FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

Swimming Sports
We are the champions! For the first time since at least 1962 Wedderburn will have its name engraved on the Interschool Swimming Sports trophy. On Monday of this week our swimming team travelled to St Arnaud to compete in the Interschool Swimming Sports and came out with not one but two trophies. One for the Senior section and one as the overall winner of the event. Congratulations to our students who competed strongly and to Mr Allan who has worked hard to ensure we were represented well at the sports.

Compass Workshop
Today the College ran three training workshops for parents to support their access to the school manager system, Compass. The school will be moving to communicate to all parents/carers via this medium so it is important that all our users are able to access the system. If you were unable to attend today please let us know so we can support you. If you do not have access to the internet at home the school can support you through the use of the Library computers and the Community House also has internet access.

Insurance
Parents are reminded that the Department does not provide personal accident insurance or ambulance cover for students. Parents and guardians of students who do not have student accident insurance/ambulance cover are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs. Private property brought to school by students, staff or visitors is not insured and neither the school or Department of Education and Training accepts any responsibility for any loss or damage.

Margaret-Anne Wright, Principal

Centrepay
As you know family statements are sent out during the year. Wedderburn College has set up a Centrepay Business Application so we can receive payments directly from your Centrelink payments. Centrepay is a voluntary direct bill paying service for families receiving Centrelink payments. With Centrepay, families can pay their statements by having regular amounts deducted from their Centrelink payments and paid directly to the school’s bank account. If you are interested in setting up payments to the school, you can contact me at the front office.

Mrs Marie Marsh, Business Manager
This week Mrs Turnbull arranged for students in Grades 3-6 to attend the Wedderburn Pool, for some much needed practise of basic water swimming and safety skills. Although a note was sent home, and dates written in diaries, some students forgot to bring their bathers and towel. I am sure everyone will be organised for our next swimming session on Monday 23rd February.

Next Monday will be our first Whole School Assembly for 2015, commencing in the KLC at 11:30pm. Classroom teachers will be awarding Student of the Week Awards, and Caught Being Good Awards- which will celebrate students who have exemplified the College Value of Respect over the last two weeks. All family and friends are welcome to attend the assembly. This year Primary teachers will be phoning parents in advance to let you know that your child will be receiving an award, so if possible, you or other family members are able to be there.

MESSAGE FROM MRS PREVOS: Could all Prep to 6 students please bring an Art Smock or Art shirt.

DIFFERENT WAYS WE CAN SHOW RESPECT

Year 6 have received their spelling words to be practised nightly on Monday. These words are chosen as a result of their pre-test results completed last week. Swimming was lots of fun on Monday afternoon but a few people forgot their bathers. Please note that bathers are required for next Monday 23rd February.

Billabong Ranch Camp permission notes need to be returned by Friday please.

Training for the Compass program is on tonight at 3.40 or 7 pm for parents. The Year 6 students do know quite a bit about it.

Lianne Brett, Grade 6 Classroom Teacher

Prep/One News

Our Grade has been really enjoying Story Talk time. This time is set aside each afternoon to promote the oral language skill of storytelling. This is an essential pre-cursor to the ability to write stories later on. Regular story telling experiences also increases a child’s vocabulary.

Some of our titles so far have included: The Best Day Ever, The Mud-Throwing Mrs Tanya, and The Mustard Sandwich. Ask your child to retell these stories!

Mrs Tanya Chalmers, Classroom Teacher
There are many important dates coming up to put in your diary:
Today: Prep Learning Conversations
Compass Training for Parents
23rd February: Whole School Assembly 11:30pm
3-6 Swimming
10th-12th March: Grade 5/6 Billabong Ranch Camp
17th March-25th March: Warrinbinda Camp

Julie Martin, P-6 Neighbourhood Coordinator

YEAR 7-10 NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

Year 7 Camp Report
(by Tobi Shelley)

Day 1
On Monday, 9th February at 7:15am, tired and excited were the mixtures of feeling of all Year 7’s as we got ready to jump onto the bus for our trip to Melbourne. We soon arrived at Southern Cross Station where we got our bags and headed for DOXA City camp. As we arrived Paul and Tom (Our DOXA guides) greeted us at the top of the stairs (Lots of stairs!!!). After settling in our rooms and greeting us with some basic ground rules, we were off to Flagstaff Gardens for some fun games, exercises and lunch.

