Forthcoming Events

**February**
- Sunday 8th: ‘Fun in the Fields’ - POSTPONED
- Monday 9th: School Council
- Tuesday 10th: Grade 4 & 5 Class Parent Information Evening at 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday 10th: Year 12 Parent Information Evening at 8:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 11th: Parents’ Club Meeting
- Thursday 12th: Interhouse Swimming Sports
- Monday 16th: Leaping Loonies
- Monday 16th → Friday 20th: Year 8 Portland Camp
- Friday 20th: Year 11 Work Experience
- Tuesday 17th → Friday 20th: Year 7 Ballarat Camp
- Monday 23rd: School Council – close of nominations
- Tuesday 24th: Grade Prep Parent Information Evening at 8:00 pm
- Thursday 26th: Shake Rattle and READ at 10:00 a.m.
- Friday 27th: Interschool swimming sports

**March**
- Monday 2nd: Year 7 Parent Teacher Interviews and BBQ – 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday 3rd: Year 12 Parent Teacher Interviews – 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday 4th: Parents’ Club Annual General Meeting
- Monday 9th: Labour Day Holiday
- Tuesday 10th: Physical Resources Mtg
- Thursday 12th: Shake Rattle and READ at 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday 17th: Secondary Summer Sports
- Thursday 19th: School Fete
- Friday 20th: Primary Summer Sports - Donald
- Thursday 26th: School Council
- Thursday 26th: Shake Rattle & Read at 10:00am
- Friday 27th: Presentation Ball

**April**
- Thursday 2nd: Senior Citizens Morning Tea & Easter Hat Parade
- Friday 3rd: Last day of school for Term 1 - 2.30 finish

**Welcome to the 2009 school year.**
Summer has really ‘kicked in’ and air-conditioning units turned to the maximum setting allowing staff and students to continue to function in relative comfort.

It is great to see all students in full school uniform, bright and happy after an enjoyable break during December and January. In fact I have been most impressed with our students readiness to commence study in a positive and cheerful frame of mind.

Our seventeen little preps commenced their schooling yesterday despite some apprehensions and tears from a few ‘grieving’ parents.

We welcome new Prep parents: Bissy Ajithkumar & Arjith Basudevan, Kate & Grant Lyons, Kim & Colin McInerney and John Wilson & Danine Brody.

**Wonderful News!!**
Sam Owa is doing fine and well after a near drowning at the Birchip Pool last evening. A wonderful response team must be thanked for their quick action and amazing skills with CPR and revival techniques. Sam was flown to the Royal Children’s Hospital where he is recovering from his ordeal. I spoke to Dr Daniel and to Sam this morning and wished them both well from the school community. Dr Daniel was very grateful to the Birchip community for their quick action, care and concern. We hope to welcome Sam back with us very soon.
We also welcome many other new students in other year levels, including Jake Potter, Ashlee Donnan, Ashlea Potter, Cooper Benfield, Laura Phelan, Aaron Rig gall, Rowley Walsh, Sharyn Weston, Shane King, Jessica Bidstrup, Gus Walsh and Caitlin Bidstrup.

Welcome also to new parents Kerry Potter, Denita and Andrew Donnan, Michelle Merolli and Peter Benfield, Shane and Debbie Riggall, Meg and Mike Walsh, Terrie & Shane King and Wendy & Andrew Bidstrup and their families to our school.

We look forward to your involvement in your child’s education and in other aspects of the school.

I trust you all enjoy your stay and educational experiences at Birchip P-12 School.

To ensure staff were up to date with the latest educational and welfare practices, they engaged in numerous learning activities for three days before the commencement of the school year. Staff listened and learned from a variety of speakers on a range of challenging topics.

On Wednesday, Cathy Bales instructed staff on how to manage students experiencing anaphylaxis and how to administer the epi-pen (a device containing adrenalin that combats anaphylactic episodes).

On Thursday a regional team of speech pathologists instructed staff on how to help and manage children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Friday was devoted to fostering a thinking learning environment in our classes. James Anderson, a Habit of Mind coach from Melbourne, challenged teachers to ensure that their lessons are not just about content but about developing a range of thinking strategies that will allow students to cope with the problems that life sometimes presents. Staff came to terms with not automatically giving students the answers to problems but encouraging them to seek the answer themselves and to reflect on their thinking.

