Forthcoming Events

February
Monday 23rd
School Council – close of nominations
Immunisations for Year 7 and 10 students
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
Monday 20th
School Resumes
Saturday 25th
Anzac Day

Year 7 Portland Camp
The Year 7 students have enjoyed the many and varied activities organized for them during the past 4 days. Again it was lovely to hear the many positive comments from the general public who stop to say what a terrific group of students. Teachers have commented positively on how the students interacted with each other. Thanks to Mr Tyler, Miss Johnson and Mr Andrew Sayle for their care of our students.

The year 7 travellers are scheduled to return to the school by approximately 3:00 p.m.

Year 11 Work Experience
As reported last week our year 11 students were at various work venues during the week. Reports thus far have been very positive. Thanks to Mrs Barb Smith for organizing student placements.

Year 12 Activity
Our year 12 students had the opportunity today to focus on themselves, their needs and their future. Neville Brady (Motivational Speaker from the Ideal Strategy Group) and Carrie Richmond (Organizational Psychologist from Carmichael Fisher) facilitated the day. The speakers focused on goal setting, wellbeing including mental, physical and emotional), year 12, exams and workload, stress and how to manage it, working as a team and conflict.

Many thanks to Mrs Barb Smith and her students for their catering.

Activities this week

Year 8 Portland Camp
The year 8 students have enjoyed some terrific beach weather. Mr Christie suggests that some year eight students are the second generation visitors to Portland including his own son Harrison. Stephanie Martin, Emma Hogan, Zoe Weir and of course Jessamy and Katelyn Bennett. Tim Phelan suggests the best parts of the camp have been the surfing and the caving. Many thanks to Mr Christie, Miss Barclay, Mr Whelan and Miss Hicks for their care and attention during the week.

The year 8 travellers are scheduled to return to the school by approximately 3:20 p.m.
Household Hamper Raffle

Tickets are selling well. Many thanks to Wirrim CWA members who sold tickets on Tuesday. $1,003.00 was made on this day. All Birchip P-12 School staff are generously contributing towards the prize of a monster household hamper raffle. This is not a food hamper but includes any and many household items. It is anticipated that the value of the hamper will be in excess of $1,000.00. Thanks to the Senior Citizens who donated $500 and the Birchip Bingo Club $1,000.

Tickets will be $2.00 each with all proceeds going to Middle Kinglake Primary School.

We would request the return of all tickets by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday 26th February 2009 to ensure all tickets are accounted for.

The raffle will be drawn on Friday 27th February 2009 at lunchtime during the Interschool Swimming Sports.

I have been speaking to Mrs Janette Cook, Principal, Middle Kinglake Primary School today. A portable room is arriving on the Kinglake oval next week with all portable buildings in place within a month. The Middle Kinglake school community is very much encouraged by the overwhelming response to their needs.

Birchip P-12 School student leaders will travel to Middle Kinglake Primary School to present the collected money from the Birchip school and community during March 2009.

If any member of the community wishes to contribute further funds to the appeal under the Birchip banner, they may do so at the school office or at the Newsagency, Sharps Bakery or Blencowe’s Cafe prior to Friday 27th February 2009.

Thank you in anticipation for your generosity.

Student Pain relief e.g. Panadol and Paracetamol products

Panadol, on parent approval, has occasionally been given to students who may have been feeling unwell during the school day. Unfortunately, DEECD regulations, as per the Schools Reference Guide Section 4.5.7.2.2, states that such products cannot be kept on school premises by the school, and certainly cannot be administered to students.

Should students attend the General Office seeking a Panadol or other medication, they will now be informed that we are not permitted to give products of this kind, even if parents are contacted. Please do not hesitate to Mr Richmond if you have any questions or require further clarification regarding this matter.

When students require medication during the school day then parents need to contact the school. In this situation, medication must be delivered to the General Office by the parent, clearly labelled in the original medication container with the child’s name and with clear instructions regarding dosage requirements. I will endeavour to provide a template for these instances. I seek parent and student co-operation in this matter.

