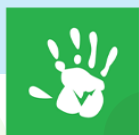


Belvoir Special School Newsletter



38 Gayview Drive, WODONGA, 3690

Dear Parents/Carers/Friends,

As we approach the end of Term 2 many of our students and teachers are beginning to feel weary, tired, worn out and perhaps even zapped of energy. As I look back over the many classroom activities, reports, excursions, and sporting events that have occurred this term it is no wonder we are feeling a little tired. While the teachers and students have remained focused on the work at hand, we all look forward to the fast approaching holidays - a time to rest and recharge our batteries.

Next Friday is the last day of Term 3. Afternoon dismissal will be at 2pm.

As we approach the school holidays, I wish everyone a relaxing and safe break and look forward to seeing everyone at the start of Term 3.

Next Tuesday, 20th of June, sees our next Whole School Assembly to be held in the Agora or Hall (depending on the weather), at 2:15 pm. Parents/Carers and friends of Belvoir are welcome to attend as we come together to celebrate our Term 2 learning, together with the presentation of our Term 2 Respectful Achievement Awards.

SEMESTER 1 REPORTS

Teachers have been busy preparing Mid-Year reports for your child's academic, communication, personal and social achievements. These will be sent home to parents next week. Student Support Group Meetings to discuss your child's progress and Goals for Semester 1 will be conducted early Term 3.

MANAGING YOUR HEALTH IN WINTER

Please be mindful of symptoms of colds flu and COVID. If your child has symptoms and are unwell please keep them home and RAT test to rule out COVID. They can return to school when they are symptom free or provide a medical certificate indicating cause of symptoms such as Asthma or Allergic Rhinitis (Sinus/ Hayfever).

KEEPING EVERYONE SAFE AROUND THE SCHOOL: DRIVER RESPONSIBILITIES

Over the past few weeks, there has been a few concerning behaviours within our School community with parents/ carers during the day, especially at the busy periods in the morning & afternoon.

SPEED LIMIT

The School speed limit is only 5 kilometres per hour at all times. This is walking pace and is important with the number of younger students within the school and our internal roads.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

All parents/carers are reminded to follow the direction of our School Staff with our pedestrian crossing within the School. This is an important role in keeping everyone safe and managing the traffic flow through the School. Remember that when there is a crossing monitor present, please follow their direction at all times and do not cross without their request.

Pennie Moffat
Principal

2023 DATES TO REMEMBER

Whole School Assembly
Tuesday 20th June, 2.15pm

Community Connections & Coffee
Wednesday 21st June
9.15am - 10.15am

Principal's Morning Tea
Wednesday 21st June

School Council Meeting
Wednesday 21st June @ 6.00pm

End of Term 2
Friday 23rd June
2.00pm Finish

Start of Term 3
Monday 10th July

Dyson's Buses

PHONE NUMBERS

BUS 1: 0460 935 609

BUS 2: 0460 875 492

BUS 3: 0460 896 490

BUS 4: 0460 869 012

Belvoir Bus: 0431 756 813



ROOM 13 NEWS

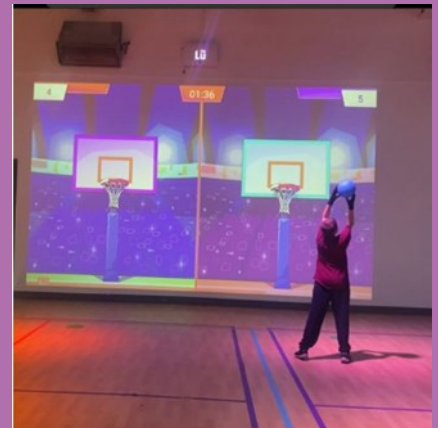
Josh, Michaeli & Phoebe



What a busy term it has been! In Room 13 we have been researching and writing about animals. The class has enjoyed finding facts and creating fact files about animals such as black panthers, giraffes, pangolins and lions.

On Tuesday we did a rap incursion where we learned about rapping and were given a chance to rap ourselves. We felt a bit nervous rapping in front of so many people but did an awesome job!

During PE we have been trying the new projector (Lu) in the hall. We have gotten to play interactive games such as basketball and target shooting.



We have also celebrated multiple birthdays in the last week. We enjoyed a hot lunch of sausage rolls and party pies and also made cupcakes. They all tasted delicious!