The day was invaluable as teachers recognised that teaching students to think and to think in different, more creative ways is paramount.

### 2009 Prep Class

Back: Brodie Andison, Blair Gould, Abigail Flowers, Tess Lee, Nicholas Rickard, Phoebe Paley, Cassie Turner

Centre: Cormacc Wilson, Peter Mallia, Patrick Hogan, Mrs Merrilyn Kelly, Megan McInerney, Hayley McInerney

Front: William Botheras, Daniel Braine, Talei Brooks, Ponnu Ajith, Levi Andison
New Teaching Staff

The school is very fortunate to have attracted three young teachers to its staff, all of whom have lots of experience and talents to offer our students.

New Staff from left: Sacha Meehan, Gavin McRae & Stacey Hicks

Gavin McRae is a welcome addition to the Mathematics and Science faculties. Hailing originally from Swan Hill, Gavin studied Mechatronics at The University of Melbourne and went on to work as a mechanical engineer. Gavin is also interested in IT and at one stage worked as a software engineer. Gavin has tutored Mathematics and Physics at university and also privately and worked for the National Health System in England for six months.

Apart from having a real passion for Mathematics and Physics, Gavin is interested in sport. He has played football and umpired for twelve years. He was a senior VFL boundary umpire and a central umpire for the Central Murray League. Gavin has a wide range of sporting interests and other than football has played basketball, tennis, mixed netball and he loves to swim.

Stacey Hicks has come to Birchip with five years of experience in teaching; English, cinema studies, mathematics extensions, health and IT at Goulburn Valley Grammar School in Shepparton. Stacey was schooled in Manangatang P-12 College and Swan Hill Secondary College before moving on to study at La Trobe University in Bendigo. Stacey enjoys keeping fit by playing netball, running and taking a walk along the beach (hopefully she also has a vivid imagination). She also enjoys reading and travelling. Stacey’s real fascination is learning about old time Australia. She loves hearing and reading about Australia when times were tough and marvels at what people went through to eke out a living and just survive. She also loves to collect old Australian classic films.

Sacha Meehan has had a wealth of different experiences to bring to her teaching of Science and Year 12 Biology. After completing her VCE, she tried university but decided to become a cook and baker in the city. Sacha worked in this trade for six years while all the time using her savings to travel. She has been to Europe twice and travelled extensively throughout South East Asia for ten years. After working in the bakery, Sacha decided to return to university, however at the same time she worked in logistics for Parmalat in Rowville, managing the load planning of scores of trucks. Sacha is obviously a very organised person. AFL football is Sacha’s main passion and she declares herself to be a tragic Sydney Swans supporter. And she does love to walk her Labrador in the evenings.

This year, the school has employed three part time Education Support Staff to assist in our students’ learning. The school welcomes; Jacinta Connelly, Marcia Mallia and Emma Bennett to these positions. Karoline Tellbach has returned from study leave to take up the position of Science Laboratory Manager.

We also welcome Miss Izumi Ohuchi, our Japanese Assistant for Term 1. Izumi will work with Ms Nakamura and Mr Knights in teaching Japanese.

While we try to find respite from the summer blast of heat in the Mallee, Helen Digby is combating record breaking cold weather on her long service leave in England and France.

We trust these new additions to our school community enjoy and gain satisfaction from their experiences at Birchip P-12 School.
Swimming practice last Tuesday 3rd February 2009

Students and staff enjoyed swimming practice with students trying out for the freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and butterfly events.

Ronald Turner, Aaron Riggall, Laura Phelan and Jordan Galway enjoy the water on Tuesday.

The Birchip P-12 School House Swimming Sports will take place on Thursday 12th February.

Students from years 5 - 12 will be competing.

Competitors were selected as a result of the swimming practice held last Tuesday.

Age groups will be Gr 5&6, 12-14 Years, 15-16 Years, 17-20 Years.

Events start at 11:30 a.m. and there will also be a BBQ available for lunch.

We will work the first three periods before moving down to the pool.

Parents and friends are very welcome to attend and cheer our students on in their events.

