

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



FROM THE PRINCIPAL TEAM

During the September school holidays we had Merin and Katyil learning communities carpet replaced and installation of our glass sound barriers to bring them in line with Wannop and Kappen learning communities. This work has occurred due to a huge amount of work from the College Business Manager Sonya Fergus and on behalf of the college community we would like to thank her.



Last week we had the pleasure of witnessing many past students attend their Bendigo Senior Secondary College graduation and pass on our congratulations to all these students and their families.

Over the coming weeks we will see students in Year 10 - 12 participate in exams and end of year celebrations, we encourage all students to take time to reflect on their education journey at Weeroona College Bendigo and encourage them all to continue to participate in classes and exam preparations.

Jason BysouthSarah TrewPrincipalAssistant Principal









Head Start factsheet for parents/caregivers

About Head Start

Head Start provides support to students in Victorian government schools to undertake a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship, otherwise known as an 'SBAT'.

School-based apprenticeships and traineeships

School-based apprenticeships and traineeships (SBATs) are an employment-based learning pathway that allow students to combine their senior school years with paid part-time employment and skills training in a preferred industry.

Eligibility

SBATs are available to secondary school students who are:

- enrolled in years 10, 11 or 12
- at least 15 years of age
- an Australian citizen or permanent resident*
- *Non-citizens may be eligible under certain circumstances. Speak with the Head Start coordinator for more information.

Benefits of Head Start support

Head Start supports SBATs to:

- increase their future employability and earning potential by gaining the skills, confidence and knowledge they need to succeed in the workplace
- undertake a secondary school certificate such as the VCE, VCE Vocational Major, or the Victorian Pathways Certificate (VPC)
- · undertake paid employment to build the career they want
- access quality Vocational Education Training (VET) courses in a wide range of industries with an approved training provider.

SBAT readiness

Students may complete the Language, Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) via an online platform that assesses their language, literacy and numeracy skills. The LLN will help Head Start staff to determine student's readiness for vocational learning opportunities and what supports are to be provided to assist the young person to be successful in a School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship.

Getting started with Head Start

- Students participate in career planning: the school career adviser helps them to explore their career options and connects them with a Head Start coordinator to provide further information and a referral form for your consent.
- Parents/Caregivers consent to an interview: Complete and return a paper or digital consent form, so that Head Start can contact you to set up an interview with you, your young person and a Head Start Coordinator.
- 3. Attend an interview: Head Start will set up an interview between you, your young person and a Head Start coordinator to discuss program details and expectations.
- Identify an opportunity: the Head Start coordinator works with each student to match their skills and interests to the right opportunity with the right employer.
- Have a go: Students complete work experience or structured workplace learning to make sure that the workplace is the right fit.
- Establish the SBAT: the Head Start coordinator works with your young person, the school, employer and you to set up the SBAT.
- Get started: the Head Start coordinator works with school staff to create a flexible timetable that helps your young person to successfully combine school, work and training. Students receive one-on-one support during their SBAT and when transitioning to a full or part-time apprenticeship or traineeship upon completion of school.

Find out more

Talk to your school's Head Start coordinator or visit www.vic.gov.au/headstart.



Headspace Bendigo Birthday Open Day

Earlier in October Caroline and Macey from our Wellbeing Team had the pleasure of helping Headspace Bendigo celebrate their 13th birthday. At the birthday Open Day Caroline and Macey enjoyed a tour of the recently renovated Headspace building (it's huge, and great!) and learnt more about the fabulous setting, friendly staff and range of services available. They also took advantage of the opportunity to connect with Wellbeing staff from other schools and other professionals working in youth mental health.

In the 13 years that it has been operating in Bendigo Headspace has delivered over 50,000 appointments to more than 6525 individual young people, their family and friends, and also delivered community engagement activities to over 70,000 members of the community. Headspace Bendigo often attends WCB events and we value their ongoing support to our school community and the broader Bendigo Community.

Happy 13th Birthday to Headspace Bendigo!



Headspace is at 78-80 Pall Mall, Bendigo. Headspace Bendigo welcomes young people, their parents, family and friends to call 54061400 to discuss mental health support options, and/or to make a time to take a tour of the centre with the Community Engagement Worker.



BSSC Key Dates for Late 2024 and Start of 2025

Dear 2025 BSSC Parents, Carers and Students

As you will all be aware, the college is running our two-week Step Up program commencing Monday, November 25 and concluding on Friday, December 6.

