Birchip P-12 School
A Mindful School

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Forthcoming Events

March
Thursday 4th
Ag & Hort Class Excursion Wimmera Field Days
Friday 5th
Interschool Swimming Sports Yrs 7-12
Monday 8th
Labour Day Holiday
Tuesday 9th
Physical Resources Meeting
Thursday 11th
Secondary Summer Sports Carnival-Yrs 7-12
Friday 12th
Primary Summer Sports Carnival - St. Arnaud Grades 5 & 6
Wednesday 17th
Northern Zone Swimming Competition
School FETE
Thursday 18th
‘Habits of Mind’ - Parent Meeting 7.30pm at Birchip Community Leisure Centre
Monday 22nd
‘Habits of Mind’ - Parent Meeting 7.30pm at Birchip Community Leisure Centre
Tuesday 23rd
Primary Easter Parade
Thursday 25th
School Council
Friday 26th
Last day of school for Term 1

April
Monday 12th
First day of term 2
Tuesday 13th
Parent/Student/Teaching evening
Thursday 15th
School Council Meeting 8pm
‘Get into Genes Day’ Years 9-12
Monday 19th
Year 10 Work Experience
Friday 23rd

Monday 19th
Year 9 Advance Camp - Swan Hill
Friday 23rd
School Council Debutante Ball
Friday 23rd
Anzac Day Holiday
Monday 26th

May
Wednesday 19th
Grade 6 Maldon Camp
Friday 21st

Year Eight Portland Camp

The year eight students along with Miss Barclay, Mr Sayle, Mr Whelan and Mr Christie have enjoyed their stay at Portland. Activities included caving, canoeing, swimming, surfing and a seal tour. Teachers have been most impressed with the year eight students – in fact they have been the highlight of the week. I’m sure they will need a rest this weekend following their adventures.

Habits of Mind - Parent Forum

Monday 22nd March 2010
Commencing at 7:30 p.m. at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre

The Birchip P-12 School has for the past four years been working towards becoming ‘A Mindful School’ – a school where thinking is encouraged and a school where the 16 Habits of Mind are continually being developed and strengthened within our teaching and learning.

This forum is designed to extend the Habits of Mind into the wider school community. Habits of Mind leader, James Anderson, will again visit our school and speak to students and staff on this day and then present the Habits of Mind to parents and lead discussion at the Parent Forum.

Parents are strongly encouraged to attend and participate in the evening forum. We hope that at least one parent from each family can attend.

There will be various door prizes including an iPod touch.

Supper will be served by Senior SRC students. The evening will be free of charge.
Habits of Mind
This week’s winner

Congratulations Sam O’Donnell, this week’s winner of the Habits of Mind award. Sam took a responsible risk at recess when he had a go at trying to use the monkey bars. Well done Sam!

Thank you to all students who have been nominated this week. ALL nominated students will go in the running for the end of year prize of the iPod touch.

Answers to last week’s Homework Questions

1. Which AFL team was formerly known as The Mayblooms? **Hawthorn**
2. What type of animals are Murray Greys? **Beef cattle**
3. A female elephant is called a …… **Cow**
4. What was Eleanora Holiday, who died in 1959, famous as? **Jazz singer Billie Holiday**
5. What color is a piebald horse? **Black and white**
6. If you subtract half a gross from six dozen, what is the answer? **nothing**
7. Matchlock, wheel lock and flintlock are all early types of ….. **Guns**
8. On Gibraltar you would find what species of ape? **Barbary**
9. In which field of music is the Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi best known? **opera**
10. Who shot the arrow, which mortally wounded him, into the heel of Achilles? **Paris**

Head Lice

There have been several cases of head lice reported.

Please check carefully for lice or nits and if found, treat immediately.

**Once treated students may return to school.** It is not unusual for a parent to treat a child in the morning and have them back at school by 10.00 a.m.

In order to break the cycle, heads should be treated again in exactly 7 days to completely break the lice breeding cycle.

Secondary students are not immune and should be checked frequently.

Thank you to those parents who notify us at school and alert us to the severity of the problem.

Merrilyn Kelly
Learn by Doing

If you want information to stick then it is always best to learn by doing and this is what combined Prep and Year 4 classes learned on Friday. Both classes came together to improve their reading and listening skills. The Year 4 students selected picture books that they thought would entertain and interest Prep students, then they practised reading them in engaging ways. They worked on improving their voices, making sure that their body language was positive and knowing their text. On a lovely sunny day, the two classes worked together in the shade. Mrs Kelly’s Prep class were on their best behaviour as they listened to the stories being told by the older children. Year 4 teacher, Miss Jessica Arnott was very impressed by the leadership skills shown by her group and even more impressed by the open questions that they posed to challenge the Prep children.

