece
Principal
FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

WCB College 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.

Our 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.

Throughout the course of Term 3 we have worked hard with our students to instil these values and improve behaviour both in classrooms, the yard and in the community. We strive for an environment where everybody feels safe and valued. We have been pleased with the progress that we have made and will continue to strive for every member of our College community displaying our values of Respect, Integrity and Personal Excellence.

SPORT

Sandhurst Division Basketball Competition
On Thursday 1st September, the Year 7 & 8 Sandhurst Division Basketball competition took place at the Bendigo Stadium. WCB fielded teams in Year 7 boys and girls and Year 8 boys and girls. All involved enjoyed the day. Well done to all involved.

Sandhurst Division Athletics Carnival
The Sandhurst Division Athletics Carnival took place at the Bendigo Regional Athletics Complex on Friday 2nd September. WCB were well represented in a variety of events.

A highlight of the carnival were the efforts of Gabby Rusbridge who was judged age group champion in the 16 Girls division and Abbey Hromenko who was awarded the 14 Girls age group champion.

The following competitors were successful on the day and will now represent the college at the Loddon Mallee Track and Field championships on Thursday 6th October:

- Gabby Rusbridge 16 Girls 100m, 400m and 800m
- Maddison Hooke 16 Girls 1500m
- Jess Safron 16 Girls High Jump
- Daniel Mathers 16 Boys 110 Hurdles
- Abbey Hromenko 14 Girls High Jump and

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICE

2016 Parent Opinion Survey
Thank you to all parents who received and returned their Parent Opinion Survey. The results from these surveys will assist our school with planning for our student's needs, now and into the future.

All those who returned their survey went into a draw for two Gold Passes to the Bendigo Cinema and the lucky winner was Jack Price-Hall.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to our talented Aaron Mannix for being the recipient of a Youth Scholarship from the Melbourne Theatre Company. Aaron will have 5 days in Melbourne working with professional actors and directors and experience live theatre in the evenings. He is 1 of 24 other young people from around the state to receive this award. We wish you well Aaron and look forward to hearing stories of this wonderful opportunity.
Hamish Johnson of W8A won a gold and silver medal at the Victorian Regional Karate Tournament held in Maryborough last weekend. He is part of the Kokoro Kai Goornong Dojo and won gold in Individual Kata and Silver in Team Kata.

WEEROONA WORD WARRIORS

Congratulations to all our brilliant Weeroona Word Warriors, for representing our school for the third and final time this year, in a total of ten debates, five each for both junior and senior teams, against other schools in our local and surrounding areas, up at Bendigo Senior Secondary College.

Our senior team’s topic was whether “we should allow corporate sponsorship in schools”. After hours of time, research and preparation, we were narrowly defeated by the opposition. Though we have come a long way since our first debate, our confidence, model structures and public speaking skills have improved greatly over the course of the five debates. There is always next year as they say, we look forward to representing our school again hopefully being more triumphant in the near future.

Our junior team members debated whether “there should be equal sports coverage for both men and women”. Well done girls on achieving another victorious and triumphant win against the opposing team. After putting in hours of hard work, research and preparation, over the course of five debates. Congratulations girls on an excellent year of debating, I hope next year will be just as successful.

I would like to thank all the debaters both senior and junior teams, for donating your time and pulling your efforts together, over the course of the five debates each and for your hard work, hours of research and preparation for all your debates. Thank you for your persistence and patience throughout all the struggles and especially to the members of the senior team for not giving up, with members pulling out so unexpectedly. I would like to also say a big thank you to Nathan Singleton for joining at such short notice, allowing us the senior team the chance to perform our last debate and not have to forfeit.

On behalf of all the debaters, last but not least I would like to thank Mr Madden for helping the junior team with their debates, and Ms Jones for helping us with the senior debates, keeping us on track with our arguments, and over all making it all possible.

COMBINED SECONDARY SCHOOLS’ ART SHOW

The annual Combined Secondary School’s Art Show was recently held at Ulumbarra Theatre. Our students are very fortunate to be given the opportunity to exhibit work in such a prestigious setting. The opening was held on Tuesday 6th September, with presentations made by Karen Quinlan (Director of Bendigo Art Gallery). The Bendigo Colleges Chamber Strings Orchestra played at the opening adding to the celebration of wonderful talent in all our State Secondary Schools.

I am immensely proud of the artistic achievements of students at Weeroona College Bendigo. This year’s display showcased a diverse array of talents across all year levels. The winner for our school was Bree Veale of Year 7, with a special mention going to Imogen Ford of Year 10. Congratulations on your fine work. Well done, also, to all students whose work was selected for the art show.

Marion Stewart
Arts Learning Area Leader
MUSIC NEWS

The school production of Aladdin was held in the Performing Arts building on Wed, 14th and Thursday 15th Sept. The prelude to these performances were two matinees for our local Primary schools. Our students are to be commended for their commitment to this extra curricula activity. They gave up many lunchtimes and also attended after school rehearsals. Pictures below show the recent rehearsals.
Fretworks for our Guitar students, started Monday 12th and went through to Thursday 15th Sept. Many thanks to the BIMP (Bendigo Instrumental Music Program) for making this possible.

