

16TH AUGUST 2024

# NEWSLETTER



## UPCOMING DATES

### AUGUST

- 20-25 Book week 'Reading is magic'
- 19 Year 10 Course Counselling @ WCB 12.00- 7.00pm  
(No classes for Year 10 Students)
- 21 - 23 Year 8 Camp - See Compass for details
- 28-30 Year 9 Camp - See Compass for details
- 29 -30 Aladdin Jr. College Production - See compass and page 14 for details

#### Open Hours

Start - 9.00am

Lunch 11.45am -12.45pm

Recess 1.45pm -2.05pm

Finish 3.15pm

#### Administration Office

Monday to Thursday 8.15am - 4.15pm

Friday 8.15am to 4.00pm

#### Uniform - NOONE

21 Queen street bendigo

(03) 5440 5600



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM :::::

Schools in Victoria offer environments designed to enable students to thrive during their learning. At Weeroona College Bendigo we are continuously striving to improve our already impressive facilities to match our amazing teaching and learning program.

Our students are at the centre of all decisions we make, and we respond to student voice and agency when developing our facilities. We understand that the physical setting impacts the way students learn.

Learning is open, exciting and full of possibility. Students feel this as they experience learning at Weeroona College Bendigo.

Our school designs encourage work that is:

- individual
- team-based
- reflective
- creative
- technology rich
- hands-on.

Our teachers link their lessons into the space where they're teaching, as well as to student individual needs. Our well designed spaces make it easier for students and teachers to work together in small or large groups.

During the mid-year break we had glass sound partitions installed into Wannop and Kappen learning communities, with Katyl and Merin to be completed during the September holidays. These were installed because of both student and teacher feedback along with some new furniture to support explicit teaching and since being installed we have been overwhelmed by the positive learning outcomes and student behaviours that have resulted.

In the coming months we are looking forward to installing further learning community enhancements as well as some exciting playground equipment to further support student sporting excellence, health and wellbeing.

We take students out of the classroom into the wider world and bring the inclusive community back into our schools. As we approach the middle of Term 3 we want to highlight just a few of the incredible opportunities the college offers our students this Term, to develop valuable skills, build friendships and discover their passions.

## **Camps**

This Term we are providing the Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 students the fantastic opportunity to bond with classmates, participate in team-building activities, and enjoy nature on our school camps.

Our Year 7 students have taken off this week to Campaspe Downs to enjoy low rope courses, canoeing, campfire stories and create lasting memories and friendships.

Our Year 8 student will embark on an adventure filled journey to the Grampians to undertake some bush walking, hiking, and zoo experiences.

Our Year 9 students then head off in week 7 to soak up the sights and sounds of the hustle and bustle of a major city with a trip to Melbourne. Students will experience artwork in laneways, tours of the MCG and evenings looking at the lights along the Yarra.

We haven't forgotten our Year 10 students they will be able to experience their camp next Term.

## **Production**

Another exciting opportunity for our students and staff is the College production. Staff and students have been working tirelessly to get ready to dazzle us with their performances in Aladdin Jnr. If you haven't yet purchased your tickets, please do so to show your support to the amazingly talented students undertaking this opportunity. We look forward to being front and centre on August 29 and 30.

## **Foodshare**

The college has a long history of being supported by Bendigo FoodShare and this Term a film crew came to capture the development of the program and to promote food security within our WCB community.

Students have had the opportunity to participate in the Cooking For Change program and share their experiences and food with the whole school.

We look forward to sharing this film with you all once completed.