Schools have changed

Over the years Rooms 11 and 12 have been known as the Mathematics rooms, some now allude to them as Learning Studios 11 and 12. These old portables which were serviceable but very dated, housed the Year 7 and 8 lockers and sported outdated furniture. Now, the rooms are hardly recognizable. The shabby exterior cladding has been replaced with bright blue Colorbond. The desks are not the predictable rectangular shape but multicoloured petal shapes that mould into many configurations. New chrome chairs, carpet squares and huge glass sliding doors that open onto a grassed mound and paved area make for an aesthetically pleasing area in which to teach. Each room has an interactive white board and outside is a refrigerated water cooler from which students fill up their water bottles. And very soon, a class set of 25 notebooks will be housed in purpose built trolleys. How times have changed.
The Fete

The Fete is fast approaching. Thursday 18th March 2010 is the set date and the Parents’ Club is very enthusiastic and excited about the event. At its last meeting the group decided to go with the theme of ‘A Mad Hatters’ Tea Party’ as this is easy for most parents to organise. To get into the spirit of the event, the Parents’ Club had a practice hat evening which resulted in much merriment. Parents and students are urged to wear their zaniest hat to add to the atmosphere of the event. Parents’ Club will be conducting a plant and produce stall and are catering for a sit down meal on the evening. Last year the Parents’ Club cake and coffee (real coffee) was an outstanding success and this year it will be bigger and better.

Birchip P-12 School, 2009 School Council Elections

Congratulations to James Boyle, Leigh Hogan, Kevin Reid and Shayne Riggall on their election as parent representatives for the next two years. School Council welcomes Shayne Riggall on his nomination and subsequent election as a first time school councillor. We thank Shayne for showing interest in our school and willingness to ensure positive outcomes for our school. We also welcome James Boyle back to school council after a small break. Thank you to Margaret O’Keefe who leaves school council. Margaret has been a school councillor for the past two years. I’m sure Margaret will continue to be involved in many and varied ways with the school. Congratulations also to Eileen Smith and Merrilyn Kelly who renominated and were subsequently elected as DEECD representatives for a further two years.

Please see Schedule 4 attached to the newsletter concerning the notice to call an election following appropriate guidelines. Nomination forms (Schedules 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D) can be obtained from John Richmond at the school.
The Year 9 Youth Activities program has commenced again with the assistance of Rhonda Allan from the Mallee Sports Assembly. Students have created two groups ‘The Boys’ and ‘Twenty-Ten Babes’ for the duration of the sessions. Last week saw David Smith and Beryl Fietz from the Birchip Golf Club hold a golfing session for the boys. While the girls participated in a water aerobics class facilitated by Brenda Doran. This week students were treated to a pasta cooking lesson from Nuccia McLean. They spent time learning how to make pasta by hand, before enjoying a magnificent bowl of bolognaise. Nerida Deans from Bendigo Rural Health also spoke to the students about how to eat properly and good nutrition. All students have enjoyed the sessions immensely so far. The program will continue each Wednesday until the end of 1st term when students will spend a day in Bendigo participating in a variety of activities. A big thank you must go to Rhonda Allan for coordinating the program and also thanks to David Smith, Beryl Fietz, Nuccia McLean and Nerida Deans for providing our students with their valuable time for the activities.
Birchip P-12 School Community Library - Book Amnesty
The library is undertaking a stock take and we are urging all parents and students to go through their shelves and return any library or school books they find. Nothing will be said – just put the books on the counter or in the slot outside the library. Thanks for your assistance.

2010 Student Accident Insurance whilst attending school
Parents and students are reminded that the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development does not provide personal accident insurance for students. Parents and guardians are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including any transport costs.
Reasonably low cost student accident insurance policies are available from some commercial insurers. These cover a range of medical expenses not covered by Medicare or private health insurance.
I have included a brochure from a company offering affordable accident protection for your children should you wish to avail yourselves of this opportunity.

HINAMATSURI
Girls' Day / Dolls Festival
HINAMATSURI 2010 is on Wednesday 3rd March 2010 at recess time in the gallery.
Primary girls will be able to dress up in casual clothing and bring their favourite doll to school.
A Japanese lolly will be offered to all students, also, boys!!
We hope you will enjoy the day.