**Andrew Dear:**

Leading Teacher- Wellbeing and Inclusion

Contact details: andrew.dear@education.vic.gov.au

Days of work: Monday-Friday

**Grace Churches:**

Mental Health Practitioner/ Wellbeing

Contact details: grace.churches@education.vic.gov.au

Days of work: Monday (Fortnightly), Tuesday-Friday

**Leah Sisley:**

Wellbeing Liaison Officer

Contact details: leah.sisley@education.vic.gov.au

Days of work: Monday-Wednesday

Online support groups/ education videos

- I CAN Network Online Group Mentoring (Autistic-led interest-based groups for ages 8-22, plus groups for Autistic-LGBTIQA+ teens and young adults) . Parents of Gender Diverse Children (for parents/carers)
<https://www.icannetwork.online>
- Trans 101- Neurodiversity <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dM8R2AJ5R1Q>

This video was written, filmed, and edited by trans/gender diverse young people. To support more trans-led

Trans 101, new series on Gender Diversity! In video one we dive into being Trans, Gender Identity, and what it's all about!

Online training opportunities across Pride Month:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/idahobit-online-introduction-to-lgbtqia-inclusion-tickets-304468000987>



ROOM 8 NEWS

Kitty, Bridget, Heidi & Amy

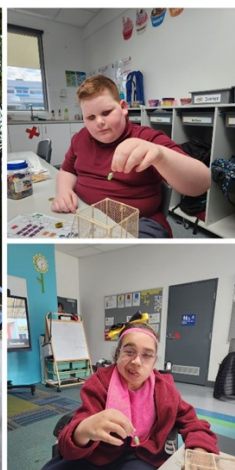
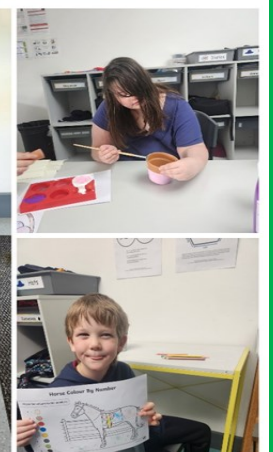
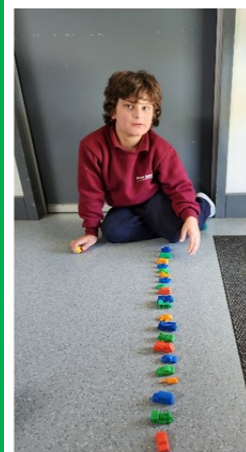


With only one week left of learning in term 2, we congratulate all the students for working hard. Last week, we bid farewell to Kyandra and welcomed Amy to room 8. Amy has joined our class as our new Education Support worker and is settling in well and getting to know students.

In Literacy, students have been learning about information reports. Students had the opportunity to read, write and immerse themselves in digging deep about the life cycles of living things. We have created our own grass heads and planted some broad beans in soil. In writing, we brainstormed different topics that interests us to write an information report. Topics selected by students have included trucks, dogs, and cars.

In Numeracy, students have been exploring data and they had the opportunity to collect data and choose an appropriate way to display this data. Some ways students have explored the display of data have been tally marks and bar graphs.

Students have spent the past Wednesday afternoons having fun at cooking various recipes. We have recently made chocolate chip cookies and fried rice. Students are also learning about 'My Body Rules' and personal space. In respectful relationships, students are learning about personal strengths and how to build strengths through cooperative games. Students have also been busy learning about Aboriginal symbols and thoroughly enjoyed visits from Rosie our Koorie Education officer who provided opportunities for the students to paint their own story on the story poles.





As we are FAST approaching the school holidays the wellbeing team would like to provide some helpful information to assist families over this period.