SPARE PRIMARY SCHOOL CLOTHING

Mrs Janine Welton requests that spare school clothing that has been borrowed to be returned please. There are a number of items that haven’t been returned and our supply of spare clothing is small.

Head Lice

Can parents please check their children’s scalps for head lice. There have been a few cases reported lately.

GET A TAX FILE NUMBER AT SCHOOL

The easiest way to apply for your TFN is while you’re at school. Students can obtain a form from the school office. Complete this form including listing your birth certificate number. Bring the completed form back to school and within 28 days your TFN will be forwarded to your address.

You need to have a TFN in order to be paid for employment and apply for Youth Allowance.

To Give Away

Silky Roosters

Contact Emma Bennett 5399 0525
The grade prep to 3 students were asked to do a Christmas Picture leading up to Christmas 2008.

Bill Ryan from the Shire judged the children’s pictures which were displayed at the Birchip Leisure Centre at the Buloke Shire Council Christmas break up.

Haylee Totzenberger, Luana Baird and Monique Allen-Sheean with their prizes awarded to them for winning the Shire Christmas Drawing Competition. Cloe Robinson was also a winner and received her prize during the Christmas break.

**Grade 5/6 Homework Questions – due Friday 27th February 2009**

1. What color is mazarine?
2. Cynophobes are afraid of what?
3. Name Japan’s second largest city.
4. What is a Dutch door?
5. What is the ripe fruit of a rose called?
6. What kind of food is bubble and squeak?
7. Who recently replaced Julie Bishop as the Shadow Treasurer?
8. Haiphong is which SE Asian country’s main port?
9. The cochin is a breed of which creature?
10. What was unusual about the reign of Lady Jane Grey when she ruled England?

**Answers to Homework Questions which were due Friday 20th February 2009**

1. Of which Australian state is Sir Stanley Burbury a former governor? **Tasmania**
2. Where did the Manx cat originate? **Isle of Man**
3. How many faces does an icosahedron have? **20**
4. On which part of your body would you wear a tam-o'-shanter? **Head**
5. In what year did ABC TV’s *Four Corners* commence? **1961**
6. Name the Republic of Ireland’s longest river? **Shannon**
7. What kind of creatures are North American mud puppies? **Salamanders**
8. What is the Indian dish of dhal made from? **Lentils/pulses**
9. Which Australian cockatoo is also known as the chokalott? **Major Mitchell**
10. A gorget was a piece of armour for which part of the body? **Throat**

**To Give Away**

3 Black Kittens

Phone Annette 5085 4253
Interschool Swimming Sports
These will be held at the Birchip Swimming Pool on Friday 27th February 2009.
The Birchip P-12 School team is currently being selected based on results from the house swimming sports although some extra trials will be required early next week to determine competitors in some of the age groups that were combined for the house sports.
Age groups competing are
- 12-13 yrs
- 14 yrs
- 15 yrs
- 16 yrs
- 17 yrs
- 18-20 yrs
The first event is scheduled to begin at 10:30a.m.
Parents and friends are very much encouraged and welcome to support our school team.

Rural Skills Cadetship Program for full time Tertiary Students
The main features of the program are that the:
Cadet is employed for six weeks during the year,
Cadet is paid a wage from the employer, Cadet is paid $2,500 from RDV, and the Employer is paid $1,250 from RDV.
The aim of the program is to attract more graduates back to the country.
This is done by giving tertiary students an opportunity to experience work in the country and to show that after receiving their degree, they can find employment in the country.
This is a win for the student, a win for the employer and a win for the country town.
If you know of a full time tertiary student please mention this opportunity to them.
Buloke Shire Council will do its best to assist the cadet to find a suitable employer.
Applications are only accepted from councils so for more information please ring James Goldsmith at Buloke Shire Council on 5478 0174.
Applications for this program close at the end of March 2009 so you will need to be quick!

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.