Later on we took in the street performers on Bourke and Swanson Streets as we made our way to do the Urban Stroll, which is a street art laneways tour. The art was fantastic and very detailed. Everyone really enjoyed the experience. Next we caught a tram to docklands where we had dinner at Chilli Patti, a Malaysian restaurant. The few who had not had Malaysian before said it was delicious! We had all different types of Malaysian foods, which was a nice change from our normal dinners back home. With (very) full bellies we headed off for a ride on Melbourne Star, a massive ferries wheel. The view of the city was unbelievable! This was a highlight for many of us (and that was just the first night!)

Day 2
On Tuesday after breakfast, we picked up our subway lunches and headed for the Melbourne Museum. We looked around, took some photos and had a guided tour through Bunjilaka’s new exhibition on Victoria's first peoples. Later we had our lunches in the gardens, played some games, learnt about Geocaching and then headed for the Parliament House. We took the 60 min tour and we got to see some pretty amazing things. We watched parliamentarians give condolence speeches about a parliament friend that had passed last year. We als got to see the library, with all its gold as well as a replica of the Welcome Stranger nugget. We learned some interesting historical facts about the house and things in it. We ate another delicious dinner at a Greek restaurant called Medallion Greek.

Day 3
Wednesday we had breakfast downstairs and organised our lunches. We arrived at ACMI (Australian Centre For The Moving Image) and got to explore some of the amazing technology. There were divided sections, one of the sections was Screening World. In Screening World they had games to play, information to read and so much more. Everybody enjoyed ACMI, especially all of us starring in our own Matrix style video sequence. We had lunch down by the river before a long walk (Mr D & Ibu Metcalf wouldn’t let us catch a tram!) and visited the Old Melbourne Gaol. In the Gaol we got to explore the cells and try on Ned Kelly armour. Our tour guide told us interesting stories and gave us information on the infamous people who were in the gaol. That night we had yet another delicious dinner at the Afgan Valley Restaurant just downstairs at the DOXA camp. After dinner we walked (yea - more walking, didn’t Mr D and Ibu Metcalf realise that Melbourne has Trams???) to South Bank to see the flames - but they weren’t on so we finally got to jump on a tram and head up to the night markets at Queen Victoria Market. The night markets were crazy busy with an amazing mix of sights, sounds and smells.

Day 4
Thursday we stopped off at the National Gallery to see some interesting art before heading to the Melbourne Shrine of Remembrance. We got to look around before having a special guided tour. We were showed objects from the war and we got to see a light that shone on a stone on the 11 day of the 11 month at 11:00. Our tour guide then talked about some of the people that were in the war and watched a show on the landing at Gallipoli. Soon after we went upstairs and had a look over the balcony. It was a pretty amazing view. Next we went to the Botanical Gardens where we ate lunch and played with the ducks. We also found another cache, through Tom’s Geocaching App, hidden down a tree hollow on a piece of wire - but not too hidden for our keen eyes. After lunch we went to MSAC (Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre). First we all went on the obstacle course where some people didnt even get past the first bit because it was so slippery (also made even more slippery with big buckets of water being thrown over us by an overly eager MSAC worker!). Then we went on the waterslide. It was big and swirly. Last we went in the wave pool where we played "keep
the ball off” while being crushed by waves. Dinner was in Chinatown at Post Deng Cafe. After dinner we headed down Lygon Street where Mr D, Ibu Metcalf and Annette bought us all gelati (supposedly because we’d been so good and well behaved).

Day 5
Friday was home time. After breakfast we packed up our things and headed to the Queen Victoria Market again. In the market we explored all of the stalls and some of us bought stuff (those who hadn’t blown all their spending money the first night at the Melbourne Star!). Some groups got to watch a man swallow a sword and do backflips! There was a bus load of Indonesian Tupperware ladies who we got to practice our Indonesian with (some us were a little rusty). After we all explored the market we got on a train to head home. Everybody enjoyed the camp, getting to see things you don't see everyday.