During these two weeks, we will be running our 2025 timetable and students will be commencing next year's classes. These classes are an important step towards a successful start to your Year 11 or Year 12 program and attendance is compulsory.

Our Ready to Learn interviews are an important part of preparation for 2025. At these interviews students and parents/carers meet with their 2025 Advisor to discuss the year ahead and share important information.

In the past, we have held Ready to Learn interviews in late January but based on parent and student feedback we've decided to run these from November 20-22 in place of our planned orientation activities.

You will be able to book your 30-minute Ready to Learn interview for the afternoon/evening of Wednesday, November 20 or any time during school hours on Thursday, November 21 or Friday November 22. Current Year 10 students should schedule their booking around other commitments they have on those days, including Year 10 exams and graduation events.

You will be emailed advice on November 14 about how book your Ready to Learn interview. I strongly encourage you to book early.

During Ready to Learn interviews

Students will be given their 2025 timetable

Our Student Ambassadors will assist students to find their Step Up classrooms

Student photos will be taken

Lockers will be allocated

Students who are in possession of the laptop or other device they will be using in 2025 should bring these along to assist with connection to our school wifi network

A magnetic fridge calendar of 2025 key dates will be distributed

Apart from preparing students for their time at BSSC and Step Up classes, a significant advantage of holding Ready to Learn interviews in November is that it will allow us to commence classes earlier in 2025. The first scheduled classes will now commence on Thursday January 30.

Key dates to note:

- · Early November Booklist information emailed to families
- November 14 Ready to Learn interview bookings open
- November 20 22 Ready to Learn interviews
- November 25 December 6 Step Up classes run
- January 30 2025 classes commence
- February 3 Year 11 Parent/Student information evening 7.00pm
- February 19 Year 12 Parent/Student information evening 7.00pm



On September 17th a group of 10 WCB students, along with 10 Bendigo South East College students, were given the opportunity to attend an excursion to the Costerfield Mine. The group were given a tour of the mine and got to pose questions to the Geologists on site about the process that is undertaken to decide where mining needs to occur. Students were made aware of the multiple employment opportunities that mining sites provide, as well as the paths they can take post schooling to obtain these jobs. Unfortunately, no gold nuggets were found during this excursion.

Ben Gardner











DRAMA ELECTIVE

During Term 3, our Drama elective students studied theatre for young audiences. They began their research into this style by viewing a live professional performance of "The Peasant Prince" by Sydney's 'Monkey Baa Theatre' at the Ulumburra Theatre. The story is an adaptation of Li Cunxin's autobiography 'Mao's Last Dancer.' The class was inspired by the performers' ability to play multiple characters. Many thoughtful conversations were had about the themes of the play: that with great focus and determination anyone can aspire to transform their life.



Students then put their research to work in producing playscripts for young audiences. On the last day of Term 3, close to 100 students from White Hills Primary School came to the Drama room to be our energetic audience. Weeroona students performed scripts, improvised scenarios and ran activities with the Grade 4 students. They did an excellent job and much fun was had by all involved!



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 which resulted in a strong finish that has set the stage for future success.

Vic Series Finale – Casey Fields

Our last Victorian series 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.

The Energy Breakthrough at Maryborough

Not long now and we'll be making our way to the biggest event of the year. Students will be competing in a 24-hour trial against 250 schools from across the state, as well as presenting their display and presentation and sharing everything that they know about their vehicles. Staff and students will be away from Friday to Sunday. Our event is live on Compass, if your child is attending please ensure you provide consent and make payment at your earliest convenience. Next week we'll be sending home a note with everything you need to know about the event and what to bring.

Before leaving for Maryborough we'll be taking team photos at school.

Training and Preparations for Maryborough

A reminder that we train twice a week on a Wednesday and a Friday from 3:30 – 4:30pm. This compromises of fitness and trike training. We're now incorporating our preparation for the display and presentation at Maryborough. It is of vital importance that race team members attend training as much as they can as to ensure they're as prepared as possible for Maryborough.

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.





ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH

Wednesday 30 th October	Friday 1 st November
No Session – Bendigo Cup	Fitness/Stint Training 20 Minute Stints: Banshee – Larni, Mitch, Emanuella Boomerang – Daniel, Kaidan, Bridget Intimidator – Indi, Olivia
Wednesday 6 th November	Friday 8 th November
Display & Pres	No Session – Curriculum Day
Wednesday 13 th November	Friday 15 th November
	(Fairings and Shirts Due to Arrive)
Display & Pres	Fitness/Stint Training
	20 Minute Stints: Banshee – Toby, Baylee
	Boomerang – Nitch, Evan
	Intimidator – Cooper, Chelsea, Izzy
Wednesday 20 th November	Friday 22 nd November

Wednesday 20th November (Team Photo Day) Display & Pres/Race Pack

Maryborough

Maryborough - Friday 22nd November – 24th November 3 Day Camp – Permission on Compass All Team Members attend









LONG-TERM LOAN COMPUTERS

As part of being ready-to-learn, it is a requirement that students bring a charged laptop to school each day. The College has assisted families in doing this by providing Long-Term Loan Computers to many pupils. Students and parents/guardian with College devices need to ensure that they:

· Are adhering to the User Agreement, as signed by parents and students.

• Are charging their laptops at home. No student, for a variety of Occupational Health and Safety reasons, are permitted to charge their computers on site. Both the GLC and IT have the capacity to charge student devices for them.

- · Keeping the computer, while not being used, in a locked locker.
- · Are not loaning their device to other people.
- · Report any damage/malfunction/loss of device to IT or the GLC immediately.

· Are not borrowing additional school computers from the GLC, 3 or more times. Doing this will result in the College requesting the device back.

Important Dates:

· Year 10 students will need to return their Long-Term Loan computer, and its charger, no later than 11th of November.

· Year 7-9 students will need to return their Long-Term Loan computer and its charger, no later than 2nd of December.

END-OF-YEAR RETURNING OF LIBRARY BOOKS

Being the last Term of the year, students will need to ensure they are returning all library books. These include Class Set novels studied in English and textbooks used in speciality subjects. Please see below for the final dates for books to be returned:

- · Friday November 15th (Week 6) All library books to be returned for Year 10 students.
- · Friday 13th December (Week 10) All library books due back for Years 7-10.

If students have lost or damaged a library book, they can visit the library to discuss a resolution before the conclusion of the 2024 school year. Alternatively, please feel free to contact one of the librarians to discuss options:

Ria.Waycott@education.vic.gov.au

Lisa.Oliver2@education.vic.gov.au

THE PREMIERS' CHALLENGE CELEBRATORY LUNCH

The 49 students who successfully completed the 2024 Premiers' Reading Challenge were treated to a free lunch, courtesy of the GLC, on the 15th of October. Students received their certificate from the Office of the Premier, hot chips, a drink and a lolly bag. By completing the challenge, all students demonstrated the College values of: Kind, Safe, Learners.



WELFROMA

GLOBAL LEARNING CENTRE ::::::





Buckle up !!!!!!

"But it's only October, we've got plenty of time".....

I'm afraid not. This point in Term 4 evaporates in front of us, and before we know it, we'll be wishing Mariah Carey's version of 'All I Want for Christmas' had never been played in your local supermarket.

How can I justify this statement? Well, in just over 3 weeks our Yr10 students will be sitting their exams at Bendigo Senior Secondary College. Once they're at this stage we won't see them back at Weeroona College. This will lead us into Performing Arts End of Year Concert, then Summer Music Program.

ARRGGHHHHHHHHHHHH !!!!!!!....... So much to do, so little time.

Bah, let's talk about all the great things that are coming up, and the great things that have been happening.

Rock Band Day

This was a great day! Rock Bands are popping up and forming at all schools and BIMP (Bendigo Instrumental Music Program) celebrated these Rock Bands at Ulumburra Theatre with a fantastic come and play event called Rock School.

Not to be confused with a battle of the bands style event, this was literally a "hey, we're a rock band, this is how we sound" style concert. Each band was offered feedback by Muso's Stuff shop owner Greg Perry, and Bendigo's own guitar hero, Keith McQueen. Our resident rock band, Eclipse flew the flag for Weeroona College and blasted out great covers of 'Guided by Angels' (Amyl and the Sniffers) and 'Shazam' (Spiderbait).

Next year we're aiming to take more rock bands and be even louder !!





End of Year Concert

Just like the End of Semester 1 Concert, our End of Year Concert will be a celebration of all Performing Arts achievements. The groups involved, Drama Elective class, Strings, Count Basie Band, John Williams Band, Eclipse, Burning Hearse and Dweeb of Radical. There will also be some soloist performances.