School Nurse Visit
Kerrie McCosh, primary school nurse, will be visiting our school in term two. The purpose of this visit is to undertake health assessments and discuss health concerns that parents and/or teachers may have with their children/students.

Prep Health Assessments:
All parents of prep grade children will be requested to complete a Health Questionnaire and return the forms to the school on or before 19th March 2010 – prior to the school nurse visit.

Referrals (All Grades):
Parents and/or teachers may refer children from any grade for assessments of vision, hearing, basic speech, physical abilities, medical conditions, behavioural and parenting issues. Please collect a referral form from the school office. Completed forms are to be handed into the school office as soon as possible. Should parents wish to have an interview with the School Nurse, please indicate your request on the form.

Please note:
You can talk to the school nurse at any time throughout the year. The school has her mobile phone number.
Game Making at Birchip P-12 School

Rod Taylor and Kimberly Tinson from La Trobe University Bundoora ran a full day workshop on Video Games Development for middle years students.

The workshop is the first session for students to learn about programming for Xbox 360 consoles. Over the next two terms students will continue to develop their programming and design skills with the assistance of Mr McRae and La Trobe University’s best games technology students and staff.

The workshop made use of the powerful new computers recently installed into room 8.
Mrs Welton’s grade 2 students recently had a go at taking portraits and landscapes. They quickly learned to place the camera and the subject a suitable distance apart, so that the subject was roughly in the centre and comprised the main element in the images.

Taking landscape photos through the library windows might have been a bit limiting, but the students used perspective and angles creatively to produce interesting views of the schoolyard and surrounds.

These youngsters are showing great flair with the camera, and most are able to hold the camera steady so that few images are blurry.
Birchip P-12 School Parents’ Club
Annual General Meeting
Monday 1st March 2010 at 8:00 p.m.
Meeting to be held in the new Learning Studios 11 & 12

Other dates to remember:

- Interschool Swimming Sports 05/03/2010
- Quarter Horse Races 13/03/2010
- School Fete 18/03/2010
- Habits of Mind Seminar 22/03/2010
- Presentation Ball 23/04/2010

Parents’ Club will be catering for these events and rosters are included in the school newsletter. Please arrange a swap if your rostered time or activity does not suit.

During the year we hope to have a number of guest speakers attend Parents’ Club. We will also be discussing our “wish list” so come to the meetings and add your suggestions. Your attendance is very welcome.

Please, don’t forget those POTTED PLANTS for the SCHOOL FETE
Parents Club Fete Catering -
Thursday 18th March 2010

The March Fete is fast approaching and we will be relying on your generosity of donations of food to one of our main fundraisers for the year.

Workers from 5.30pm
Jenny Hogan, Cathy Bales, Trish Lehmann, Wendy Watts, Bev Forrester, Deanne Botheras, Janine Paley.

Salads can be delivered to school during the day, or sent with students in the morning. We would appreciate salads to be at school by 5.30pm.

Tomato and Onion salad, 4litres:
Amanda Reid, Sonia Phelan, Diona Cooper, Pam McKelvie.

Rice Salad, 4litres:
Belinda Randall, Wendy Watts, Janet Smith, Val Connelly, Sharlene Connely.

Feta Salad, 4litres:
Emma Bennett, Deanne Botheras, Mandy Braine, Kerry Barker.

Potato Salad, 4litres:
Patrice Rickard, Carol Reid, Claire Cook, Jacinta Connelly, Danine Brody, Tammie Tait, Wendy Bidstrup, Cheryl White.

Noodle Salad, 4litres:
Cathy Milne, Jenny (G) Noonan, Helen Casey, Heather Hogan, Colene Delaney.

Tossed Salad, 4litres:
Georgina Hogan, Rachel Owa, Michelle Lee, Rachel Colbert, Tracey Bennett, Noeline Hogan, Jackie Tierney, Renae Dingley.

Coleslaw, 4litres:
Kim Driscoll, Leonie Naylor, Carly Sharp.

Own Choice Salad, 4litres:
Jenny (P) Noonan, Jenny Atkinson, Annette Bennett, Katherine Southall, Julie Weir, Hanneke Ball, Tina Garcia, Trudy Mathieson, Lindy Fraser.

Beetroot, 2 x 425g tins or Beetroot salad:
June Thorogood, Louise Lee, Roberta Spicer.