Thank you Mr Dougall, Ibu Metcalf and Annette for this amazing experience.
Year 9/10 Humanities - A Better World

Students who are undertaking the Year 9/10 Humanities Elective - A Better World (teacher: Mr Dougall) are trialling the use of Learning Tasks in Compass. Parents of students in this class can log into Compass and review student’s work and see when work tasks are due (or outstanding if not submitted) as well as read and contribute to feedback on their child’s work. Mr Dougall would welcome feedback from parents on how they find this trial. Please email him within Compass or contact the school to give feedback and/or to get help viewing your child’s learning tasks.

YEAR 11-12 NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

Last week, 14 lucky Year 12 VCE students headed off to Ocean Grove for 3 days to begin planning and organising their busy year ahead. Our trip was quick to get started and after stopping to buy supplies (and some much needed towels, Hayden) we arrived at our destination, the Ocean Grove Holiday Park.

Braving the wind and cold, most students took a dip in the arctic waters of the surf beach before heading back to face our Master Chef cabin challenge. With $10 a head to spend our students got creative and produced a range of mostly healthy and interesting meals. Ben, Michael, Jye and Mr Shaw wowed the judges with their hamburger presentation skills and the lovely ladies’ cabin, consisting of Sarah, Tahlia, Ebony, Maddi, Emma, Jo and Mrs Barker came home with a prize for creativity. Not to miss out, Hayden, Mackenzie, Louis, Josh and Ashley came home with an honourable mention for their chicken parmas and roast potatoes.

A 6am wake up was received grumpily, although the sunrise and morning exercise set us all on a good pace for the rest of the day.

Deakin University was the first ‘official’ stop of our camp, with our students treated to a Waterfront campus tour and fantastic study skills lecture. Walking around the new campus was eye opening and many students contemplated the possibility of beginning their tertiary studies in those very rooms. The contrast between the old wool shed building and a new architecture was amazing and certainly provided a lovely space for students to work and study.

Throughout our camp, students worked within their own booklet, outlining their goals for the year, study tips and ways to keep motivated. We also discussed the importance of friendships, work life balance and managing priorities. At times the questions got tough, but everyone participated and actively supported conversation to ensure that they received the most out of their reflective and critical thinking tasks. Our ‘big questions’ certainly got everyone talking!

No trip to Ocean Grove is complete without a trip to Torquay and some students managed to shop up a storm before taking some much needed R & R time at the beach. We were lucky to be granted much nicer weather and enjoyed the sunshine while dining on fish and chips.

On Friday morning we packed up our cabins (an easier feat for some!) and began our long trip home. After 4 hours of singing to Taylor Swift and the Hilltop Hoods we arrived back safely.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Shaw for accompanying us on our camp. I’d also like to thank each student who came along to Ocean Grove – your maturity, openness and honesty was most valued and I look forward to seeing you grow academically and personally this year.

Mrs Lauren Barker, Year 11-12 Neighbourhood Leader
SPORTS NEWS FLASH

Wedderburn students create HISTORY!

Thirty five students represented the College on Monday the 16th at the annual NCD Swimming Carnival held in St. Arnaud. This year nine schools competed, with all schools within the cluster being present and also the new addition of Maryborough Education Centre in 2015.

Our students competed strongly and were consistent throughout the day. They demonstrated a high level of sportsmanship and provided the loudest encouragement and support to their team mates on the day.

In the overall standings we finished 1st, which according to records is the first time in over 55 years. We are still researching to see if the College has won this title before. In an excellent result our juniors finished runners up in aggregate, whilst our seniors finished 1st. We had four individual age group championships, which is a fantastic effort. These students gained points for each event they competed in for their age group. This is the highest amount of individual age group champions we have had for a number of years.

Congratulations must go to:

Girls 14 years age group champion Rochelle Vella
Girls 15 years age group champion Carly Isaac
Girls 17 years age group champion Monique Vella
Boys 16 years age group champion Rhordan Holt

We now have a number of individual swimmers and 3 relay teams who have now qualified for the Loddon Mallee Region (LMR) Swimming Carnival to be held on Tuesday 17th of March in Swan Hill.