NOTE:
The determination of age group has changed this year (as directed by the VSSSA). Whatever age a child turns this year, that is the age group they are in. For example if a students turns 15 this year, they are in the 15 yrs age group. Due to small numbers we have combine age groups for our Hose Swimming Sports, however all individual age groups will compete in the Interschool Swimming on the 27th February.

The Interschool Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 27th February 2009.

Andrew Sayle
Sports Co-ordinator

Year 10 English - 'Survival'

Miss Stacey Hicks and her Year 10 ‘Survival’ English class will be studying the novel ‘Of Mice and Men’ by John Steinbeck. There should be plenty of second hand copies within the school community. If you are prepared to sell this book, could you give them to Miss Hicks, with your name and the amount you want for the books attached.

School Baby

Congratulations to Mr Cameron Whelan and his wife Nadine who welcomed their second son Harrison John during the holidays on New Years Eve. Harrison has a bigger brother Declan.

Mikaela – Buloke Young Citizen of the Year

Congratulations to Mikaela Christie on being selected as the Buloke Shire Council’s 2009 Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year. Mikaela has an extensive list of achievements. The school, Birchip and the wider Buloke Shire are indeed fortunate to have young people of the calibre of Mikaela working diligently to ensure excellent outcomes for everyone within our community. Congratulations Mikaela – the school is incredibly proud of your achievements.
Various projects were completed over the holidays.

Thanks to David and Mandy Valentine for their efforts to ensure our school was looking spick and span and ready for the new school year. Following the huge dust storm the week before this is a huge effort.

We now have a new Literacy Intervention Centre – just to the left as you enter the library. These two new rooms will be used by Miss Howard to deliver Reading Recovery and Bridges and Mrs Donnellon, our Early Years literacy and numeracy tutor. Dave Valentine has ensured these spaces are newly painted with shelving ready for the new school. These new areas have allowed four spaces in the administration wing to be used as small meeting rooms and offices for visiting counsellors, speech pathologists, social workers, psychologists and other professionals.

Bobby Liston and his band of MEEP (Mallee Environmental Employment Program) workers have completed various outdoor jobs in searing heat to ensure our grounds are looking better. They will continue to provide valuable labour to complete further jobs at the school in the following weeks.

Primary teachers moved furniture and teaching resources into their new homes during the holidays ready for school.

All teachers and students were able to ‘hit the ground running’ on day one, thanks to the efforts of many staff who ensured timetables and various other student organizational activities were completed.

Well done to all and thank you.

No school on Wednesdays for Prep Students

Prep students will not be required to attend school on a Wednesday for Term 1.

Prep Library Bags for 2008

As in previous years, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development has distributed to schools Prep library bags to make children feel welcome and to provide helpful information to parents.

The bags contain a range of items such as ‘Go for your life’ water bottles and the Victorian Primary School Nursing Program questionnaire for parents.

Art Smocks & Library Bags

All P-6 students require an art smock and library bag as soon as possible.

Please name all clothing, books and other belongings

Please check that all your sons and daughters belongings are clearly labelled. We frequently find books, jumpers and other items (primary and secondary) without any identifying marks or name on them.

Dress-ups

If any parent within the school community has items suitable for a dress-up box, could you please deliver items to Mrs Merrilyn Kelly.

Private Property

Private property brought to school by students is not insured and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not accept any responsibility for any loss or damage. Personal property is often brought to school by students, staff and visitors. This can include mobile phones, iPods, calculators, toys, sporting equipment and cars parked on school premises. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not hold insurance for personal property brought to schools and it will generally not pay for any loss or damage to such property.

Bell Times

The school returns to a six period day this year with the following bell times. We work 6 x 50 minutes periods each day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:55 a.m.</td>
<td>Warning Bell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Home Group Assembly #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09:55 a.m.</td>
<td>Period 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>RECESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:05 a.m.</td>
<td>Period 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:55 a.m.</td>
<td>Period 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45 p.m.</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Yard Duty Bell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01:40 p.m.</td>
<td>Home Group Assembly #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Period 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02:35 p.m.</td>
<td>Period 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03:25 p.m.</td>
<td>END OF SCHOOL DAY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCHOOL UNIFORM

It is great to see all students wearing our school uniform with pride. The P-12 school uniform is listed and should be worn by ALL students from Prep to Year 12. Please assist us by ensuring your son and daughter leaves home with the appropriate school uniform items.