Drought Tolerant Plants Stall and Slushie Machine:
(Donations to our stall would be greatly appreciated)
Workers 5.30pm:
Rhonda Bell, Ros McClelland, Janine Paley, Deanne Botheras, Denita Donnan, Rosalie Gould.

Coffee and Cake Stall to be served after dinner
A cake from the following would be great: Barb Smith, Sam Kemp, Nicole James, Ros McClelland, Trish Lehmann, Brenda Doran, Janine Paley, Jenny Hogan. (Can you please let Jenny Hogan or Trish Lehmann know your preference of cake so we get some different ones)

Raffle down the street. Dates and ticket sellers.
Tuesday 9th March 2010 9am - 1pm: Rhonda Bell/Sam Kemp
1pm - 5pm: Sue Turner/Helen Casey

Friday 12th March 2010 9am - 1pm: Julie Weir/Rosalie Gould
1pm - 5pm: Sharon Flowers/Heather Hogan

Tuesday 16th March 2010 9am - 1pm: Julie Lowry/Belinda Randall
1pm - 5pm: Denita Donnan/Colene Delaney
Birchip Quarter Horse Cup – Parents’ Club roster of workers

Parents Club has been invited to supply parents to work at the annual Birchip Quarter Horse Cup on Saturday 13 March 2010.

This event provides a major fundraising opportunity for our school and your support is necessary to ensure that adequate people are in attendance to assist in the catering marquee. We thank in anticipation all parents listed and request that a replacement is found by those volunteers who are unavailable to work. If a replacement is unable to be found, please contact Mr Richmond or Trish Lehmann

We would be pleased if the following parents could be in attendance:

Coordinators: Trish Lehmann and Angela Liston

10am - 2pm
Tony Lehmann, Gus and Jenny Noonan, Kelli-Ann and Jim Sheahan, Russell and Simone Christie, Kevin and Carol Reid, John and Cathy Bales, Jenny and Leigh Hogan

2pm – 6pm
Angela and Brendan Gleeson, Peter and Kerry Walder, Andrew and Denita Donnan, Ken and Jackie Tierney, Greg and Jackie Rymer, Heather and Colin Hogan, Cameron and Sharon Flowers

6pm – 10pm
Graeme and Cathy Milne, Michael and Meg Walsh, Peter and Jenny Noonan, David and Barb Smith, Carly Sharp, Andrew Sayle, Greg Martin

10pm onwards
Jenny Hogan, Jackie Tierney, Bernadette Smith, Louise Lee, Brenda Doran

All volunteers are required to pay upon entry at the gate but may request a refund if they wish to leave directly following the completion of their shift.
Birchip P-12 School, 2010 School Council Elections

Parent representatives
Nominations received for the 4 vacant parent representatives of school council:

    James Boyle
    Leigh Hogan
    Kevin Reid
    Shayne Riggall

There being no further nominations, I declare these four people named above duly elected to the Birchip P-12 School, School Council for a period of 2 years.

DEECD employee representatives
Nominations received for the 2 vacant parent representatives of school council:

    Eileen Smith
    Merrilyn Kelly

There being no further nominations, I declare these two people named above duly elected to the Birchip P-12 School, School Council for a period of 2 years.

John Richmond
PRINCIPAL
Birchip P-12 School
18th February 2010

MEDIA RELEASE

‘BULOKE filmFEST 2010’

Buloke Shire Council is pleased to announce that, as part of National Youth Week celebrations, it will be holding a Short Film Festival at the Rex Theatre in Charlton on Tuesday 13th April. However, this will be no ordinary film festival. The directors, producers, actors and actresses will not be the famous faces of Hollywood, but rather the home-grown talent of Buloke’s young people.

The Festival will see the screening of a series of 5-10 minute films made by budding young Buloke filmmakers. Conceived by young people, directed by young people, filmed by young people and edited by young people the films are sure to be an exciting mix of reality, drama, and fantasy.

Buloke Mayor, Cr Leo Telfeson says the program is centred on showcasing the talents and achievements of young people, “We recognise that young people are generally very talented at multi-media type activities and ‘Buloke filmFEST 2010’ will showcase these skills for the entire community to see”.

Participants will play the roles of script writer, producer, director and actor and as such can be as creative and ambitious as they like. Their production might be a true story about a local community, or a far-fetched tale about an alien invasion in the year 2500. According to Cr Telfeson, creativity and imagination is the key feature of this program. “We want participants to be creative and imaginative and as such we have not sought to impose restrictions that will hinder this from occurring”.