FOR SALE
Smocks - $10 & Book Bags - $5
Contact Emma Bennett 5399 0525
LAST CALL

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>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 221.00</td>
<td>$ 443.00</td>
</tr>
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</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**

**Birchip Archery Club**

Next shoot: Sunday 1st March.
10am start.
South End of Tchum Lake.
All Welcome.
### 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>Learn Name, address and phone number to be used in an emergency.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Counting backwards and forward from any number between 0-100+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Weir/Emonson</td>
<td>Learning spelling and spelling activities</td>
<td>25th Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Time tables and readers</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Weir/Emonson</td>
<td>Homework questions, Grade 5 only</td>
<td>27th Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>List words/tables</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>General Knowledge questions</td>
<td>27th Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Leaving Home</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>Krispy Kreme Case Study</td>
<td>24th Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Budgeting Assignment</td>
<td>24th Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Law Makers</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Criminal law questions</td>
<td>23rd Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Mr McRae</td>
<td>Exercises 2.2 &amp; 2.3</td>
<td>Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Workbooks will be collected for correcting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Finish poster</td>
<td>24th Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Forensics</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Finish prac</td>
<td>23rd Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Smith/Hicks</td>
<td>Study language analysis for SAC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Finish homework sheets and study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yr 12</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>Read source documents handout</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!**

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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.**

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**Dates for Shake Rattle and READ for Semester 1**  
**Term 2**  
23 April  
7 May  
21 May  
4 June  
18 June

**Dates for Shake Rattle and READ for Semester 2**  
26 February  
12 March  
26 March

**For more information**  
contact Nikki Coatsworth at 5492 2230
BIRCHIP JUNIOR CRICKET

A busy start to 2009 has seen 3 games completed after the Christmas break which leaves us with only one game to go before the Grand Final.

Results:

Game 6: (Indoor) Chappell 73 defeated Waugh 47
Chappell: Jordan Galway & Riley Doran: 26 runs
Connor Buteux & Josh Bennett: 25 runs
Waugh: Hugh O’Keefe & Jacob Christie: 28 runs

Game 7: (Indoor) Border 56 defeated Chappell 52
Border: Jake Hogan & David Casey: 37 runs
Chappell: Jacob Christie & Luke Lovett: 22 runs

Game 8: Border 94 defeated Waugh 47
Border: Marshall Connelly 37 retired
Hayley Hogan, 2 wickets for 1 run
Ethan Cooper, 2 wickets for 1 run
Waugh: Brenton Delaney 15
Jacob Christie 2 wickets for 11 runs

Ladder (with one game to go)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Wins</th>
<th>Losses</th>
<th>Runs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Border</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chappell</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waugh</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This week – the last game (a two day game)
Waugh versus Chappell
Umpires: Andrew Sayle and Leon Hogan

PEE WEE TENNIS

Tennis for Prep and above students commences this Saturday the 21st February 2009 at 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.
Pee Wee Tennis will run over the next five weeks with no play on the long weekend.
Some tennis racquets will be available. Parent helpers would be appreciated.
Cost is $10.00 and for enquiries please contact Luke or Bernadette O’Donnell on 54 922 804

FRIDAY NIGHT FISH & CHIPS AT THE LEISURE CENTRE

Recreation football commences tonight Friday 20th February 2009 at the recreation reserve with fish and chips and lasagne being available from the Leisure Centre kitchen.

Parents’ Club
Annual General Meeting

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 are very welcome and encouraged to attend.

How would you like free tickets for you and your family to attend an AFL match in 2009 to support your favourite team?
By registering online, Victorian Auskick participants will receive the NAB AFL Auskick Club Connect Package.
Online registrations must be completed before April 3rd to access this package.
Make sure to print off your registration and take it with you to your local centre when they have their registration
PADDOCK TO PORT
PHOTO EXHIBITION
On NOW until March 8,
AT THE LOCAL
HISTORY MUSEUM
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Sunday 1.30 p.m. to 5 p.m
Or by appointment:
0409972228 or 53990564
Entry $2.00

Buloke Shire & Hobson’s Bay initiative.
INSIGHTS

by Michael Grose - Australia’s No 1 parenting educator

Help your children make sense of the natural disasters

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

The Queensland floods and the Victorian bushfires continue to wreak incredible havoc on so many people’s lives and will no doubt leave an indelible imprint on our collective psyches. These two natural disasters will be brought into our living rooms via the media over the coming days and weeks.