The School Council prescribes the P - 12 uniform so parents can provide durable school clothing at a minimum cost.

It is compulsory for all students from year prep to year 12 to wear the appropriate school uniform as stated in this policy.

P - 6 Summer Uniform

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys:</th>
<th>Girls:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White polo shirt</td>
<td>Summer uniform (brown check) to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey trousers or grey</td>
<td>specified style (collar, front</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shorts or dark green</td>
<td>zip, Princess line, side pocket,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trackpants</td>
<td>sleeveless).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dark green windcheater</td>
<td>White polo shirt &amp; tailored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or fleecy top.</td>
<td>green shorts or dark green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or white socks</td>
<td>trackpants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black shoes or brown</td>
<td>Dark green windcheater or fleecy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sandals</td>
<td>top.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6 students may wear</td>
<td>Plain white socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sneakers</td>
<td>Brown or black shoes or sandals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*A hat is compulsory. Students are required to wear a hat outside during terms 1 & 4.

7 - 12 Summer Uniform

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys:</th>
<th>Girls:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Navy jumper with collar</td>
<td>Navy jumper with collar and school logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and school logo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White polo shirt</td>
<td>Summer uniform (brown check) to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey tailored trousers</td>
<td>specified style (collar, front</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or grey tailored shorts</td>
<td>zip, Princess line, side pocket,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black socks</td>
<td>sleeveless).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black shoes or brown</td>
<td>White polo shirt &amp; tailored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sandals</td>
<td>green shorts or dark green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P6 students may wear</td>
<td>trackpants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sneakers</td>
<td>Dark green windcheater or fleecy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*A hat is recommended. Students are required to wear a hat outside during terms 1 & 4.

School Start Bonus - Prep and Year 7

The School Start Bonus assists parents/guardians of Prep and Year 7 students to meet the start-up costs associated with commencing Primary and Secondary schooling. All parents of enrolled Prep and Year 7 students were sent vouchers in December 2008. Please ensure you have redeemed your voucher for $300 at an Australian Post Office. The School Start Bonus is separate from, and additional to, the Education Maintenance Allowance.

School Bus Information

Updated bus information for 2009 has been provided to all bus families. Thank you to bus co-ordinator Mrs Merrilyn Kelly for her efforts here. If student are not travelling home on the bus, parents are asked to contact the school office and cross their child off the bus roll.
Student Leaders

Elections for House Captains, School Captains, Senior SRC and Junior SRC were conducted during the week.

Congratulations to our student leaders:

**School Captains:**
Shota Nakamura & Elsie Coffey

**Young House:**
Captains: Alex Noonan & Maddelyne Foott
Vice-captains: Aaron Valentine & Alicia Emonson

**Fraser House:**
Captains: Ruben Vesikuru & Laura Bales
Vice-captains: Tyler Lehmann & Virginia Glen

**Senior SRC**
Year 7: Jordan Galway, Hayley Hogan, Chelsi Kemp, Sharyn Weston
Year 8: Jessamy Bennett, Nick Burke, Shannon Southall, Harry Christie
Year 9: Emily Smith, Ethan Cooper, Shane Barker
Year 10: Branden Atkinson, Mikaela Christie, Karleigh Weir
Year 11: Darcie Cooper, Simon White, Cassie Hogan
Year 12: Jamie Lovett, Eugene Liston, Laura Bales

**Junior SRC**
Elections were being held late this afternoon. Students will be notified on the outcome as soon as possible.

**Bus Captains**
Jil Jil Winston - Alicia Emonson, Daniel Watts, Megan McKinnon & Shane King
Beulah - Simon Bardell, Megan Naylor, Joshua Bennett & Amy Bennett
Watchem Wilkur - Maddelyne Foott, Ian Fraser, Nathan Witherow & Emily Totzenberger
Curyo - Tyler Lehmann, Emma Forrester, Marnie Lehmann & Royce Bennett

Our Induction Ceremony will be held on Tuesday 10th February 2009 at our School Assembly at 9:00 a.m. Buloke Shire Council’s, Cr Gail Sharp will attend and invest our students with their badges of office. Parents and friends are very welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Book Lists**
Any student still requiring books for their subjects please see Mrs Eileen Smith for Assistance. Any student or parent experiencing difficulties with their orders should also contact Mrs Eileen Smith at the school office.