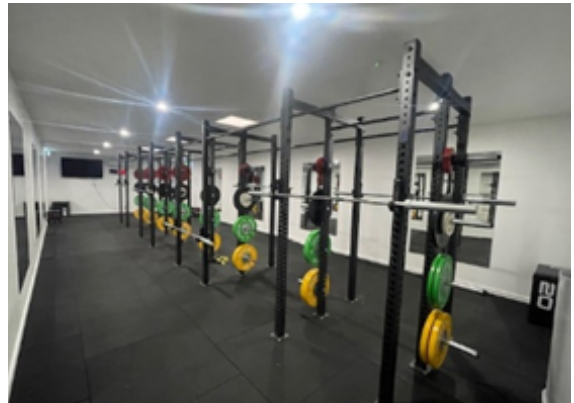
## **Energy Breakthrough**

WCB staff and students set off for Sandown early this term to show off their talents, get in some practice and work together as a team in the build up to next term 24 hour race at Maryborough.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff at WCB who make all of these opportunities possible for our students and families. The passion, professionalism and excitement are what make these experiences such amazing ones.



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM :::::



KIND - SAFE - LEARNERS





# SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CHALLENGE : : : : :

Students well, represented Weeroona College Bendigo, in a problem solving competition centred around science and engineering. In completing varying problems, students gained combined points to determine a regional winner. Students worked in teams throughout the day.





# COOKING FOR CHANGE PROGRAM :: :: :: ::

Bendigo Food Share and Healthy Loddon Campaspe  
Cooking for Change program  
EAL quotes

“Yesterday we participated in the Bendigo Food Share and we cooked Karen chicken curry and tofu. It was a fun experience for us because we were involved in the Cooking for a Change Program.”

“Cooking for Change was a really exciting experience for me because I got to make cultural food and share my culture with everyone. We were filmed making food and serving it to WCB students and staff.”

“Yesterday, we {the EAL team} were cooking for Bendigo Food Share. We all participated with the camera crew filming us. We made a traditional Karen dish with a vegetarian version as well. While we were eating, the camera crew took some photos of us, it felt like we were celebrities. When it was time to sell the food, a huge line stacked up and it was a very stressful experience for us.”

“Yesterday we participated in Bendigo Food Share Program, and it was enjoyable. We made food from diverse cultures and served it to the staff and students. Although we were tired by the end of the day, it was a fun experience for all of us.”

“Yesterday was fun. We got to cook, film and eat together we made food for change for the Bendigo Food Share program and for people to eat healthy Loddon Campaspe food for WCB students and staff.”

“Yesterday was fun we got to cook, film and eat together we made food for change for the Bendigo Food Share program and for people to eat healthy Loddon Campaspe food for WCB students and staff.”

“Yesterday was amazing, I had a lot of time on camera talking about Bendigo Food Share. Talking about what is your favorite dish you like to eat, “I said I like to make par ka pou because it spicy and if you combine it with rice, it is so good!!”

“Food Share was good because the food we made was really good and we got to sell a lot of it, we also got along well with everyone.”



**Bendigo Food Share – WCB  
Cooking for Change Program**  
MENU:  
Karen Chicken Curry and Vegetables  
Karen Tofu Curry and Vegetables  
Gold coin donations please



# PARENT/CARER/STUDENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE



## Term 3 Parent/Carer/Student/Teacher Conferences

Term 3 conferences will be held on Thursday, September 19th from 4.00pm – 8.00pm and Friday, September 20th from 9.00am to 1.00pm. The main focus of these conferences is to discuss student achievement and progress throughout the term and strategies for future improvement. It is also an opportunity for families and students to ask questions, and discuss other important matters with teachers to maximise educational outcomes and student participation in college life.

This term, we are offering families face-to-face and online interviews on Thursday and Friday respectively:

- On the evening of Thursday, September 19th conferences will be face-to-face with families and students invited onsite.
- On Friday, September 20th conferences will be offered online via Webex. Links to teachers' Personal Rooms will be posted on Compass prior to interviews. Please click on the teacher's link at the time of your scheduled meeting to join their Personal Room.

Conferences can be booked through Compass from August 26th.

## YEAR 10 EXAMS

Dear Year 10 Students and Families,

Arrangements for the end of year exams have been revised in recognition of the greater needs of some students to successfully sit final exams. As of Semester 2, 2024 the following process will apply:

Students who have large numbers of absences, non-submission of work or unsatisfactory submission of tasks will be supported to complete their exams at Weeroona College Bendigo. All other students will complete their exams at Bendigo Senior Secondary College. Students will be made aware of the exam timetable and the venue where they will be sitting exams closer to the exam date.