School Holiday Community Activities (free or low cost)

- **[Holidays @ Hyphen] LEGO Free Play:**
 - Monday the 26th of June.
 - Time: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
 - Location: Hyphen (Wodonga Library)
 - Cost: Free
 - Ages: Recommended for ages 5 to 12
 - Enquiries: 02 6022 9330 or hyphen@wodonga.vic.gov.au
- **[Holidays @ Hyphen] Treehouse Collage Art:**
 - Friday the 30th of June
 - Time: 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
 - Location: Hyphen (Wodonga Library)
 - Cost: Free
 - Ages: Recommended for families with children aged 5 to 12years.
 - Enquiries: 02 6022 9330 or hyphen@wodonga.vic.gov.au
- **[Holidays @ Hyphen] Monday Movie Matinee - Pokemon Detective Pikachu:**
 - Monday the 3rd of July
 - Time: 2:00 PM -
 - Location: Hyphen (Wodonga Library)
 - Cost: Free / Rated PG
- **Out of This World: Australia in the Space Age exhibition and search for the aliens!**
 - Albury Library Museum
 - Cost: Free
 - Ages: Recommended for school aged children/ young adults.
- **Magical magnets-** Create your own magnetic photo frame using scratch art:
 - Thursday the 6th of July
 - Time: 2:30-3:30pm
 - Location: Lavington Library
 - Bookings essential



* For more school holiday activities and events: www.wodonga.vic.gov.au—Wodonga Council

www.alburycity.nsw.gov.au/whats-on - Albury City



Family/Community Support Services: (accessible over school holidays)

- YES Youth and Family Services: 1800 885 355
- Gateway Health Services: 1800 657 573
- Mental Health Assessment/Support AWH (24 hr triage line): 1300 104 211
- Emergency Food Relief: Uniting Care Wodonga- (02) 6048 6900
- Orange Door (family violence support) 24 hr: 1800 271 157
- Betty's Place Women Refuge: (02) 6041 4141
- Junction Support Services: (02) 6043 7400
- Life Line: 13 11 14
- Wodonga Priority Primary Care Centre: (02) 6064 1900

The PPCC provides immediate care for patients with or are experiencing non-life- threatening injuries or illnesses. The PPCC is supported by highly skilled independent doctors and a nursing team, utilising excellent treatment and procedure room facilities.

Open 6 days a week, from 8.30 am to 8 pm (Mon - Fri) & 8.30 am to 4.30 pm Saturday and Public Holidays.



As the weather gets colder we would like to remind all our families that through the wellbeing team you can receive support to access pre loved school uniform items through our current supply onsite.

For support enquiries please contact our wellbeing team via (02) 02 6059 8987 or email leah.sisley@education.vic.gov.au.

*Alternatively, we are also taking donations of school uniform items (good used condition/clean) to add to our supply. If you have such items please donate to reception.



Through Foodbank Victoria, Belvoir has the opportunity to provide free food hampers to ALL our families at ANY time.

For support enquiries please contact our wellbeing team via (02) 02 6059 8987 or email leah.sisley@education.vic.gov.au.



JUNE IS INTERNATIONAL PRIDE MONTH

A whole month to celebrate our LGBTQIA+ identities, history, and communities!

Every June, is an opportunity to celebrate the history of LGBTQIA+ Pride, our communities, our identities, and look towards the future.

Belvoir Special School as part of the Wodonga Federation of Government Schools strive to provide safe, inclusive and supportive school environments which value the human rights of all students and staff. Our member schools are committed to creating a school community where all members are welcomed, accepted and treated equitably and with respect regardless of their backgrounds or personal attributes such as race, language, religious beliefs, gender identity, disability or sexual orientation so that they can participate, achieve and thrive at school.

Wodonga Federation of Government Schools Inclusion and Diversity Policy <http://www.wodonga.vic.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/WFGS-Inclusion-and-Diversity-May-2022.pdf>

Local supports available to our LGBTQIA+ students, staff, families and school community

- Rainbow Door: 1800 729 367 www.rainbowdoor.org.au
- Queer Space Wodonga: 1800 542 847 <https://umfc.com.au/services/child-and-family-services/queerspace>
- Qlife: 1800 184 527 <https://qlife.org.au>
- Head to Health-1800 595 212 <https://www.headtohealth.gov.au>
- Head Space- 1300 332 022 <https://headspace.org.au>
- Reframing Autism- www.reframingautism.org.au
- Amaze- Resources for parents of transgender/gender diverse Autistic children
- Transgender Victoria: <http://tvq.org.au>

Online support groups/ education videos

- I CAN Network Online Group Mentoring (Autistic-led interest-based groups for ages 8-22, plus groups for Autistic-LGBTIQA+ teens and young adults) . Parents of Gender Diverse Children (for parents/carers)
<https://www.icannetwork.online>
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PE NEWS