‘Brain Food’ and Water

Primary classes encourage ‘Brain food’. Brain food is non-messy healthy food which may be eaten in class between 9:00 a.m. and recess or according to individual class rules. ‘Brain Food’ may be placed on tables and nibbled during class. It does not replace the recess snack. Recess snacks, (preferably healthy), should still be packed. Parents are also urged to pack recess snacks on days when lunch is ordered.

Unfortunately, many students often miss breakfast. This may be due to a variety of factors such as tiredness or lateness. Lack of nourishment, particularly in the morning, has been proven to have significant adverse effects on physical, emotional and intellectual performance. We have noticed significant improvement in concentration skills when students nibble on healthy food. For students who eat breakfast, it is still 3 or 4 hours before they eat again at recess time, and if they don’t have recess, they often wait 5 or 6 hours until lunch.

Secondary students are strongly encouraged to bring a snack, (preferably healthy), for recess.

“Brain food” must comply with rules:
- It must be natural unprocessed food, such as celery, carrot, small pieces of fruit (dried fruit is acceptable), cheese etc. Biscuits, chips, twisties etc are not permitted. It must be healthy food and should be in small bite sized pieces when the lid is opened.
- It must be placed in a small plastic container with a lid.
- It must not be messy. Common sense dictates that sloppy foods at work stations will cause problems. The food should not require hand washing afterwards.
- “Brain food” is not compulsory, but for those who wish to participate, the opportunity is there.
- “Brain food” is for each individual child and may not be shared.

Students may have a bottle of water on their desks and drink whenever required. If classroom rules permit bringing water which has been partly or wholly frozen, please attach a small towel and plastic bag or protective cover around it so that it doesn’t make a mess. Cordial or juice is not permitted.

Please sign the Late Book

If students are late to school, we ask them to sign the late book which can be found in the school office. In case of emergencies we need to ensure that all students are accounted for.
DO YOU HAVE A HEALTH CARE CARD?

If So You Are Entitled To The Education Maintenance Allowance

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (28 January 2009 which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (13 July 2009).

The EMA application **must be submitted to the school by 27 February 2009** for the first instalment and 7 August 2009 for the second instalment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of $221 for primary students and $443 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school.

Students turning 16 years in 2009 will be paid on a pro rata basis.

**New EMA payment option for 2009**

Commencing in 2009, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will introduce a new payment option for the payment of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) to parents.

Under the new system, eligible parents will have the option to receive the 50% ‘parent portion’ of the EMA payment directly into the parent’s nominated bank account, or as a cheque payment.

The 2009 EMA application form includes a section for you to nominate whether you would like your EMA payment to be made to your own bank account or to receive your payment as a cheque (which is the current arrangement). The banking details required will include the BSB code and the account number.

### Payment Amounts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instalment</th>
<th>Portion</th>
<th>Primary school*</th>
<th>Secondary school*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>$ 77.35</td>
<td>$ 155.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>$ 77.35</td>
<td>$ 155.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>$ 33.15</td>
<td>$ 66.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>$ 33.15</td>
<td>$ 66.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$ 221.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 443.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2009 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after 27 February 2009 and prior to or on 7 August 2009, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

**EMA application forms are available from the school office.**

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**VET in Schools**

Our VET program commenced on Wednesday 4th February 2009 for all VET students. This year the VET bus is a weekly user pay system. The VET bus is also available to be used by community members wishing to travel to Horsham from Birchip on Wednesday. The bus leaves at

Costs: One way - $14.90 ($7.40 concession) and Return - $29.80 ($14.80 concession)
Primary Physical Education Classes for 2009

**DRINK BOTTLES:** Similarly to last year, all students will be expected to bring a drink bottle with them to PE, preferably filled with water. PE involves regular intervals of physical activity and students perspire and develop thirst quickly. With drink bottles on hand, students can rehydrate often during the session and this also minimises time lost due to students accessing school drink taps. Generally most students were very good at remembering their drink bottle. However, I do encourage parents to teach their children about the importance of getting into the habit of bringing a drink bottle to school EVERY DAY.