Many thanks to all parents and supporters who came and cheered on our students throughout the day. The students really appreciate your support and encouragement. Thanks to the staff involved in the day also.

Ricky Allan, Sports Coordinator

Homework Club

Once more the College is able to provide support to students by offering teacher assistance at a lunchtime Homework Club. The Club will be in the Library on Tuesdays at lunchtime (2nd half) and Mrs McHugh will be staffing it. Any students who require assistance with any form of homework are encouraged to attend.

CHAPLAIN’S CHAT

Last week I spoke about our Aquaponics project which we started last year and will be developing further this year. After some more planning last week, we will now be going ahead involving students who have chosen Horticulture as an elective, some VCAL students and also our Hands on Learning students. This means the project can grow into a larger enterprise than originally planned and will extend to support the existing vegetable garden, chook shed and mulching system.

With all the expertise and planning from the students, we can expect a unique agricultural enterprise developing which may put our school on the map as this is a growing industry worldwide. Vertical farming (Aquaponics & Hydroponics) is a big industry in England, also across Europe and is now being explored here in Australia. Let’s make the most of it here, maybe it could be a career path for some of our students.

Graham Veal, College Chaplain
In the first week of gardening Miss Martin's Grade 3/4 came to visit the garden accompanied by Miss MacDonald.

Students wondered around the garden beds and found some ripened tomatoes which were eaten in a flash. Very tasty I was told.

We spoke about what fruit & veggies they might like to grow. There were lots of ideas. They were very excited about being involved with the gardening program.

The chooks didn't miss out on getting a cuddle from willing students.

A great afternoon.

Mrs Chalmer's Prep/1 Class also came to visit and couldn't wait to be hands on. With little gloves and shovels dirt was dug and treasures were found.

That's all for this week.

Trina Vaughan, Garden Coordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS

Help wanted with After School Basketball, please

Our successful basketball program is all set to continue into 2015 but we are looking for some assistance please. Sam Isaac has been running the program capably and efficiently but now due to work commitments is not able to contribute as much time to the program as previously. We are hoping someone from our community might be able to help our students and Sam out by volunteering to support Sam and therefore keep the program going for the kids.

Please contact either the College on 5494 3011 or Sam Isaac on 0427 947 479 if you can help.

Wanted

The Parents Association would like to hear from anyone with any deb dresses, shoes or gloves they would like to sell. Please contact Amber on 5494 7444.
Canteen Roster
Fri Feb 20 - Karen Holt
Fri Feb 27 - Ros Witham
Fri Mar 6 - Susie Lockhart
Fri Mar 13 - Sharon Lockhart
Fri Mar 20 - Student free day
Fri Mar 27 - Dede Williams

Jen Dougall, Canteen Manager

WEDDERBURN JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
Annual General Meeting
Monday 23rd February 2015
7PM FOOTBALL CLUB ROOMS
ALL WELCOME
Apologies/enquiries please call
Tim Lockhart 0409 869 230
Kathy Turnbull 0427 848 683

CANTINE NEWS

FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER
Thank you for your support by informing parents about the opportunities for teenagers to live and learn in another culture with World Education Program (WEP) Australia.
For additional news, other newsletters and more contact jamie.oberman@worldeducationprograms.org

WWW.WEP.ORG.AU LEARN AND DISCOVER THE WORLD

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR CURRENT DATES OF INFORMATION SESSIONS

SCHOLARSHIPS AND EARLY BIRD SPECIALS AVAILABLE FOR 2016

World Education Program (WEP) Australia is now accepting applications from students who wish to participate in 2016 exchange programs for a summer semester or year. Students can choose to study in a country of their choice and experience life with a carefully selected host family.

Exchange students return to Australia with maturity, confidence and, in many cases, proficiency in another language. Learning another language is not for your child, excellent programs to the USA, Canada, the UK and Ireland are also available.

I did it 10 months in a foreign country, without knowing the language or culture. Thinking about all the amazing people I’ve met, the lessons I have learnt and things I have seen, I feel truly lucky to have been able to live such different life. I have grown so much as a person, from being quite shy to be more open and talk to people I have never met. However, the best thing I have done for myself I now feel ready to share with Australia with a clearer idea of my strengths, weaknesses and my future goals. Exchange has really helped the dream stayed.