## VALE BRONWYN HOPCOTT

Vale Bronwyn Hopcott 28/03/1965 – 28/07/2024

Bronwyn Hopcott commenced her employment at Weeroona College Bendigo on 16/10/2006 as our Canteen Manager.

Bronwyn was very well respected by all who knew and worked with her.

Bronwyn managed our canteen for 18 years. She was an incredibly hard worker and had a passion for taking kids who struggled at school and taking them under her wing and training them in the canteen. She always had time for a chat, even if she had a dozen sandwiches on the go and a few things on the stove. She will be sadly missed by all, staff, students and families. Weeroona College Bendigo would like to pass on condolences to Bronwyn's family from all who had the great pleasure of working and knowing this wonderful lady.





## The Premiers' Reading Challenge

All students of WCB are registered to undertake the 2024 Premiers' Reading Challenge. This Challenge asks students to read 15 books between February and September 6th. This gives students only 29 days to finish reading and recording their reading material online. Congratulations to the 24 students who have already completed the Challenge. Across the College, students have recorded a total of 1298 books thus far. Students who successfully meet the Challenge receive a certificate from the Office of the Premier and an invitation to a celebratory lunch hosted by the GLC in Term Four. More information can be obtained from Compass, the GLC or English staff. <https://www.vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge>

Book Week is fast approaching and the GLC is planning a plethora of activities and events to celebrate the week. The Children's Book Council of Australia, also fondly known nationwide as the CBCA, is a not for profit, volunteer-run national organisation which aims to engage the community with literature for young Australians through the celebration of story. As part of this work, the CBCA presents annual awards to books of literary merit, for outstanding contribution to Australian children's literature. These awards launch a week-long celebration of Australian books and reading across Australia with Children's Book Week.

As part of the College's Book Week celebrations there will be:

- A special, Mad Hatter's Tea Party, meeting of Book Club on Tuesday 20th at lunchtime.
- Book Review Competition open to all students.
- Magical themed 'Guess The Items In The Jar' competition open to all students.
- Special activities for English classes who visit throughout the week
- Magical Makerspace craft activities running at lunchtime (Mon, Wed, Thu & Fri)



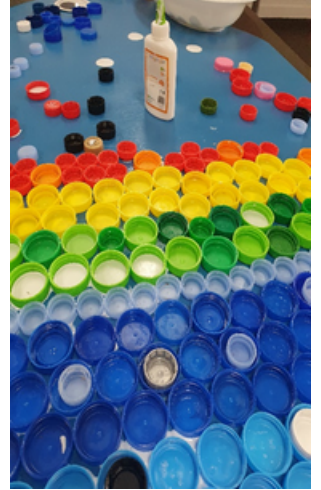
## Book Club

Book Club met for the first time this term on 30th of July. Students participated in a quiz based on famous book covers, perused and borrowed from an extensive supply of brand-new books and enjoyed some light refreshments.



## The Makerspace

Students at lunchtime, in the Makerspace, repurposed a large number of donated plastic lids to create some spectacular communal artwork.




## THE MAD HATTER

BOOK CLUB  
HAT  
COMPETITION

Book Week this year, is Week 6 of Term Three. The theme is 'Reading is Magic'.

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> of August, the GLC will be hosting a Mad Hatter's Tea Party for all Book Club members.

As part of the week's celebrations, we will be running a Mad Hatter's Hat Competition. This is a compulsory requirement of Book Club. All members of Book Club must partake to ensure their continued membership.

**The GLC will provide you:**

A blank felt top hat (yellow or green)

An assortment of craft supplies to decorate your hat (feathers, pom poms, ribbons, flowers, buttons etc.

These supplies will be set out in the Makerspace for the remainder of Term Two, you can choose to construct your hat at lunchtimes, in the Makerspace, or take the hat and supplies home to construct it there.