**FOOTWEAR:** Runners are preferable for PE but they are by no means compulsory. Because PE is active and requires moving in various directions and often at varying speeds, feet need to be protected and kept secure as much as possible. Shoes that easily come off such as slip-on shoes provide least protection and inhibit movement. Typical school shoes and secure sandals are ok.

**PE classes for SEMESTER 1:**
- **Monday:** Grade Prep/1, Grade 1/2, Grade 3
- **Tuesday:** Grade 4/5
- **Thursday:** Grade 5/6 (with Mr Welton)

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**Grade Five and Six Homework Questions**

due Friday 13th February 2009

1. What two colours would you combine to get the colour purple?
2. Who composed the opera Madame Butterfly?
3. Is the bird called the great auk living or extinct?
4. What kind of creatures are Painted Ladies, Red Admirals and Camberwell Beauties?
5. In Rudyard Kipling’s Jungle Book, what kind of creature was the character Shere Khan?
6. How many strings does a violoncello have?
7. What is a roman a clef?
8. In boxing which is lighter – a middle weight or a welter weight?
9. Name the republic of Ireland’s largest county.
10. A Suffolk Punch is a breed of which animal?

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‘Fun in the Fields’

Due to the excessive heat, many stall holder have withdrawn and potential runners reluctant to participate. The activity planned for Sunday 8th February 2009 has therefore been postponed to a time when the weather is more reasonable. Thank you to many people who offered their services to assist with organization. We will still need you support, just at a later date. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

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**Shake Rattle & READ**

**What:** Read Aloud and Rhyme-time demonstration and activities

**Where:** Birchip Community Library

**When:** Thursday 26 February at 10:00 am

**Why:** Add to your existing storytelling skills

* learn new rhymes & chants
* stimulate brain development
* borrow books from the library
* socialize with other babies and parents

**If you know someone with a young child aged 0 - 5 in the area please invite them to come along with their child.**

For more information contact
Nikki Coatsworth at 5492 2230

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**Dates for Shake Rattle and READ for Semester 1**

- **Term 2**
  - 23 April
  - 7 May
  - 21 May
2008 Year 12 students Placements

Congratulations to our Year 12 Class of 2008. Many gained excellent further education placement offers.

James Barker  
Engineering  
La Trobe University, Bendigo

Gareth Cozens  
Engineering Apprenticeship  
Mallee Steel, Birchip

James Fletcher  
Employment  
Gold Coast

Lachlan Foott  
Agriculture  
Birchip

Jak Goldsmith  
Physical Education  
University of Ballarat

Debra Hughes  
Carer  
Nullawil

Roseanne King  
Nursing  
La Trobe University, Bendigo

Nicholas Milne  
Commerce  
Flinders University, Adelaide

Mitchell Moloney  
Design  
RMIT University

Rachel Pellegrino  
Agriculture  
Longerenong

Steven Reid  
Science  
The University of Melbourne

Arren Smith  
Education  
La Trobe University, Bendigo

Brianna Smith  
Chef Apprenticeship  
‘Rockpool Bar & Grill’, Melbourne

Kirby Smith  
Medical Administration Traineeship  
Echuca

Dean Totzenberger  
Law  
Victoria University

Ellie Trollope  
Education  
University ofBallarat

David Coghill  
Civil Engineering/Management  
Swinburne University

Year 7 Camp – Ballarat and Year 8 Camp to Portland

Year 7 students have been given their Ballarat camp forms. Could these be returned to Miss Johnson ASAP. Year 8 students have been given their Portland camp forms. Could these be returned to Mr Whelan ASAP.