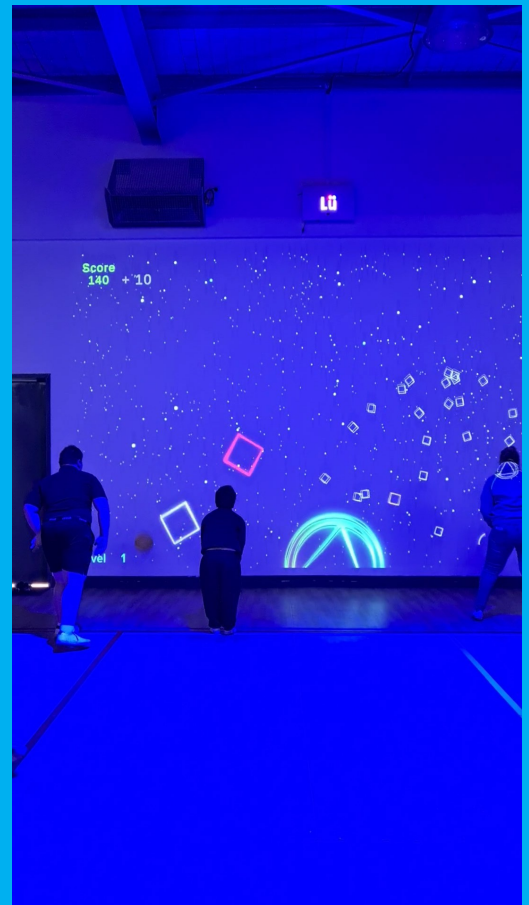
Todd

We are thrilled to share some exciting news and updates from our Physical Education (PE) department. Over the past weeks, our students have actively participated in an enriching swimming program, and we have also unveiled a cutting-edge addition to our school gymnasium.

Belvoir students recently concluded a week-long swimming program in each of our pods. Students had the opportunity to participate, learn, and develop their swimming skills in a safe and supportive environment. The program aimed to promote water safety, build confidence, and encourage physical activity among our students.

Belvoir has recently installed a state-of-the-art, fully immersive projector in our school gymnasium called the Lu. This cutting-edge technology is the second of its kind in Australia and the first in a special development school, making it a significant milestone for our school. The Lu projector offers an interactive experience for our students during their physical education classes. With its advanced visuals and interactive features, the Lu projector creates an immersive environment that enhances learning, engagement, and physical activity. Our students have thoroughly enjoyed exploring this new technology, and it has added a new dimension to their PE lessons.

Please note: As we transition into the winter months, we kindly remind all students to pack spare socks for their outdoor activities. Staying warm and comfortable is essential during the colder weather, and having spare socks ensures everyone can fully participate in our outdoor PE sessions.



The Rotary Club of Albury proudly presents...

CIRCUS QUIRKUS 2023

Relaxed Performances for children and young adults who might require a more flexible environment when going to the theatre. Enjoy the "live performance" experience with a casual attitude to audience noise and movement in an inclusive, accessible, safe environment where you feel welcomed and free to be yourself without restriction or judgement.

A one-hour show, suitable for all ages.

All tickets are COMPLIMENTARY and generously sponsored by businesses from the Albury/Wodonga regions.

DATE: SUNDAY, 30 JULY 2023

SHOW TIMES: 11.00AM, 2.00PM & 4.00PM

VENUE: COMMERCIAL CLUB ALBURY



Jonas Jost: Show Host & Magician



Luke Forrester: Mouth Balancer

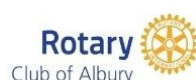


James Bustar: Comedy Juggler

**TO BOOK, PLEASE EMAIL OR TEXT YOUR
TICKET ORDER AND CONTACT DETAILS TO...**

✉ MEREDITHNEWMAN@SHOWINTENT.COM.AU 📞 0404-367-782

- Bulk and individual ticket orders from schools, organisations, families and carers are welcome, including tentative bookings.
- All tickets are complimentary - One ticket per person is required when booking tickets.
- Bookings for multiple dates and showtimes are welcome.
- Tickets distributed on a first-come first-served basis. Available until booked out.



Stay well this winter

Symptoms of influenza (flu) can hit very quickly and may last several weeks. Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and others from getting the flu.