You must bring your completed hat to the Mad Hatter's Tea Party on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August.

There will be prizes awarded for various categories.





# 8 AND 9 CAMPS



## YEAR 8 GRAMPIANS HALLS GAP

Wednesday 21st of August – Friday 23rd of August

This camp is set in the Grampians National Park, Halls Gap. This venue captivates with its stunning natural beauty and rugged landscapes, from cascading waterfalls to breath taking hiking trails, this enchanting destination offers endless opportunities for adventure and exploration.

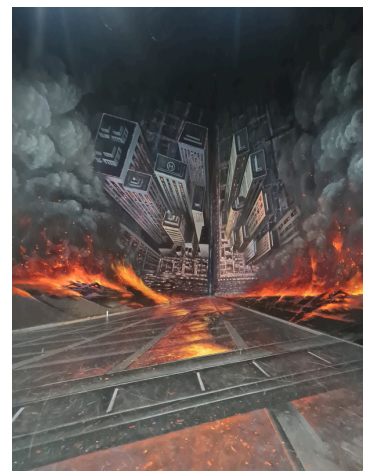
As part of this camp students will be participating in: abseiling, canoeing, raft building, team initiatives, hike to Venus Baths and a visit to the Halls Gap Zoo.



## YEAR 9 CAMP URBAN MELBOURNE

Wednesday 28th – Friday 30th August

The Urban Camp is designed for students to explore Melbourne city and experience the culture and diversity associated with Melbourne as well as visits to some of the sights and experiences it can offer



# ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH :::

Our Energy Breakthrough team delivered an impressive performance at the recent race held at Sandown. Competing against some of the top teams in the state, our students showcased their dedication, teamwork, and engineering prowess, resulting in a strong finish that has set the stage for future success.

## Sandown and The Test and Tune

The Sandown race was a test of both endurance and strategy. Despite facing challenging conditions, our team remained focused, pushing their vehicle to its limits while demonstrating excellent handling and efficiency. Their hard work paid off with a commendable result, proving that the countless hours of preparation and fine-tuning were well worth the effort.

Looking ahead, the team is now gearing up for their next challenge at the Bendigo Saleyards next Friday. This event will be another opportunity for our students to put their skills to the test and continue refining their vehicle's performance and get some seat time into those who haven't been regular riders this year. Students attending need to consent via compass by Thursday of next week.

## Sponsorship

A special thank you goes out to our new and returning sponsors, this year we are sponsored by Bendigo Commercial and Domestic Flooring, Thackers Trucks and Engineering, Bendigo Embroidery Service, First Class Finishes, Terrabyte Consulting with more to come. Your generous support enables us to provide valuable opportunities for our racing teams and enrich the overall student experience at Weeroona College. We're excited to have recently welcomed our newest major sponsor DLS Allied Health.

## Training

A reminder that we train twice a week on a Wednesday and a Friday from 3:30 – 4:30pm. This comprises of fitness and trike training. In the near future, we'll be incorporating our preparation for the display and presentation at Maryborough. We have seen numbers down in recent weeks, it would be good to see this improve



DLS ALLIED HEALTH

KIND - SAFE - LEARNERS





# PERFORMING ARTS: :::::

Semester Two, full steam ahead !!!

Semester Two, what a chock-a-block time we have in front of us. Aladdin, if it wasn't in top gear already, it sure is now. We have a Dance Studio FULL of stage props, there have been meetings with light technicians and rehearsals every other day.

We have Fretworks on this term, running during the second last week.

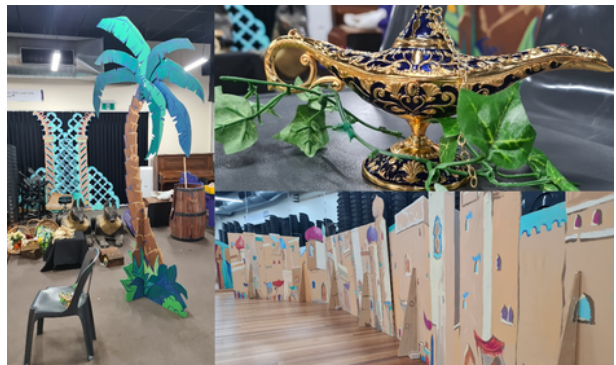
More on all of this a bit later.....