School Council Elections

The Birchip P-12 School consists of 15 members.
- 8 parent representatives
- 5 DEECD representatives including the principal
- 2 community representatives including 1 Parents’ Club representative

Each year 4 parent representatives term’s expire.
These include:  James Boyle, Louise Lee, David Smith, Wendy Watts

Each year 2 DEECD representatives term’s expire.
These include:  Andrew Sayle, Russell Christie

Continuing representatives not due for re-election are:
Angela Liston, Kevin Reid, Margaret O’Keefe, Leigh Hogan, Eileen Smith, Janine Welton

This year we require nominations for:
- 4 vacant parent representatives
- 2 vacant DEECD representatives

Please see Schedule 4 attached to the newsletter concerning the notice to call an election following appropriate guidelines. Nomination forms (Schedule 5A) can be obtained from John Richmond at the school.

**Annual Birchip Tennis & Cricket QUIZ NIGHT**
Friday 13th February 2009
commencing at 7:00 p.m.
Birchip Community Leisure Centre
Tables of six
Names to Simone Christie, Fiona Best or Andrew Sayle
(Note change of date due to a very busy February & March in Birchip)

**2009 Charlton Film Festival**
Charlton Arts and the Rex Cinema have pleasure in presenting this year’s Film Festival to be held on Friday February 27 and Saturday February 28 at the Rex Cinema High Street, Charlton.

Friday 27th 8pm The Bank Job
Saturday 28th 11am The Band’s Visit
Saturday 28th 1:15pm The Painted Veil
Saturday 28th 3:45pm Carmel
Saturday 28th 8pm Happy-go-lucky

**BIRCHIP JUNIOR CRICKET**
Tomorrow’s Game (Saturday 7th February) is the first day of the two-day game Waugh versus Border at the school oval – as scheduled.

Umpires: James Boyle & Kevin Delaney

It is expected, once again to be hot so players and umpires are expected to be there at 8:30 a.m. to get started as soon as possible.

Drinkers will be provided for players to get regular drinks if needed.

All players are encouraged to bring a hat.

This Sunday’s Indoor Cricket Game (8th February) Border versus Chappell will be postponed due the community event “Fun in the Fields” being organised by Emily Noonan and Hayden Collins.

This game has been rescheduled to be played Thursday (12th February) starting at 3:30 p.m. instead of Junior Cricket Training.

Andrew Sayle
Junior Cricket Coordinator
Parents’ Club Meetings

Parents’ Club will be holding their first general monthly Meeting on Wednesday 11th February at 7:30 p.m. at Birchip P-12 School in the Staff Recreation Room.

The 2009 Birchip P-12 School Parents’ Club Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th March 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at Birchip P-12 School in the Staff Recreation Room.

Guest speaker will be Marc Cox – Youth Worker for the Buloke Shire Council.

Please come and support our students and school. All parents very welcome and encouraged to attend.

Rhonda Bell
President

Ros McCallum
Secretary
**Car parking and using the school crossing**

Students, staff and parents are requested to follow the diagram below. Please use the crossing near the bus shelter rather than walk across the road anywhere. It is important that we are safe around cars and buses. Parents are requested to park around and under the tree or along Fraser Street and again use the crossings as indicated in the diagram.

![Diagram of school parking and crossing](image)

**Bull ‘N’ Pine Lunch Order**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>PRICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOT TAKE AWAYS</strong></td>
<td>$</td>
<td><strong>DRINKS</strong></td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baker’s Pies</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>GV to GO - Tropical 350ml</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curry Pies</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>GV to GO - Apple &amp; Blackcurrant</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomato, Cheese &amp; Onion Pies</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>Orange Juice 300ml 35%</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg &amp; Bacon Pies</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>Orange Juice 500ml 35%</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potato Pies</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>Water 600ml</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Pasties</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td><strong>LARGE MILK</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large Sausage Rolls</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Pies</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Chocolate</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Sausage Rolls</td>
<td>1.30</td>
<td>Strawberry</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Pasties</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Iced Coffee</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Wellington Pies</td>
<td>3.80</td>
<td><strong>SMALL MILK</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Chicken &amp; Cheese Rolls</td>
<td>4.20</td>
<td>Strawberry</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot Dogs</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>Chocolate</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Pizza</td>
<td>2.80</td>
<td>Iced Coffee</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents please supply a large brown paper bag with students name and lunch.
Steamed Dim Sims | .90
Chicken Nuggets | .80

ROLLS
Salad with meat or chicken | 4.80
Roast Chicken | 3.50
Ham | 3.50
Cheese | 2.80