ALISON MORRISON@BAY COLLEGE. YEAR PROGRAM TO STAY

STUDENT EXCHANGE
A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY!

NO REWARD WITHOUT EFFORT

WEDDERBURN HOCKEY CLUB INC
A00048145M

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
All members, players and interested community members invited to attend
Thursday 19 February, 7.30pm
Wodderburn Hockey Club Shed

COACHING POSITIONS FOR 2015
Coaching positions are open for expression of interest for the following teams:

MINKEY
UNDER 13
UNDERAGE
WOMENS
MENS

Applications close Monday February 16
Please post to:
Coach EOL, Wodderburn Hockey Club, P.O. Box 248, Woddderburn 3518
(Coaches positions will be assessed prior to AGM)

Castle Turnbull, President
Newbridge Rural Health Day

"Taking the First Step Towards a Healthier You"

Free Health Promotion Day for Men & Women living in Newbridge & Surrounding Areas.

Date: Tuesday 24th February, 2015
Location: Newbridge Town Hall
Time: 7.45am-2.30pm
(FREE Breakfast, Morning Tea & Lunch provided)

RSVP: Thursday 19th February, 2015
by calling 5431 7000

Contact: Beshary Takaklis
Health Promotion Officer at Inglewood & Districts Health Service on 5431 7000 or beshaklis@idhs.vic.gov.au

Bethany Takaklis
Health Promotion & Community Development Officer
Youth Coordinator
Inglewood and Districts Health Service
03/5431 7000
beshaklis@idhs.vic.gov.au

Come and see a number of our students (and a teacher) featuring in this show! Why not book a table?

W.A.R.T.S. “N” ALL INC. PRESENTS
“LOVE THROUGH A LIFETIME”
A MUSICAL COMEDY REVUE
4 GREAT SHOWS
FRIDAY 20th & SATURDAY 21st FEBRUARY
FRIDAY 27th & SATURDAY 28th FEBRUARY
COST $10.00 PER ADULT $5.00 PER CHILD
$25.00 PER FAMILY
SHOW STARTS 8.00PM
Wedderburn Mechanics Hall
Reef Street
FOR BOOKINGS CALL ROBINA 6402454956
OR EMAIL wartersall13@gmail.com
BYO DRINKS & NIBBLES

Ballroom Dancing.

Give your partner the ultimate Valentine present.
$100 for 10 classes for 2 & 2 tickets to the Masquerade Ball.

Classes start
Tuesday 24th February,
7pm-9pm

Learn 10 different dances in 10 weeks.
Culminating in a Masquerade Ball on 1st May.

Dance packs available for couples and singles.
Single Pack: $80.00—10 classes and a ticket to a Masquerade Ball.
Contact Wedderburn Community House on 54455489 for details.
Over recent years the Garage Sales have been popular on the Saturday of the Minelab Wedderburn Detector Jamboree. Wedderburn Tourism Inc is coordinating the Garage Sales in conjunction with the Minelab Wedderburn Detector Jamboree **Saturday 7 March 2015.** The garage sales can include Korong Vale area.

The **Wedderburn Op Shop** will be open the same day at Wedderburn Community Centre

**To book a garage sale** fill out details below and return to the Loddon Visitor Information Centre 24 Wilson Street Wedderburn. Bookings must occur by **Sunday 1 March 2015.**

Garage Sales to commence at 9am on **Saturday 7 March 2015**
Garage Sale Maps to be obtained from the Loddon Visitor Information Centre from 9am

Name (Person Responsible)  

Address Garage Sale  

Telephone  

Cost $5.00 (must be submitted when booking the garage sale).
$5.00 goes towards marketing and promotions of the Garage Sale and producing the map.

A garage sale is the responsibility of the nominated person on the booking form.