## College Production 2024 – Aladdin

Aladdin is looking great !!! Our amazing cast is now rehearsing with a room full of props and some cast members are now at the stage where they are running their lines without scripts. That's over an hour's worth of show from memory.

Mr Emond and I have seen a test run of the lighting program for Aladdin and it looks amazing. You'll be moved from the Capital Theatre to Agrabah without leaving your seat.

Tickets for Aladdin are \$15 and they can be purchased by following the link below, or you can visit the Capital Theatre website or via our QR code attached -



## Fretworks

Fretworks is running this Term from September 9th – 12th. It's a BIMP (Bendigo Instrumental Music Program) ran event aimed at guitar, bass, drum, singing and keyboard students.

The program is made up of several rock bands (for the experienced attendees) and a guitar ensemble for the first timers or students looking to gain performance experience in a larger group.

The event is ran out of the Ironbark Centre at Latrobe University and runs in place of the students school day. I highly encourage all guitar, bass, drum, keyboard and vocal students to attend.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Chris Blackshaw (see the bottom of this newsletter item for my contact details).

## Compass access

With a Performing Arts Department as busy as Weeroona's, it's vital that students participating in any programs within Performing Arts have Compass access. This enables easy access to schedules, notes and resources key to programs like Production, Rock Bands, Band Ensembles and simple things like knowing their own timetable.

Staff are happy to print off copies of timetables for students, but having a functioning device makes life far easier and more sense.

NOTE : Term 3 instrumental lesson fees were due on the 24th July. Please contact us if you have any concerns or questions – christopher.blackshaw@education.vic.gov.au or weeroona.com@education.vic.gov.au

Have a look below at the student interview with Ivy Flanders. Flautist since year 7 and now in year 10, Ivy not only excels in instrumental music pursuits, but Drama and Theatre as well.

Parents and Guardians, please feel free to contact me through Weeroona College Bendigo on 5443 2133 or via email at christopher.blackshaw@education.vic.gov.au .

All the best, Chris



## Ivy Flanders

· What do you love about your instrument?

*I love the genres of music I can play with it*

· What do you love most about learning to play music?

*The process of learning a piece and the satisfaction when overcoming a challenge*

· What are your favourite pieces to play right now?

*Probably Eliza aria or Siciliana and Giga*

· What music do you listen to at home?

*At the moment it is MCR, Will Wood and Massive Attack*

· What has been your highlight so far this year?

*Definitely Music Week*

· What do you find to be most challenging?

*Starting a new piece I've never heard before*


· Can you tell me how you succeeded in what you were trying to achieve?

*I practiced the piece over and over and asked my teacher to help with parts I found difficult*

