From the Principal

Dear Staff and School Council members of Wodonga Middle Years College and Wodonga Senior Secondary College,

I am writing to inform you of some school leadership changes over the next six months which will impact on both the Wodonga Middle Years College and Wodonga Senior Secondary College. Principal of Wodonga Middle Years College Mr. Russell Polson has been seconded to the region for the remaining six months of the 2016 school year. During Russell’s absence from the Middle Years College I have asked Mr. Vern Hilditch, Principal of Wodonga Senior Secondary College to undertake the role of Acting Principal at Wodonga Middle Years College, whilst retaining his substantive position at the Senior Secondary College.

Over the next six months this structure will support the continued work which Vern and Russell have been undertaking together around year 7 to 12 curriculum continuity. In order to do this Vern will be supported at each school with a College Assistant Principal who will have operational responsibility across each of the two schools.

I take this opportunity to congratulate Russell on his secondment and thank Vern for taking on the broader role across both schools and school communities.

Bernie Boulton
Acting Area Director
Ovens Murray Area
North Eastern Victoria Region

I have been seconded to a position in Melbourne for the remainder of 2016. In my absence, Vern Hilditch will take on the role of Executive Principal across both Wodonga Middle Years College and Wodonga Senior Secondary College. Vern is a foundation principal of Wodonga Middle Years College and knows the place well. We have worked with Vern and his staff over the years to ensure a close connection and continuity of curriculum and teaching across both colleges. Shortly, there will be an internal expression of interest advertised for the positions of College Assistant Principal at both schools. In the meantime Maree Cribbes will act in this position at WMYC.

I leave Wodonga Middle Years College with great optimism. I believe the work we have done on developing curriculum, teaching and student wellbeing over the past few years has put the college onto a very positive trajectory for the future. The advent of the Federation of Wodonga Government Schools will benefit the current and future students of Wodonga by ensuring a continuum of curriculum and consistency of excellent teaching from the primary years through to VCE and beyond.

WMYC is in good hands. The staff at the college are an outstanding team of committed and capable professionals. Students at the college continue to impress me with their high levels of enthusiasm and achievement. And, as parents, I am sure you will continue to work with the college to ensure the best possible educational outcomes for your children.

I wish you all well for the remainder of 2016 and beyond.

Russell Polson

Sport

State Cross Country
Congratulations to the 7 runners that represented WMYC yesterday at state Cross Country, what an exceptional effort!
Results:
13 boys
Michael Grohmann 17th - 10:06
Rhys Thorpe 25th - 10:16
Lachlan Payne 83rd - 11:47
Bailey Williamson 84th - 11:53
Beau Matthews 85th - 11:55

15 girls:
Crystal Sherred - Brown 9th - 10:50
Jade Regan 49th - 12:23
All students ran fantastic times for the 3km race.

Sign-up For Sport
There are a lot of different sports on this term for all year levels including basketball, table tennis, hockey and netball.
Huon students can sign up at the year level offices and Felltimber students should sign up at the library or with Britney at the Year 8 office.
School Nurse

The Mystery of the Adolescent Brain

Adolescents are sometimes a mystery to many people, even on occasions to their parents. It is a time when three of the great changes of human life occur: the ability to reproduce, the establishment of identity, and the restructuring of the brain to become more efficient, knowledgeable and the establishment of higher learning abilities. What we now know is that this process is still occurring until our mid 20’s, even later in boys! At this time emotions can be in the driver’s seat, hormones are extremely active and impulse control is still under construction. So forward thinking about consequences, planning and controlling anger and emotions are not yet well tuned for many of our young people. So what can we do to help our young people navigate these teenage years?

- Recognise that the adolescent brain is not a smaller version of adults, it is in a major period of transition, and consequently the frontal lobe maybe “closed for construction”. Forethought, impulse control and recognition of consequences may be lacking.
- Parents still need to have a guiding influence in these areas- too much freedom too early does not seem to help many young people. Getting this balance right can often be tricky.
- Do not underestimate your constructive influence. Adolescents need an adult as a positive role model, and although they may battle with us, they need someone who ultimately they may imitate and emulate, and can rely on to have their best interests at heart.

Having a little insight into the wiring of their brain development and that these stages may take some length of time, may assist you to help nurture your teen into the well-rounded young adult they will become. (Adapted from Andrew Fuller)

Linda Elkington
Adolescent Health Nurse

Flying Fruit Fly Circus

Acro/Parkour
This is an exciting class for students aged twelve and over who are interested in acrobatics and tumbling. Learn to flip, spin, twist, tumble, vault and fly through the air. Parkour is a system of acrobatic training that involves strength, speed, agility, stamina and endurance. Term 3 classes commence July 20 from 7pm-9pm and are $30 per class.

For more information call 02 6043 0777 or 0413 668 343 Classes for other ages are available.

Year 9

Gold Coast Camp
A reminder to those who are paying for the Gold Coast camp by instalments that the next one is due August 5.

Arts Connect
There is another Arts Connect trip August 9. Students will tour around all the streets and lanes of Melbourne viewing the famous graffiti/ street art! Students will also have an opportunity to partake in a stencil workshop conducted by local artists. The students that have been on this in the past have loved it! The cost is $10 and spaces are limited to 25 students from each campus.

Transition
Students should receive their Year 10 course selection handbooks this week. Students will be provided with guidance from their A Team teacher in their course selection over the next few weeks. Senior College staff and students will visit WMYC to support this process.

Parents and Students Information Night
Parents and students are invited to attend a Year 10 Course Information Evening, Thursday July 28. There are two sessions:
- 6pm: Huon
- 7pm: Felltimber and FFFC

The evening will provide information about the range of subjects available at Wodonga Senior Secondary College.

If you require more information about the evening, please contact the WSSC office on 02 6043 7500.

Year 9 Teams

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Fathers Day
Bacon & Egg Roll Breaky

You're invited to a Breakfast for Fathers Day.
It’s FREE!!!
8-9am Friday 2nd September
Get your reply slip to the front office ASAP

Huon – Rose Garden
Felltimber – Fruit Fly Courtyard
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Dates to Remember

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Put the date on your calendar!