



WODONGA
MIDDLE YEARS COLLEGE

Middle Years

my news



Newsletter No 3

Term 1

February 13, 2017

Principal's Report

Supporting your child

Thank you to all parents and carers for the great start to the year. It has been a busy few weeks and over this time some students have requested elective changes. Our Arts Technology and Languages Leaders have done their very best to accommodate all requested changes and we feel that all students have been catered for. Over the 3 years at Wodonga Middle Years College all students have the opportunity to be involved in all classes across the curriculum. If your child is still unhappy about their elective choices please contact Melanie McClure at the Huon campus and Kim O'Shea at the Felltimber Campus.

Contacting your child at school

As adults we know it is often difficult to avoid the distraction of our phone and other devices when at work, it is even more difficult for our children. Students at Wodonga Middle Years College are encouraged to avoid distractions whilst learning in class time. Some class teachers will even ask students to turn all notifications off their devices during class time.

When you need to contact your child during the school day could you please do so through the front office rather than contact your child directly via social media or text message. This way we can minimise distractions for our students. Students must also sign in and out of school through the front office. To further reduce interruptions during class time we are unable to use the PA system during class, unless it is a matter of emergency. If you require your child to be excused from class, please send them with a signed note to school to present to their teacher so they may be excused. The PA system will only be used during break times wherever possible. Thank you for your cooperation with these matters.

Maree Cribbes
College Principal

Student Orientation Interviews

A Team teachers look forward to meeting with you on Monday 20 February at 3:30 to 7:00pm to get to know you and share information about your child.

This is an important time so that we can meet with every family and build lasting relationships with you to support the academic growth and wellbeing of each child.

It is also a time to explain the House system, show you the parent portal on the learning management system, and discuss the exciting things happening in 2017.

A Team teachers may also be available at other times during the week of Monday 20 - Friday 24 February, if required. Please check their availability on the online booking system: www.schoolinterviews.com.au. Code: **5ug7h** or contact the office on 6057 9000 to assist you.

Immunisations

Year 7 School Immunisation Information 2017

Immunisation day is fast approaching for our Year 7 students **Felltimber immunisation is 14th February and Huon 24th February**. Please return the consent cards to school before these dates, even if your child is not having the immunisations through school. As a parent there are some important things you can do to make the experience not quite as daunting for your child. These include:

- ◆ Discussing how important and lifesaving immunisations are, and that severe allergic reactions are extremely rare.
- ◆ Ensuring your child has a healthy breakfast on the day. A substantial breakfast will be digested slowly, providing sustained energy and also allowing your child to think clearly and rationally. Examples would be eggs on wholemeal toast, muesli and yogurt, pancakes and fruit, toasted wholegrain sandwich, fruit smoothie with yogurt. Even if your child does not normally eat breakfast this is a really important part of a positive immunisation experience.
- ◆ Helping your child to stay hydrated- send a water bottle to school with them. The needle is only tiny but being inserted to a well hydrated plump arm is going to ensure only a tiny sting.
- ◆ If your child is nervous encourage them to go first as delaying the immunisation can result in increased anxiety
- ◆ Discussing with your child what they can do to distract themselves whilst waiting - listen to music, play computer games, read etc.
- ◆ Remind your child that if they feel unwell they should tell the immunisation staff as they are specifically trained to monitor and look after your child. It is normal to have a small amount of pain, redness or swelling at the injection site.

Linda Elkington
Adolescent Health Nurse

Japan Trip

Meeting

There will be a meeting at 6pm Thursday February 23 in the conference room at Huon for those going on the Japan trip. We will be discussing itinerary and costings of the trip.

Mel McClure
Japanese Teacher

FELLTIMBER CAMPUS
Hedgerow Court, Wodonga, Victoria 3690
Ph: 02 6057 9000, Fax: 02 6059 2900

HUON CAMPUS
22-24 Mitchell Street, Wodonga, Victoria 3690
Ph: 02 6057 9000, Fax: 02 6024 3633

Email: wodonga.middle.years.co@edumail.vic.gov.au
www.wmyc.vic.edu.au



School Council Elections

School Council Nominations

Nominations are open for parents and DET staff to nominate for school council. There are three parent and one DET vacancies on the WMYC council for 2017-2018. Nomination forms are available from the Huon, Felltimber and Flying Fruit Fly Circus School Campus offices.