[Annual influenza vaccination](#) is recommended from mid-April each year and is free under the [National Immunisation Program](#) for those at higher risk of complications from the flu.

Keeping our school community well

Parents, carers and students are encouraged to practice prevention measures, including:

- washing and sanitising hands regularly
- avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- covering nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing

staying home if unwell and consulting a general practitioner (GP) or [Nurse-on-call](#) as required

[staying up to date with flu and COVID-19 vaccinations.](#)

Flu vaccinations

Flu vaccinations can be booked through GPs and pharmacies, many of which can also provide COVID-19 vaccinations. Flu vaccination is recommended for everyone aged 6 months and over.

Some people are more at risk of complications from flu and are eligible for free vaccination as part of the [National Immunisation Program](#).

COVID-19 booster

The 2023 COVID-19 booster dose is available for everyone aged 18 and above.

Getting your booster dose remains the best way to prevent severe illness or hospitalisation, especially in people aged over 65 and those at higher risk of severe illness.

You can have your booster dose 6 months after your last dose or COVID infection.

Children aged between 5 and 17 years who are at risk of severe illness can also receive a 2023 booster dose.

You can get your next dose at your local pharmacy or GP. To find one near you, refer to the [vaccine clinic finder](#).

Find out more

For more information about preventing flu, and immunisation, refer to:

[Better Health Channel influenza flu immunisation fact sheet](#)

[Getting vaccinated against influenza.](#)



Belvoir Community Connections & Coffee.

What: an opportunity to catch up with other members of the Belvoir School Community in an informal, relaxed, inclusive setting.

Come, chat, meet people & enjoy a warm drink

Who: any parent or carer with a student currently enrolled at Belvoir.

Why: To re-establish connections within our community. Make new friends. Get out and about!

When: Wednesday 21st June 2023 9:15am – 10:15am

Where: Life Skills House @ Belvoir Special School.

RSVP: leah.sisley@education.edu.vic.au

Parental Concerns or Issues

Belvoir Special School welcomes feedback, both positive and negative, and is committed to continuous improvement. We value open communication with our families and are committed to understanding complaints and addressing them appropriately. We recognise that the complaints process provides an important opportunity for reflection and learning.

We encourage and value open positive relationships with our school community and understand that it is in the best interests of students for there to be a trusting relationship between families and our school.

Parents are able to contact the school through the student diaries which are sent home with students each day, or they can ring the school to speak with classroom staff before or after school most days.

If the matter is urgent parents are able to email belvoir.wodonga.sds@education.vic.gov.au or call the school on 0260 598 987 and speak with or organise a time to discuss the issue with either Emma, myself or relevant staff.

Our full complaints and other policies can be found at:

[Policies and Forms - Belvoir Special Development School \(belvoirss.vic.edu.au\)](https://belvoirss.vic.edu.au)



EARLY HELP PROGRAM

How do I find out more?

For a referral to Early Help;

- Speak to your school, kinder, childcare, or maternal-child health.
- You can self-refer by contacting the Early Help team at Junction 0260437400.

“Let's work
together to
empower your
family”

155 Melbourne Rd
Wodonga VIC

0260 437 400

<https://junction.org.au>

talk to **EARLY
HELP** now



EARLY HELP PROGRAM

The aim of the program is to upskill families, providing tools and strategies to empower families based on their goals, needs and wishes. We provide parents with possible tools and strategies to help with common family struggles to build on their knowledge, skills and confidence.

This may include:

- Developing and maintaining routines
- Emotional regulation
- Interactions between family members
- Activities that promote healthy relationships
- Boundary setting in a variety of environments
- Supporting children to meet developmental milestones
- Connect you to the community and everything it has to offer

Early Help is a short-term, evidence-based intervention for children aged 0-12 years and their families. Early Help cares for all children's and families' identity and culture. We focus on the strengths of the families that we are working alongside.

“We can support
you to navigate
hard stuff in life
and build strong
connections in
your family”

Early Help is a voluntary program. Involvement could include individual support, group work or counselling depending on what the family want. We can support to link you in with longer-term services and navigate referrals with you if required.