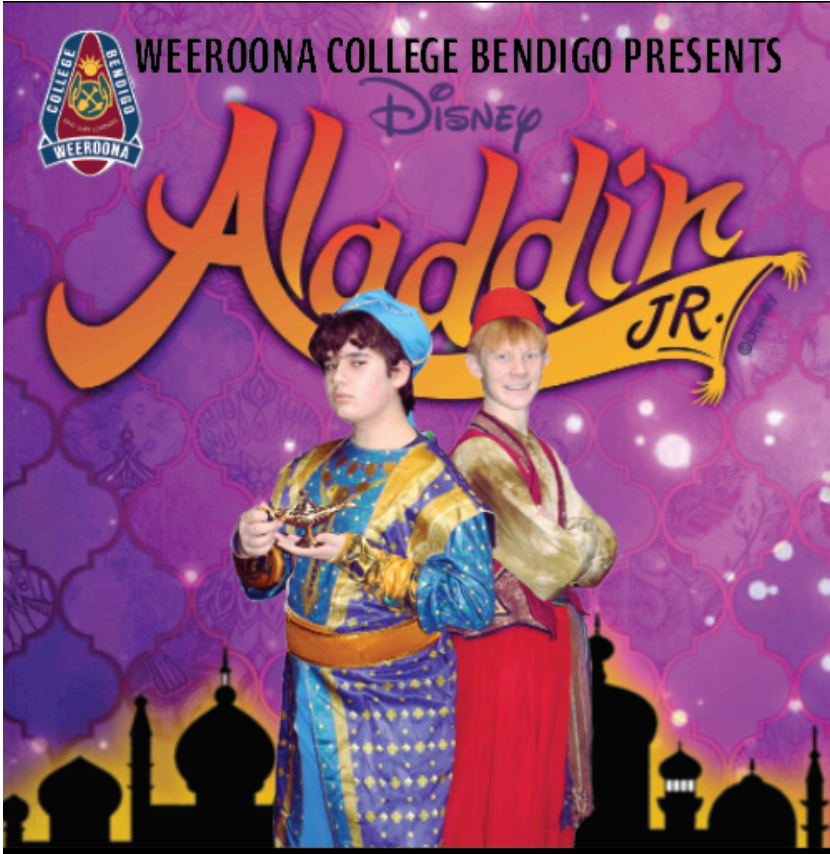
· What would you say to a grade 6 student who wants to sign up for lessons in a year?

*Just give it a go because you might end up really enjoying it*






WEEROONA COLLEGE BENDIGO PRESENTS  
Disney  
**Aladdin JR.**



**THE CAPITAL THEATRE VIEW STEET BENDIGO**  
29th - 30th August 2024 @ 7.30pm  
Bookings through QR code



**Weeroona College Bendigo Presents Disney's Aladdin Jnr!**

Welcome to Agrabah, fabled city of enchantment! The Genie's out of the lamp and our talented cast of actors, singers and dancers continue to bring Aladdin Jnr to life. Our cast are well into rehearsals and learning the show. The scenes and songs are taking shape, infused with energy and enthusiasm. We are excited about showing you the results of all our student's hard work and dedication.

The venue is the Capital Theatre, View Street, Bendigo. Public performance dates occur in August.

Thursday 29th – Evening Performance

Friday 30th – Evening Performance





## Year 8 Boys and Girls Basketball

The Sandhurst Division Year 8 Girls Basketball competition was held on Tuesday 6th August. Weeroona fielded very competitive squads in both competitions producing solid results. Well done to all involved and to students and staff who assisted in coaching and refereeing throughout the course of the day.



## Year 8 Table Tennis

Well done to the Year 8 Boys Table Tennis squad who represented the College at the Year 8 Sandhurst Division competition held at the Eaglehawk Table Tennis Complex on Tuesday 6th August. Participants involved had an enjoyable day and were competitive in the majority of their matches.



Well done to the boy's involved in the North East Zone Clay Target competition held at the Echuca Gun Club on Thursday 8th August. All involved competed in a fine manner.

### UPCOMING DATES

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Thursday 29th August-   | Basketball Year 7 (Boys and Girls)        |
| Friday 9th September-   | Basketball Year 9 and 10 (Boys and Girls) |
|                         | Table Tennis Year 9 and 10 (Boys)         |
|                         | Girls Hockey Year 8 (Girls)               |
| Friday 13th September – | Sandhurst Division Athletics Carnival     |



Initiative of  
**Rotary**  
District 9510



## Youth Sailing Challenge

### *Melbourne Sailing Challenges:*

21-24 Sept '24 | 4-7 Jan '25 | 5-8 April '25



***Are you up for the challenge?***

**A life changing opportunity for a wide cross-section of 15 to 18 year olds.** You will safely learn to sail the "Enterprize" at sea (with Rotary paying the cost). The experience will give you self-confidence, you will learn the fun of working as a team, have a great time and make new friends.