You may self nominate or nominate another person, there are appropriate forms for each.

Nominations close at 4pm on Friday February 24, after which there may be an election held, if required. The new council meets regularly on the fourth Monday of each month from 5:30pm.

Please read the following information for more details about the role of school councils.

Information for Parents

What is a school council and what does it do?

All government schools in Victoria have a school council. They are legally constituted bodies that are given powers to set the key directions of a school within statewide guidelines. In doing this, a school council is able to directly influence the quality of education that the school provides for its students.

Who is on the school council?

For most school councils, there are three possible categories of membership:

A mandated elected Parent category - more than one-third of the total members must be from this category. Department of Education and Training (DET) employees can be Parent members at their child's school as long as they are not engaged in work at the school.

A mandated elected DET employee category - members of this category may make up no more than one-third of the total membership of school council. The principal of the school is automatically one of these members.

An optional Community member category - members are coopted by a decision of the council because of their special skills, interests or experiences. DET employees are not eligible to be Community members.

Generally, the term of office for all members is two years. The term of office of half the members expires each year, creating vacancies for the annual school council elections.

Why is Parent membership so important?

Parents on school councils provide important viewpoints and have valuable skills that can help shape the direction of the school.

Those parents who become active on a school council find their involvement satisfying in itself and may also find that their children feel a greater sense of belonging.

How can you become involved?

The most obvious way is to vote in the elections, which are held in Term 1 each year. However, ballots are only held if more people nominate as candidates than there are positions vacant.

In view of this, you might seriously consider standing for election as a member of the school council or encouraging another person to stand for election.

Do I need special experience to be on school council?

No. What you do need is an interest in your child's school and the desire to work in partnership with others to help shape the school's future.

What do you need to do to stand for election?

The principal will issue a Notice of Election and Call for Nominations following the commencement of Term i each year. All school council elections must be completed by the end of March unless the usual time line has been varied by the Minister.

If you decide to stand for election, you can arrange for someone to nominate you as a candidate or you can nominate yourself in the Parent category.

DET employees whose child is enrolled in a school in which they are not engaged in work are eligible to nominate for parent

membership of the school council at that school.

Once the nomination form is completed, return it to the principal within the time stated on the Notice of Election. You will receive a Nomination Form Receipt in the mail following the receipt of your completed nomination.

Generally, if there are more nominations received than there are vacancies on council, a ballot will be conducted during the two weeks after the call for nominations has closed.

Remember

Ask at the school for help if you would like to stand for election and are not sure what to do

Consider standing for election to council this year

Be sure to vote in the elections.

Contact the principal for further information.

Community Notices

Alphabet Crew Meeting

Next meeting of the Alphabet Crew Social Group for LGBTQI young people and allies (ages 12-18) is Wednesday, February 15 at the Retro Lane Café Albany.

Facebook WayOut Wodonga or Ben Retro or text 0417 165 135 for more details.



Wodonga Junior Football Club

Are you interested in playing AFL footy in 2017?

Under 12, under 14 and under 16 teams. For more information email: wodjfc@gmail.com



Wodonga Saints Football Netball Club

Junior players wanted for 2017 season. Under

12, under 14 and under 17 age groups. go to www.wodongasaints.com.au for more information.



Beleza SCHOOL UNIFORMS

WODONGA

TRADING HOURS

MONDAY	9.30am to 4.30pm	94 High Street, WODONGA 3690 02 6056 9402
TUESDAY	9.30am to 4.30pm	
WEDNESDAY	9.30am to 4.30pm	
THURSDAY	9.30am to 4.30pm	
FRIDAY	CLOSED	
SATURDAY	CLOSED	

Dates to Remember

Dates for 2017	Activity
Feb 17	► School Photos
Feb 20	► Student Orientation Interviews 3.30-7pm
Feb 21	► Swimming Carnival
Feb 23	► Meeting: Japan Trip, 6pm Huon
Feb 24	► Immunisations Yr 7 Huon
Mar 13	► Labour Day Holiday
Mar 24	► Athletics Carnival
Mar 31	► Last Day Term 1