TACKLING CONSENT



GREAT PLAYER, BETTER PERSON



WODONGA BULLDOGS CLUBROOMS

JULY 3 : 5.30PM – 7PM

FREE EVENT

Alex Rance teams up with CAV staff and Vic Police to chat about affirmative consent & respectful relationships.

For more info & bookings go to:

<https://events.humanitix.com/tackling-consent-wodonga>



**CENTRE
AGAINST
VIOLENCE**



NDIS REQUESTS FOR ONSITE OBSERVATION

Over the past few weeks Belvoir has received a number of requests for Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Behaviour Practitioners and Physiotherapists into the school to work with individual students. Currently, Belvoir has 189 students enrolled in the school and most of these students are NDIS participants accessing one, or more, therapy services. As a result of this, Belvoir is not able to accommodate all requests for space for the various therapists to work in. Parents are reminded that all NDIS therapists must first be approved from the school before they undertake any work with students on school grounds.

This is Department of Education policy and includes therapists that are visiting the school to observe students in class for the first time. A link to the Departments NDIS Funded Therapy in Schools Policy is below and this will give all information to parents regarding the use of NDIS funded therapists during the school day.

[NDIS Funded Therapy in Schools: Policy | education.vic.gov.au.](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/ndis-funding/ndis-funding-policy/ndis-funding-policy.aspx)

This guide is also available in hard copy from the office. Please contact Andrea or Viv if you would like a copy sent home.

The school may allow therapists on school grounds on a needs basis for the purpose of observing students, and to meet with staff for the purpose of completing assessments. Close consideration is given in these circumstances as it can be disruptive to the other students in the class and therefore will be negotiated between Belvoir staff, including the internal Allied Health team and NDIS therapists. Belvoir may allow some therapists to work with students at school, during school hours, and this decision will be made on a case by case basis. Several factors will be taken into consideration when these decisions are made including parent work commitments, difficulties relating to transport, distance families live from Wodonga, availability of an appropriate space within the school and the ability for school staff to supervise therapists on site.

Many other schools have a blanket ban on NDIS therapists coming into their school. Belvoir does not intend to do this at this point in time. We hope that parents will understand this and work with us to achieve an appropriate outcome for each individual student. We also highly encourage you to have your NDIS therapists contact the internal Allied Health team at Belvoir, when needed. If you would like further clarification regarding this or you're requiring an NDIS request form please don't hesitate to email

Belvoir.wodonga.sds@education.vic.gov.au



Wonder Recycling Rewards Program

Our school has registered again to take part in the 'Wonder Rewards Recycling Program'.

This means you can start saving your empty bread bags, including: Bread roll bags, wrap bags, pita bread bags, etc.

Boxes have arrived, so when you have a full bag of bags please send them into school and pop them in the pink box located in the front office.

IMPORTANT: Please ensure all bags are **clean**, by emptying out the breadcrumbs and ensuring there is no residue or food left in them.

Bread tags also need to be removed and can be recycled at home (if cardboard).

Plastic bread tags can be saved and brought into the school to be passed onto the organisation 'Aussie Bread Tags for Wheelchairs'. They have collection points all across the country, including our most local in Tangambalanga and Beechworth. For more information, click the link-

<https://ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au/>

Don't forget to ask your family, friends and neighbours to collect bread bags and plastic bread tags for you as well!

You could even ask your local organisations and sporting clubs.

Hope we collect as many bread bags as we possibly can to fill all our boxes and earn the maximum points to redeem sports equipment for our school. Thank you for helping our environment and the world we live in. Happy recycling everyone!!!

For more information, go to-

www.wonder.com.au/wonder-recycling-rewards

Your support is much appreciated.

Jo Fraser



Download our school app for free!



- Instant news notifications
- Online absentee forms
- Events and reminders



Download instructions:

1. Go to the App Store and download "School Stream" to your phone.

2. Open the app and type the school's name into the search bar to load the school's profile.

3. Make sure you agree to Push Notifications when prompted.



OUR NEXT SESSION IS: 1st July 2023

What do you do with broken household items?
You can fix them at the Repair Café!

Our experienced repairers will help you repair them –
for free!

**First Saturday of the month,
10am to 1pm
Senior Citizens Centre,
15 Havelock Street, Wodonga**

Proudly supported by

HalveWaste
reduce • reuse • recycle
www.halvewaste.com.au

For more information follow our Facebook page or visit ecoportal.net.au