Senior Band members won Gold at the Victorian Schools Music Festival earlier this term. The last time we won Gold was in 1996. There was great excitement for all involved and well done on this fantastic achievement.

Congratulations to our Senior Band members who took part in the recent Bendigo Colleges’ Symphonic Band presentation evening. It gave them a wonderful opportunity to work with more advanced students and to see what they can aspire to.

Junior band members are joining Senior Band members at the start of next term, rehearsing on Tuesday mornings. They will be working on items in preparation for the national event, Music Count Us In and Awards Night on Dec 7th at Ulumburra Theatre.

Therese Johnston
School Music Coordinator

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Chaplain’s Chatter
“Don’t ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.” Howard Thurman (African American author, philosopher, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader).

On some days’ school can be a bit of a struggle. We turn up, try our best to concentrate and hopefully don’t get an entry on Compass! I think school can be most enjoyable when we can take a step back and see the bigger picture.

What if we could discover one thing at school that sparked our interest and made us feel like we came that bit more alive? It could be just about anything: being part of the school production; creating a piece of art; playing sport or even learning about science and technology.

Some people discover this spark when they are still in secondary school but for most of us this is a journey of being open to giving things a go. Also, it takes a lot of courage to keep following your passions. Often our passions can seem impracticable and we worry too much about being ‘successful’. In my experience it is the people who have followed their spark and come alive who go on to be the most successful anyway, because they end up becoming really good at what they do!

So please have the courage to ask yourself the question: ‘What makes me come alive?’ Ask every day if you have to because the world doesn’t need more successful people, what it really needs is people who have discovered what makes them come alive and decide to act upon it!

Carl Rusbridge
College Chaplain
What is the BSD program at WCB?
The Bring a Specified Device program operates at WCB to allow students to have a reasonable amount of choice over what Windows device they purchase and use at school, while also allowing WCB to give guidance and recommendations as to what device will be best suited in the school environment.

What is the best way to purchase a new device?
Ideally, every 2017 student will have a Windows device purchased through our Learning with Technologies Portal. LWT is a company that specialises in providing technology, sales and service to schools. WCB Technicians help facilitate warranty claims via LWT providing an easy, straightforward experience should any issues arise. Our primary goal is that every student has access to appropriate Windows based technology.

Purchasing via the LWT portal – Starting at $569.90
The LWT Portal will open during term 4. We will place a link on the WCB website at www.weeroona.vic.edu.au that will allow you to link to the LWT portal for browsing and purchasing.

Purchasing process:

1. **Families select a device** from a list of devices pre-approved by the college. **The cost of devices currently begins at $569.90. It equates to approximately $142.25 per year over 4 years (including 3 year ONSITE warranty).**
2. **Three year onsite warranty** - all warranty claims can be processed and repaired at the college by LWT certified technicians. This means less hassle and time wasted for families with short wait times often under a week.
3. **Insurance options** - insurance can be purchased to protect against accidental damage with repairs carried out onsite by LWT certified technicians. **This is highly recommended.**
4. **Device is delivered to your door ready to use before your child commences at WCB.**

What computer will be required in 2017 at WCB?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OPERATING SYSTEM</td>
<td>Windows 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCREEN</td>
<td>Between 10” and 14” – Please note Touch Screens can be more expensive to replace.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMORY</td>
<td>2GB Minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WIRELESS</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HARD DRIVE</td>
<td>64GB minimum (flash/eMMC/SSD preferred)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEYBOARD</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BATTERY</td>
<td>7 hours minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMERA</td>
<td>Preferred</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Microsoft Office Software is supplied free of charge at WCB after school commences in 2017.*  
** Virus protection is now built into the windows platform, you do not need to purchase additional software.

If purchasing independently:

1. Please **avoid buying a second hand** device, contact WCB first to discuss options.
2. Please be aware that **touch screens can be very expensive to replace if broken** outside of insurance cover.
3. **Older/larger laptops (particularly those with 15”+ screens) are not acceptable** due to short battery life. Also older operating systems before Windows 10 are no longer supported and they tend to give poor performance.
4. **Do not buy a device with a 32GB or smaller hard drive** because after installing Windows and Office software there is very little space remaining for saving work or personal data.
5. **Please consider purchasing a bag or clip on case. Extend the warranty to 3 years.** (Warranty jobs handled by a larger retailer will be sent offsite to fix often taking between 3-5 weeks for repair and return)

For more details
Please visit the WCB website for the latest details and login via links to the LWT purchase portal at www.weeroona.vic.edu.au. For more information please contact James Ginnivan (eLearning Leader) at WCB - ginnivan.james.m@edumail.vic.gov.au
2016 NATIONAL SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY SNAPSHOT

WHO ARE SCHOOL CHAPLAINS?