Councillor David Pollard, who will play a key role in the festival due to his involvement with the Rex Cinema, added his support for the initiative to that of Cr Telfeson. “I think we can learn from young people through this program and gain a great appreciation of their story telling and creative abilities. Film is a great means of self expression and I encourage all young people in Buloke to participate in the festival”; said Cr Pollard.

Recognising that not all young people have access to digital movie making equipment the festival will include a category for ‘Best Mobile-made Clip’, clips of up to 2 minutes taken on mobile phone cameras.

The Festival is open to all young people aged between 12 and 25. Individual, joint and team entries are welcomed.

Council would like to thank the schools who have supported this program and encourage the wider community to come along to the Rex Cinema on the evening of Tuesday 13th of April to view the quality films produced.

Entries close on Friday 9th of April.

For further information and to receive a copy of the Entry Guidelines, please contact Marc Cox on 54780172 or email: marc@buloke.vic.gov.au

Marc Cox – Youth Development Officer, 54780172
### Homework!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Homework</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Read nursery rhymes and poems</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Count by 1 to 100. Practise words</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Counting backwards from any number between 10 &amp; 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>SOSE</td>
<td>Miss Arnott</td>
<td>Family Tree</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Arnott</td>
<td>Six times tables</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Spelling test—every Friday, Bad mannered child story</td>
<td>4th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Writing piece. Story beginnings</td>
<td>3rd March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Xena-phobia assignment</td>
<td>11th March</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Mathsmate</td>
<td>2nd March</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Organise work book</td>
<td>3rd March</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Lights, Camera, Action</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Setting writing piece</td>
<td>4th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>War Files</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>News report writing piece</td>
<td>5th March</td>
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<td>9/10</td>
<td>Lawmakers</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Civil law case study</td>
<td>1st March</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Analyse, analyse—prepare for SAC &amp; oral SAC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

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**NULLAWIL TOWN GARAGE SALE**

14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2010  
8.00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon  
$5.00 PER STALL  
ANYBODY IS WELCOME TO HOLD A STALL  
TO BOOK A STALL PLEASE CONTACT KIM ON 54935355  
STALLS WILL BE LOCATED ACROSS FROM NULLAWIL CAFÉ  
"YOUR TRASH IS ANOTHER MAN’S TREASURE"
UPDATE BIRCHIP TELEPHONE BOOK
The local ‘pink’ phone book is currently being updated. If you have changes to your mobile, landline, facsimile or eMail please let the BB&LC know.

Tonight Meals at the Leisure Centre
from 7pm.
Steak, lasagne, fish, chips and smorgasboard salads.
Chips, nuggets, dim sims and icecream cone for kids. Dessert available.
All Welcome

Pee Wee Tennis
is on tomorrow 10 am., no tennis long weekend, recommence 13th March, then BBQ breakup on the 20th March.
Habits of Mind

GOALS FOR LIFE!

Thinking Interdependently

Try and persist it's never too late to start again if you have to – Sophie Reid

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Applying Past Knowledge

Set small goals not just big goals – Tori Hogan

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Thinking Flexibly

On Friday February 19th we went into the stadium and saw a motivational program called 'True North'. I liked the music in it, and I also scored a new t-shirt. I think that the program will help me to accomplish tasks throughout the rest of my life. Believe in yourself – Jessica Bidstrup

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Gathering Data through all the Senses

Don't do things you're not sure of. Just because your friends are doing it doesn't mean you have to – Gus Walsh

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Managing Impulsivity

If you want to reach a goal you have to practice – Joe O'Donnell

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Responding with Wonderment & Awe

Always follow your dreams to wherever they take you – Luana Baird

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Persistence

Don't say you can't do something, stick with your goals and never give up – Sarah Rotheras

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Listening with Empathy & Understanding

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Thinking about your Thinking

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Thinking & Communicating with Clarity & Precision

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Continuous Learning

Thinking & Communicating with Clarity & Precision

Continuous Learning

Creating, Imagining & Innovating

Continuous Learning

Continuous Learning

Habits of Mind

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Our messages from ‘True North’
thanks to Mrs Pat Clarke

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Thinking Interdependently

Applying Past Knowledge

Thinking Flexibly

Gathering Data through all the Senses

Managing Impulsivity

Responding with Wonderment & Awe

Persistence

Listening with Empathy & Understanding

Taking Responsible Risks

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Habits of Mind

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