The event itself is on the evening of Tuesday November 19th, an event will be on Compass soon outlining what, where and when and it will be promoted also on Compass as well as through the schools social media channels. It will be a jam packed evening celebrating student talent.

Summer Music Program

The last hurray for BIMP and for instrumental students across the four schools to get together and do some playing and performing.

This event is ran at Bendigo Senior Secondary College in early December and is similar to Music Week and Fretworks, just a bit more relaxed. Students will rehearse in either a concert band, string ensemble or a guitar ensemble for a few days, then they will have the opportunity to perform as part of the Grade 6/Year 7 Orientation Day on December 11th.

The best part is that the event is mostly free. There is an activity on the second last day that students will need to pay for, this is usually 10 Pin Bowling.

Dates for Term 4

There already are a few performance dates for Term 4 that are ready to announced –

November 19th - End of Year Concert @ Weeroona College

December 7th – Epsom Huntly Community Christmas Concert

December 11th – Weeroona College Awards Night

Compass events will be up and ready for consent early Term 4.

NOTE : Term 4 instrumental lesson fees were due on the 7th October. Please contact us if you have any concerns or questions – christopher.blackshaw@education.vic.gov.au or weeroona.com@education.vic.gov.au

Thank you as always for supporting Performing Arts at Weeroona College and assisting in offering our Performing Art students amazing opportunities.

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

All the best, Chris.







Loodon mallee Region Track and Field Championships

A successful day was achieved by WCB competitors at the Loddon Mallee Region Track and Field Championships held at Bendigo Regional Athletics Complex on Thursday 10th October. All competed very well with Madelyn Beaton, Jasper Seymour and Kai Norton winning through to represent the College at the School Sport Victoria State Championships to be held in Melbourne on Monday 21st October. A fantastic effort. Well done. Below are results with competitors finishing 1st on their way to the SSV State Track and Field Finals.

Madelyn Beaton (14 Year Girls) 1st 90 Metre Hurdles ,1st 100 Metre, 1st High Jump, 1st Long Jump and 1st Triple Jump Jacob Wel (13 Boys) Shot Put and Javelin (did not compete) Jasper Seymour (15 Boys) 1st Discus and 1st Shot Put (Loddon Mallee Region Record) Kai Norton (15 Boys) 2nd 100 Metre, 1st Javelin (Loddon Mallee Region Record), 3rd High Jump and 2nd Triple Jump Cooper Lacey (16 Boys) 3rd Shot Put, 3rd Discus

Special mention to the cohort of Sportsforce Advance students who did a sterling job as helping officiate on the day. All were great ambassadors for the college.





School Sport Victoria State Track and Field Championships

Well done to our WCB competitors for reaching the SSV State Track and Field Final. Below are the results. A great effort from all WCB competitors.

Madelyn Beaton (14 Year Girls) 90 Metre Hurdles – Scratched injured , 4th 100 Metre, High Jump – Scratched injured, 2nd Long Jump and 2nd Triple Jump

Jasper Seymour (15 Boys) 1st Discus and 1st Shot Put

Kai Norton (15 Boys) 1st Javelin



Sandhurst Division Cricket Competition

Well done to competitors involved in the Sandhurst Division Cricket Competition held at the Catherine McAuley Junior campus on Tuesday 8th October. The team were very competitive conclusively winning one of their games and being narrowly defeated in the other.



DOCTORS IN SCHOOLS ::::::





DOCTORS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Make an appointment

Students can drop in on a Tuesday and make an appointment directly with Amanda, contact Ruth in the front office any day of the week, or talk to any teacher and wellbeing staff member at school.

All appointments are free and confidential.

Who are we and where can you find us?

Dr Mehwish and Registered Nurse Amanda attend Weeroona College on a Tuesday during school terms between 9am to 1pm.

We are from the Bendigo Community Health Services Medical Practice.

We offer longer appointments to ensure students have the time to feel heard. Our weekly clinic is held down the back of the campus next to the Wellbeing Team.

What do we do?

- Make primary health care more accessible to students
- Assist young people to identify and address any health problems early
- Assist young people to transition to independent health care
- · Reduce the pressure on working parents
- Bulk billing appointments

www.bchs.com.au



CALLING JUNIOR FOOTBALLERS & NETBALLERS!

Join the Woodies in 2025!