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of tragedies such as natural disasters. In reality we can’t do this.

So what is a parent, teacher, or other caring adult to do when the natural disasters fills the airwaves and the consciousness of society? Here are some ideas:

1. **Reassure children that they are safe.** The consistency of the images can be frightening for young children who don’t understand the notion of distance and have difficulty distinguishing between reality and fiction. Let them know that while this event is indeed happening it will not affect them directly.

2. **Be available.** Let kids know that it is okay to talk about the unpleasant events. Listen to what they think and feel. By listening, you can find out if they have misunderstandings, and you can learn more about the support that they need. You do not need to explain more than they are ready to hear, but be willing to answer their questions.

3. **Help children process what they see and hear, particularly through television.** Children are good observers but can be poor interpreters of events that are out of their level of understanding.

4. **Support children’s concerns for others.** They may have genuine concerns for the suffering that will occur and they may need an outlet for those concerns. It is heart-warming to see this empathy in children for the concerns of others.

5. **Let them explore feelings beyond fear.** Many children may feel sad or even angry with these events so let them express the full range of emotions. They may feel sadder for the loss of wildlife, than for loss of human life, which is impersonal for them.

6. **Help children and young people find a legitimate course of action if they wish.** Action is a great antidote to stress and anxiety so finding simple ways to help, including donating some pocket money can assist kids to cope and teaches them to contribute.

7. **Avoid keeping the television on all the time.** The visual nature of the media means that images are repeated over and over, which can be both distressing to some and desensitizing to others.

8. **Be aware of your own actions.** Children will take their cues from you and if they see you focusing on it in an unhealthy way then they will focus on it too. Let them know that it is happening but it should not dominate their lives.

9. **Take action yourself.** Children who know their parents, teachers, or other significant caregivers are working to make a difference feel hope. They feel safer and more positive about the future. Do something. It will make you feel more hopeful, too. And hope is one of the most valuable gifts we can give children and ourselves.

Children’s worlds can be affected in ways that we can’t even conceive of so adults need to be both sensitive to children’s needs and mindful of what they say and how they act in front of children.

In difficult times, it is worth remembering what adults and children need most are each other.

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PO Box 167 Balnarring VIC 3926  P. 03 5963 1798  F. 03 5963 1722  E. office@parentingideas.com.au

BIRCHIP LIFESTYLE CHALLENGE PROGRAM

Want to improve your health by changing your lifestyle?

Join us and develop your own individualised program to achieve your personal goals through motivation, healthy food choices, exercise sessions, self esteem building and goal setting

10 week program
Commencing Monday 16th March
6pm - 7.30pm
Where: St Mary’s Parish Centre
Cost: $35
Maximum participants: 15

PARTICIPANTS MUST BE COMMITTED TO THE 10 WEEK PROGRAM AND REGISTER FOR THE 10 WEEKS

For Registrations: Ph Birchip Hospital 54 777100
For further enquiries contact: Bev Koops 54 777127
Naomi Caulfield 54 772178
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 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2011</td>
<td>2</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

Grade 4/5 News Time

Grades 4/5 have been working on getting better at displaying good listening and communication skills. They have been concentrating on looking at the person who is speaking and speaking clearly. They have been practising speaking respectfully to others within the class and outside in the yard.

During news today students were photographed speaking respectfully to others within the class and asking questions if they were not sure. Children are expected to have news twice a week and share information with others in the class. One of these news sessions must be world news.

Today Seamus Lowry shared his experiences of visiting Ireland, Gus Walsh displayed coins he collected from Oman and Turkey, while Nikita Turner brought along some $1 and $2 notes to show the class.

A range of posters is displayed in the grade 4/5 room to encourage students to develop good habits.