**Check out our video at:**  
[vimeo.com/828257288](https://vimeo.com/828257288)

**For more information visit:**  
[www.youthsailing.com.au](http://www.youthsailing.com.au)



**Interested? Contact your local Rotary Club:**

Club: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# School staff have a right to be safe at work



**Any abuse will not be tolerated**

**Parents, carers, advocates and adult members of the school community must engage respectfully with school staff.**

Unacceptable behaviour will be addressed promptly. This may include calling the police if required or issuing you a School Community Safety Order.

These behaviours are not permitted in-person, over the phone, by email, text message or on social media:

- ✗ Rudeness
- ✗ Intimidation
- ✗ Insults or offensive communication
- ✗ Discriminatory or derogatory comments
- ✗ Malicious or defamatory communications
- ✗ Threatening gestures
- ✗ Aggression, including raising your voice at a staff member
- ✗ Threats
- ✗ Harassment
- ✗ Violence

These behaviours are **never okay** and can make staff and students feel unsafe.



Scan the QR Code to learn more about how you can build positive relationships with school staff in the department's *Respectful Behaviours within the School Community Policy*.





# Scots Baseball Club



**You're invited!  
Come and Try**

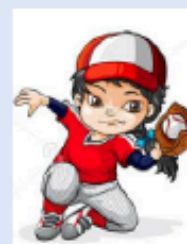


If you are 8 years old and above and looking for a sport to play, why not come and try baseball?

Baseball teaches players to work with others,  
build confidence and more.



**Wednesday nights**  
6 pm  
Albert Roy Reserve  
Eaglehawk



**Interested?**

Contact Marc on 0467 330 577  
or  
[scotsbaseballbendigo@hotmail.com](mailto:scotsbaseballbendigo@hotmail.com)





# Safe to school

How to drop off and pick up children safely



keeping victorians connected





## What you can do

### **Supervise children in or near traffic.**

The best way for children to learn to be safe on the roads is under your guidance, in real traffic, in everyday situations. Until children are about 10 or 11 years of age they do not have the necessary skills and physical abilities to be safe on their own so providing supervised practice is important.

### **Walk or cycle to school with your child.**

Take the healthy option. If you can't walk the whole way, consider parking a few streets away and walking the rest of the way. Children under the age of 12 are allowed to ride on footpaths and so can adults riding with them.

### **Respect the road rules and parking signs.**

It is important that parents park legally to provide a safer environment for children.

- Double parking restricts the view of drivers, forces children onto the road and obstructs the flow of traffic.
- Parking within 20 metres before a designated school crossing or 10 metres after is illegal.

### **Wait on the same side of the road as your child.**

- Meet your child at the school gate to avoid your child dashing across the road.
- If picking up your child from the bus stop, wait on the same side as the bus.

### **If you need to drive to school, get your child into the habit of using the car's kerbside doors and ensure your child is using a booster seat or correctly adjusted seatbelt.**

The safest doors are kerbside doors, away from traffic. For information about Victoria's child restraint road rules, visit [vicroads.vic.gov.au/ChildRestraints](http://vicroads.vic.gov.au/ChildRestraints)

### **Participate in the development of a safe drop off and pick up strategy for your school.**

Raise this issue with your school council and participate in the development of a 'safe to school' strategy. Visit [vicroads.vic.gov.au/safetoschool](http://vicroads.vic.gov.au/safetoschool) for more information.



## Obey these signs



### 40km/h sign

All school speed limits across the State are clearly signposted. Look out for the speed signs near schools and slow down to improve safety for children.



### Children crossing

When the flags are displayed at a children's crossing, you must stop for pedestrians who are waiting to cross or who have started crossing. You must remain stopped until the crossing is clear. These rules apply even if there is no crossing supervisor.



### No parking

If there is a 'no parking' sign, you can stop for 2 minutes in that area:

- if you are picking up or dropping off passengers or goods
- you stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.



### No stopping

No stopping means you must not stop at the kerb for any reason.



### Bus zone

Take extra care and be on the lookout near school bus stops as children may be trying to cross the road nearby.