NGLEWOO

L NETBI

Join us for teamwork, fitness, friendship, fun, performance, and success. We warmly welcome new players!

Football: U18 Netball: 17&U 15&U 13&U Minis More information: **NETBALL**

> Chelsea Roberts 0437 050 521

FOOTBALL Leigh Lamprell (Coach) 0437 108 809

> Gary Scanlon 0407 844 284



THIS GIRL CAN WEEK COME & TRY TENNIS & PICKLEBALL

Venue: Strathdale Park Tennis Club, Corner of Reservoir Rd and Mclvor Rd, Strathdale

Date: Sunday 17 November

Time: 10:30am - 1:30pm

For more info or to Fregister scan CR code

Ages: 6+

> Cost: Free

FREE BBQ and multicultural lunch available from 12 noon

All Welcome

SPORTS FOCUS MER - MELCOMMAGE INCLUSIVE



COMMUNITY NEWS::::::

THIS GIRL CAN WEEK COME & TRY TENNIS & PICKLEBALL

Tennis is a racquet sport played between two players (singles) or four players (doubles). Players use tennis racquets to hit a ball over a net, aiming to prevent the opponent from returning the ball.

Pickleball is a sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton and table tennis and is suitable for all ages. What to wear:

Comfortable exercise clothes, runners, hat

What to bring: Drink bottle, tennis racquet if you have one

Tennis and pickleball racquets available to borrow



Sun 10	Mon 11	Tues 12	Wed 13	Thurs 14	Fri 15	Sat 16	Sun 17
Paddling 10.30am Roller Derby 3.30pm	Hill 7am Cardio + Kids Tennis 9.30am Walking 9.30am Hill 12pm Outdoor gym 1.30pm Badminton 7.30pm	Cardio + Kids Tennis 9.30am BOXHIIT 9.30am Elmore Chair Yoga 10.30m Heathcote Intro to gym 11am Mums and Bubs (0-2yrs) Yoga 2pm Move, Groove & Stretch (5-12yrs) 4pm Heathcote Stretch (5-12yrs) 4pm Heathcote	HIIT 7am HIIT 12pm Football 5.45pm Swimming 7pm	BOXHIIT 9.30am Elmore Muns & Kids (0-5yn) Yoga 10.30am Volleyball 4pm HilT 5.30pm	HIIT 7am Walking Heathcote 9.30an Belf Defence 11am HIIT 12pm Swimming 7pm	Kennington parkrun Bam Botanic Gartdens parkrum 7.45am for Bam start Hilf 9am	Rowing 10am Tennis & Pickleball Fickleball FREE Lunch from 12pm

Barrack Reserve 11am-2pm on Saturday 23 November If you have any questions about an activit please contact Jo at Sports Focus joc⊛sportsfocus.com.au or 5442 3101

eathcote Community 'Walk for Respect' Barrack Reserve 11am-2pm on Friday 29 November Scan QR Code for all This Girl Can booking and event information



KIND - SAFE - LEARNERS

School staff have a right to be safe at work

Any abuse will not be tolerated

derogatory comments

× Threatening gestures

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:

- X Rudeness
- X Intimidation sive X Discriminatory or
- X Insults or offensive communication
- X Malicious or defamatory communications
- Aggression, including raising your voice at a staff member
- X Harassment

These behaviours are **neverokay** 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.

WEERDONA

KIND - SAFE - LEARNERS

X Threats

COMMUNITY NEWS:::::::

👁 PLAY

SECONDARY SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

Join us for a fun and friendly AFL Nines tournament where students of all experience levels are welcome!

This inclusive tournament is the perfect opportunity to enjoy Australian Rules Football, whether you're a seasoned player or a complete beginner.

UVISIONS • Year 7 & Year 8 Girls • Year 7 & Year 8 Boys

FREE to participate but limited spots available - get in quick!





WHAT TO EXPECT

Teams will participate in an AFL Nines fun & friendly round robin competition against other schools.

TEAM SIZES

9-a-side. Reccomended to have upto 15 per team with unlimited subs throughout games.

FIELD SIZES

Teams participate on smaller rectangular fields 80m x 50m.

SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS AFL Vic will manage the competition.

Schools are only required to submit teams, organise transport and manage their teams on the day.

Contact: madeline.pieper@afl.com.au or scan the QR Code







Safe to school How to drop off and pick up children safely





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

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 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.

