



WODONGA
MIDDLE YEARS COLLEGE

Middle Years *my* news



Newsletter No 13

Term 2

May 14, 2018

Principal's Report

Child Safe Standards

Promoting and protecting the safety and interests of children is a top priority for our school and Wodonga Federation of Government Schools (The Federation). Our School, along with the others within The Federation, has a zero tolerance of child abuse.

The Victorian Government has introduced the child safe standards for all schools and organisations working with children up to 18 years old. The standards are a direct response to the recommendations from the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into the Handling of Child Abuse by Religious and other Non-Government organisations.

The standards require schools to have a child safety policy, child safety code of conduct, strategies to prevent child abuse and respond to suspected child abuse, recruitment procedures to minimise or remove risks of child abuse, and strategies to promote child participation and empowerment.

In implementing the standards schools must take into consideration the diversity of all children. The needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with disabilities, and children who are vulnerable must be a particular focus.

Our school is working with The Federation to have a common approach to preventing and responding to child abuse across the government schools in Wodonga. You are able to view our Child Safe Policy and Child Safe Code of Conduct on our website at www.wodonga.vic.edu

Maree Cribbes
Campus Principal

Sorry Day

Campus Ceremonies

WMYC held student led 'Sorry Day' Ceremonies at each campus on Tuesday 1st May. During the campus ceremonies students were asked to picture themselves moving into adulthood as graduates and global citizens, who respect the history of our First Australians and all Indigenous cultures, and act with dignity and inclusion in their personal and professional lives. During the ceremonies students acknowledged the 10th anniversary of the National Apology by Kevin Rudd at Parliament House in 2008, and our KESO's, Tammy Campbell and Rosie Schulz launched the new WGSS House logos. The logos were initially designed by Art Club students and inspired by local Aboriginal totems. After the indoor ceremony all staff, students and special guests went outside to participate in a traditional Aboriginal Smoking Ceremony.

Uncle Dixie Patten spoke about the meaning of the smoking ceremony and asked students to see it as a cleansing gift for the participants and a celebration of getting on together, of walking



on the same land, drinking the same water and caring for each other and the environment. Fire is a symbol of healing in Aboriginal culture and it nullifies evil in the world around us, and makes the future peaceful and harmonious for all who walk this country.

It is a very significant event for our College to participate in our first smoking ceremony. Thank you to our special guests, particularly Dhudhoroa man Uncle Dixie Patten for conducting the smoking ceremony, our student leaders and Koori staff and students who carried the flags and Tammy Campbell, Rosie Schulz, Joce Ziebell and Ash Lawrie for their help and support in getting the program together.



Marg Leddin
WMYC Koori Coordinator



OPEN DAY

Explore Our Schools

Wednesday May 23
From 2pm



Wodonga Federation of Government Schools

Collectively the same, uniquely different

www.wodonga.vic.edu.au

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

Absence Hotline
02 6057 9051

HUON CAMPUS
22-24 Mitchell Street, Wodonga, Victoria 3690
Ph: 02 6057 9000, Fax: 026024 3633

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



College Charges

This week Family Statements were sent out to our WMYC Families. Would you please check your statement to see what charges are still owing to the College. Parents and Guardians must ensure that the \$25.00 local bus travel cost has been paid. If this item is outstanding on your account please pay asap. Your child may not be able to travel on any bus to attend a local sports activity or excursion if this payment is not paid.

Scott Walters
College Business Manager

Student Wellbeing

YouthMAX

YouthMAX is a program designed to give young people practical tools and ideas to help them navigate life.

Wodonga Middle Years College has been offered a place in this program for a number of students across the three year levels.

Bullying, failure, low self-image and poor decision making, are some of the challenges young people face today. With this in mind the students will work through the following workshops over the course of the program.

Stand Up and Be Counted – Stand Up, Lift Up and Pick up to help stop bullying and lift others up.

Developing a Positive Self-image – Aims to build personal confidence and develop daily habits to help maintain a positive view of self.

Developing a Strong Personal Character – Learning what it takes to develop a strong and effective character.

Learning to Fail Forward to Success – Understanding how to look at failure in a positive way to build success

The program has been provided by Wodonga City Councils Youth Service Division and is held in three 3 hour blocks at the CUBE over two terms.

Dr Alfeen Varghese is the Leadership Trainer and Mentor who will facilitate and introduce the students to various specialist trainers from within the community.

Marg Benbow
Student Pathways



Healthy headspace Workshops

Five skills-based interactive workshops that will help build ideas and tools to maintain wellbeing

Join in as you want, pick which topics interest you and turn up on the day

- 9 May: **What's in my head?**
Developing healthy thinking
- 16 May: **Chill Zone**
Sleep and relaxation
- 23 May: **Food, Mood & Movement**
- 30 May: **Containing the Rage**
Managing anger
- 6 June: **Talking about the tough stuff**
Communication skills

Weekly workshop info will be available on our facebook page each week
[facebook.headspaceAlburyWodonga](https://www.facebook.com/headspaceAlburyWodonga)

Who
Young people aged 12-25
Family and friends also welcome

When
Wednesday 9, 16, 23, 30 May, 6 June 2018
5.00-6.00pm

Where
headspace Albury Wodonga
155 High Street Wodonga
In Gateway Health building, near back entrance

More info or register interest
headspaceAW@gatewayhealth.org.au
02 6055 9555

headspace
Albury Wodonga

155 High Street, Wodonga VIC 3690
Tel 02 6055 9555 Fax 02 6024 5792
headspace.org.au

Camps Sports and Excursion Fund

If you hold a Health Care card, Veterans Affairs card or are a Foster Carer and have not yet applied for CSEF, please do so before June 29 (last day of Term 2). Eligible secondary students receive \$225 each year, and Year 7 students also receive a uniform voucher. Forms are available from the campus offices.

Baranduda Town GARAGE SALE

SUNDAY 27TH MAY

8.30am until 1pm

JOIN THE FUN at the Baranduda Scout Hall
Kiewa Valley Hwy Baranduda

Map to all the garage sale sites \$2 each

Find us on Facebook
Search 'Baranduda Town Garage Sale'

Market Stalls
BBQ
Egg & Bacon Rolls
Coffee
Drinks

GARAGE SALE

Site & stall registrations can be completed by calling: 0498 361 927 or emailing sarahallen0@icloud.com by Friday May 18th

Dates to Remember

Dates for 2017/18	Activity
May 15-17	▶ NAPLAN - Years 7 and 9
May 18	▶ GPA Reports issued to students ▶ Cross Country
May 23	▶ Open Day - from 2pm
May 21-25	▶ Education Week
June 29	▶ Semester Reports issued to students ▶ Last Day of Term 2