For any further information contact Loddon Visitor Information centre 54943489.
Wedderburn Detector Jamboree

7th & 8th March 2015
Labour Day Long Weekend
At Hard Hill Tourist Reserve
FREE ENTRY FOR NON PARTICIPANTS

Saturday 7th March 2015
6.45am Breakfast & Registration
$45.00 for the weekend including breakfast & entertainment on the Saturday Evening

All participants must be registered & are restricted to an 11 inch coil or equivalent (no magnets to be used on the field)

7.45am Competitor briefing

8am to 3pm Token hunt – all tokens found are to be handed in by 4pm Saturday.
Rules & regulations must be adhered to

9am to 4pm The Monster Town Garage Sales (maps to be obtained from the Loddon Visitor Information Centre 24 Willson Street Wedderburn from 9am) (Get only)

10am to 2pm Gold Prospecting Australia Detector demonstrations – These demonstrations are to introduce beginners to prospecting.
Run every 2 hours

Saturday Evening – 6pm tea followed by 8pm live band Wild Yabbies and minor draws for competitors in Detector Jamboree (must be on site to win).

Sunday 8th March 2015
7am Breakfast & Registration $35.00 (only if you didn’t participate on the Saturday)

7.45am Competitor briefing
10 golden rules for parenting success in 2015

As the requirements for effective parenting shift and there seems even less time to juggle family life, here are 10 golden rules to guide you on your parenting journey.

1. Lead the gang
   Parenting is a life-long individual undertaking. There is a place for parenting the individual child, but there is also a place for parenting the whole gang (even if you and your child make up the gang). Your ability to pull your family together and get them singing off the same song sheet will impact on your family’s future outcomes (your children’s sense of self, empathy, and their general resilience and coping mechanisms). There is nothing so magical as to witness a family pulled together when the chips are down. This doesn’t just happen. It takes real leadership by parents to make a family act like a family.

2. Build developmental knowledge
   Many challenges parents experience with their children are due to a developmental mismatch. That is, parents raising their ten year old as if they are eight. The nuances of parenting are age-related, yet due to inexperience we too often don’t read the cues. Recently, I witnessed a mum and dad tearing their hair out trying to communicate with their nine-year-old son. For the first time he was saying no to them. They thought him stubborn and disobedient. I thought him normal, as nine can be a problematic age, where usually malleable children suddenly start changing. Puberty is stirring. When this couple’s second child turns nine she will experience the benefits of her elder brother being away and breaking her parents in for her.

3. Practice problem-ownership
   Please, please, please allow children to own their own problems. Children of all ages can and should be creative at solving new problems to solve. Everything is a potential problem to kids and they need opportunities to resolve them themselves. By all means, coach, guide, give hints but give them a chance to sort out relationship issues, challenges with teachers and academic challenges on their own.

4. Swim against the tide
   Listen to talkback radio, read the headlines of a newspaper or watch a current affairs TV program and you’ll realise that, right now, we live in an incredibly judgemental society. Parents are harshly judged as well. Allow your kids to walk to school and you risk being judged as negligent. Drive your kids to school and you risk being told that you are spoiling them and negating their physical wellbeing. It takes a strong parent to swim against the tide of popular opinion. It also takes a strong parent to deny her child say a mobile phone when every other child has one. It helps to say “This is the way we do it in our family.”

5. Be brave
   Perhaps the biggest challenge facing parents, and their children, is the ability to let go of their parental role and give kids the freedom they need to develop as autonomous. It’s relatively easy to develop children’s independence at home as the stakes are relatively low if they can’t cook a meal then you just have to do it for them. However, developing children’s independence outside the home is a totally different story. Many parents feel decidedly unconfident about parenting in general and worry about giving people more freedom. There is the perception that the world is a dangerous place. Granting kids freedom has an element of risk; that’s why parents need to be brave. Having the courage to let go is a basic requirement of parenting. It won’t stop you worrying, but that’s part of the game.

6. Add emotional intelligence to your parenting mix
   With kids experiencing mental health challenges at an depressingly high rate, it’s time to add some emotional intelligence to the parenting mix. While many schools are now introducing emotional and social programs on the curriculum, it’s important that parents develop their own understanding of how emotions work: how emotions can be recognised, how they can work for us and against us, how we can regulate our emotions so they don’t overwhelm us and how to recognise and respond to the emotions of others. These sound like life-changing skills that once learned, are capable of impacting significantly and positively on future generations.

Michael Grose