SANDWICHES
Salad & Meat | 4.00
Roast Chicken | 3.00
Cheese | 2.50
Ham | 3.00
Peanut Butter | 2.00
Vegemite | 2.00

WRAPS
Ham & Salad | 4.80
Chicken & Salad | 4.80

FRUIT
Oranges | 1.00
Apples | 1.00
Banana | 1.00

PRIMAX
Orange | 1.00
Orange/Mango | 1.00
Tropical | 1.00
Apple | 1.00

FROZEN
Cruncha | .80
Zooper Dooper | .50

*Prices from 3rd February 2009*

Donuts are no longer available

Parents and students please note that only the items listed above are available for order.

Orders for non-listed items will not be filled.

Homework!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Homework</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Practise counting backwards from any number between 0 &amp; 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Emonson/Weir</td>
<td>Tables</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>General Knowledge questions, revise tables</td>
<td>13th Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Finish ‘Introducing Me’ assignment</td>
<td>10th Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Home Economics</td>
<td>Mrs Boyle</td>
<td>Work order for Monday’s prac</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Finish presentation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Psychology goals and agoraphobia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Prac: Period 3 elements</td>
<td>9th Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>General Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Finish Ex 1c</td>
<td>10th Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Methods</td>
<td>Mr McRae</td>
<td>Finish exercise Id</td>
<td>10th Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Safe at work</td>
<td>11th Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Language analysis of ‘Guns Rush’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Further Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Finish all exercises</td>
<td>10th Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Homework sheet</td>
<td>9th Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>Mrs Boyle</td>
<td>Finish reading the Idea of Bespectia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>HHD</td>
<td>Mrs Boyle</td>
<td>Finish nutrient grid</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Identifying persuasive techniques questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lost

White School T-Shirt with name Boyle. Size 12 - Midford
Please contact Lyn Boyle

Schedule 4: Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of Birchip P-12 School.
Nomination forms may be obtained from the school office from **Monday 9th February 2009** and must be lodged by **4:00 p.m. on Monday 23rd February 2009**.
If a ballot is required, ballot will close at **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday 10th March 2009**.

Following the closing of nominations a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership category</th>
<th>Term of office</th>
<th>Number of positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2009 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2011.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member</td>
<td>From the day after the date of the declaration of the poll in 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

John Richmond  
Principal

Notes:
1. "Electorate of the school" means the DEECD employee electorate of the school and the Parent electorate of the school.
2. "Parent electorate of the school" means all persons (except the principal) who are parents of students of the school, other than those who are DEECD employees and who opt or are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school.
3. "DEECD employee electorate of the school" means the principal of the school and –
   (a) DEECD employees engaged in work at and for the school (other than those who are parents of students of the school and who neither opt nor are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school); and
   (b) other DEECD employees who are parents of students of the school and who opt or are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school.
4. "DoE employee" -
   (a) means a person employed for eight hours or more per week in either an ongoing capacity or for a fixed term of at least 90 days
      - (i) under the Teaching Service Act 1981; or
      - (ii) under the Public Sector Management and Employment Act 1998; or
      - (iii) by a school council of a State school; or
      - (iv) under section 5 or 5A of the Education Act 1958; or
      - (v) under more than one of the paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, and
   (b) does not mean a person employed under a contract for service or the employees or the contracted personnel of such a person.
5. Votes may be posted to the principal or placed in the ballot box at the school on any day up to the closure of the ballot. Further details on how votes may be lodged will be provided when ballot papers are sent to the electorate of the school.
Habits of Mind

Last Friday, teaching staff were focused on Habits of Mind and ensuring our school continues to develop into a ‘Mindful School’. James Anderson from ‘Mindful by Design’ facilitated the day. Teaching FOR, OF and ABOUT thinking was the focus of the professional development activity.

The School's ‘Habits of Mind’ Team with James Anderson

Mrs Lee, Mr Tyler and Miss Heyden work on their curriculum designs incorporating THINKING domains.

Miss Johnson, Mrs Emonson, Mrs Smith and Mr Delaney share their thoughts with the whole group.

Persistence
Listening with Empathy & Understanding
Taking Responsible Risks