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS SUPPORTED BY CHAPLAINS
2,200

Gender
66% 34%

The average age is 44
The average number of work days is 3

How many days per week are they in schools?

1 4% 35%
2 20%
3 20%
4 21%
5

What are their academic qualifications?

82% have qualifications above the minimum standards

Grad. Cert. / Dip. 12%
Bachelor 6%
Diploma / Adv. Dip. 27%
Certificate IV 37%

The average number of work days is 3

37% Social sciences
28% Education
19% Ministry/Theology
11% Other

WHAT DO CHAPLAINS DO?

School chaplains promote social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing through role modelling, mentoring, pastoral care and structured programs. These dimensions of care enhance a school’s overall wellbeing strategy and contribute to the achievement of a school’s educational goals.

Social, emotional & spiritual support

Wellbeing outcomes

Educational outcomes

EVERY WEEK chaplains have 18,535 formal conversations WITH STUDENTS, STAFF & PARENTS

EVERY TERM chaplains deliver 37,460 program sessions

THAT’S AN AVERAGE OF 8 student conversations
2 staff conversations
1.4 parent conversations

PER CHAPLAIN FOR EACH AVERAGE 3 DAY WEEK

13% parents
18% staff
69% students

Breakdown of formal conversations

These programs cover issues including relationships, grief and loss, family breakdown, bullying/harassment and school disengagement.
EVERY WEEK chaplains have 12,696 formal conversations WITH STUDENTS

Sources of referral

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School staff</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplain</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Outcomes

- Ongoing pastoral support from chaplain 61%
- Development of action plan 13%
- Professional referral 10%
- No further action required 10%
- Information given 3%
- Advocacy 2%
- Child protection reporting 1%

Formal pastoral conversations with particular student groups per week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
<td>1292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability/special needs</td>
<td>979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In state care</td>
<td>802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culturally diverse</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LGBTI</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugee</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile justice</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Meetings each week with school-based support staff

- Guidance officer: 1117
- Student support team: 1109
- Counsellor: 653
- Special needs coordinator: 600
- Health nurse: 573
- Aboriginal liaison officer: 572
- Youth support coordinator: 502
- Welfare worker: 277
- Social worker: 230
- School based police: 150
- Community education counsellor: 94

Breakdown of time spent by activity involvement

- Social, emotional and spiritual support: 50%
- Educational support: 15%
- Team contribution: 15%
- Role modelling & mentoring: 8%
- Extra-curricular activities: 6%
- Community development: 6%

Background Information:

The National School Chaplaincy Association (NSCA) is a network of Christian Chaplaincy organisations in Australia. It is represented by Access Ministries (VIC), Generate Ministries (NSW), Schools Ministry Group (SA), YouthCARE (WA) and Scripture Union (ACT, QLD and TAS).

Methodology:

The 2015 National Chaplain Census took place during term 3, 2015 when 1179 chaplains took the survey with 1023 completes. The data presented in this infographic has been extrapolated from the survey data to match the total number of chaplains (1647) in Australia working for organisations that are part of the National Schools Chaplaincy Association (NSCA) at the end of term 3. The total number of chaplains involved in the National School Chaplaincy Program (NSCP) was 2851 on 27/8/2013.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 27TH & WEDNESDAY 28TH
10AM – 3PM
OPEN TO ALL BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 6 – 13
All participants receive a Spirit basketball and ticket to the first Spirit home game of the season
Cost $80 per child
To register or for more details please contact Adam Tarr at gm@bendigospirit.com.au

BENDIGO SPIRIT SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP
Come and join Bendigo's WNBL stars

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 27TH & WEDNESDAY 28TH
10AM – 3PM
OPEN TO ALL BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 6 – 13
All participants receive a Spirit basketball and ticket to the first Spirit home game of the season
Cost $80 per child
To register or for more details please contact Adam Tarr at gm@bendigospirit.com.au
Central Victorian Pathways
Network for Students with a Disability
presents

Career Expo

The session focuses on options and supports that are available to students with a disability who are transitioning from school, featuring a structured presentation and time with stall holders who can answer specific questions

Who for:

- Parents/carers of students with disabilities or learning difficulties and other interested community members

- Including NDIS coming in 2017 with Interreach

The format of the session is planned to be:

2:00pm Light refreshments on arrival
2:15pm presentation inside theatre
2:30—5:00pm opportunity for participants to visit stall holders and ask questions

Tuesday August 2nd, 2016
2.00 to 5.30 p.m. Free Event

AT: Ulumbarra Theatre

To register use Eventbrite
Can Saver Plus assist you with high school costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to $500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.

Contact Carol Gledhill, your local Saver Plus Coordinator:
(03) 5448 1024 / 0439 935 516
or carol.gledhill@bsl.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered across Canberra and the Queanbeyan region by The Smith Family. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.