Forthcoming Events

March
- Wednesday 5th: Parents’ Club AGM 7.30pm
- Friday 7th: ‘Red’ theme casual day
- Monday 10th: Labour Day Public Holiday
- Tuesday 11th: Physical Resources Meeting
- Thursday 13th: School FETE
- Friday 14th: Primary Summer Sports - Donald
- Tuesday 18th: Easter Parade in Gallery
- Wednesday 19th: Secondary Northern Zone Swimming Sports
- Thursday 20th: Last Day Term 1 - 2.30 finish

April
- Monday 7th: Friday Day Term 2
- Tuesday 8th: Physical Resources Meeting
- Thursday 17th: Summer Sports - Hopetoun
- Friday 18th: Presentation Ball
- Tuesday 22nd: Parent Teacher Evening - Prep→Year 12
- Friday 25th: Anzac Day
- Monday 28th: Grade 6 Maldon Camp
- Thursday 1st May

May
- Monday 5th: Years 10/11 Canberra Camp
- Friday 9th: Year 9 Advance Camp
- Tuesday 6th: Physical Resources Meeting
- Friday 9th: Primary Cross Country - St Arnaud
- Tuesday 13th: National Assessment Program for Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 students
- Thursday 15th: School Council

More dates to be mindful of:

- Years 8,9,10 cultural Performance ‘Spin’ 1.45 – 3.15 Thursday 10th April
- MS Readathon visit Thursday 24th April 9.30 P-3, 9.55 Years 4-6

Early Warning Meetings

Teachers will be holding Early Warning Meetings to discuss the progress of ALL students during the week. Teachers will follow up with students and may also contact parents if necessary.

Birchip P-12 School, School Council 2008

At the February meeting of School Council, Brendan Ryan, Grampians Region Senior Education Officer for the Wimmera area visited and walked council members through the principal selection process.

It was also the first meeting of School Council for our new school councillors albeit unofficial. The Annual General Meeting of the Birchip P-12 School, School Council will be Wednesday 19th March 2008 at 8:00 p.m.

Nicole James was elected to be a co-opted member of school council. Thanks to Nicole for accepting this position.

SRC Casual Day

On Friday 7th March, the Senior SRC will be holding a “RED” theme casual day to raise awareness for the Triple J “one night stand”. Our local Birchip Youth Group is again organizing an application to hold this event this year. A gold coin donation is required and students must come dressed in red as a photo will be taken at lunchtime of students arranged in a semblance of the Triple J logo. This event will also include Primary students. Dean Totzenberger (PRO)
Easter Parade and Performances
On Tuesday 18th March, at 10.00 in the school gallery, P-6 students will present their annual hat parade and musical items. All welcome.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VCE SAC next week</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literature</td>
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<td>Food</td>
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<td>Biology</td>
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<td>Business Management</td>
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<td>Design &amp; Technology</td>
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General Knowledge Questions

This week's questions
1. In which city is the Tate Gallery?
2. Who painted The Laughing Cavalier?
3. On which island did Napoleon Bonaparte die?
4. In which year did the USA separate from Great Britain?
5. Where would you find platelets?
6. What is the symbol for copper?
7. Who was the first person to swim the English Channel?
8. True or False? Black masks may not be worn in fencing.
9. What kind of creature is a Jabiru?
10. What was Marilyn Monroe’s real name?

Answers to last week's questions
1. In which country is Mount Hagen? - Papua New Guinea
2. Which continent is the home of the quetzal? - North America
3. What do the letters SCUBA stand for? - Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus
4. What is pelota? - Ball game
5. Which skipper lost the America’s Cup when Australia was victorious? - Dennis Conner
6. How many humps has a Bactrian Camel? - 2
7. With which animals did Hannibal cross the Alps? - Elephants
8. Is a squirrel a rodent or a mammal? - Rodent
9. How long is a regulation hockey match? - 70 minutes
10. From what did Cecil Rhodes make his wealth? - Diamonds

Hinamatsuri (Girls’ Day)
On Monday March the 3rd, primary students will celebrate Hinamatsuri (Girls’ Day).
Primary girls will be able to dress up and bring their favourite doll on the day.

Welcome Miss Aoi Kobayashi

Aoi is our new assistant teacher. She will be with us for only four weeks until the end of term one.

Aoi is from Nagano. She is 20 years old and still a university student. She is very interested in teaching Japanese to our students. We hope Aoi will have a great experience with us in Birchip. If you will be able to offer any activity such as a dinner, farm experience etc. please contact to Ms Nakamura.

GRADE 4 & 5
MATHEMATICS

Using the nursery rhyme ‘Sing a Song of Sixpence’ as a story background, students investigated the various ways in which the birds could feed, if there were eight tables arranged into a rectangular pattern, and if there was always nine birds on each side. Students were actively engaged in this investigative activity which revised addition skills, developed problem solving skills, promoted co-operative learning and working mathematically.
Ashlee Tierney & Rebecca Botheras and Sam Milne & Royce Bennett pair up to solve their problems.

HEAD LICE

There have been no new reports this week, however it is most important that frequent checks are carried out at home, to prevent further outbreaks.

TREES - Tool for Replication of Energy Efficiency in Schools

We were successful in our submission to become a member of the TREES pilot program. Mr Marchesi and Mr Christie will undertake appropriate PD commencing on Wednesday 5th March in Ballarat.

TREES allows us to calculate the energy usage and greenhouse emissions of your school and to explore ways of reducing them. We will receive a grant to support our involvement in the program and use for the purchase of energy saving and energy monitoring equipment. Participating schools will receive free resources including energy saving equipment and curriculum.
resources including digital power monitors, digital thermometers, programmable switch timers, Lux digital light meters, motion sensor switches, pneumatic time-delay switches and energy saving globes.

Various steps to reduce waste and save energy are already in evidence. Where appropriate, lights in rooms are turned off and Mrs Barb Smith has organized the use of recycled paper for one of the photocopier trays.

**Tying Knots**

Our VCE Outdoor and Environmental Education class have been preparing for their excursion to the Murray River next week. Yesterday they were practicing their knotting techniques. Mr Marchesi took students through the finer points of knot tying. Isaac Noonan (partly obscured), Aaron Valentine, Mr Marchesi, Tom Rumbold and Patrick Ryan practice their newly acquired skills.

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**Birchip-Watchem Netball Club**

**First training session and registration night.**

Thursday 6th March 2008  
5.00pm - 13 & Under  
6.00pm - Junior A & B and Seniors

Sausage sizzle to follow both trainings.  
Payment of BWNC fees encouraged on this night  
Seniors $70  
Juniors $50  
Modified $40 (31.12.1997)

**All past and prospective players welcome.**

Further queries to Heather Hogan 54922430 or 0408504583 or Arna Pickering 0402390335

**Working Bee at courts**

Friday March 14th from 5.00pm  
Please bring rakes, brooms, shovels etc.  
All BWNC members encouraged to attend.

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**Birchip Watchem Junior Football Annual Meeting**

Monday 3rd March 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Birchip Community Leisure Centre.

- All positions filled.  
- Discussion on Under 16 structure due to low numbers.

**BIRCHIP WATCHEM JUNIOR FOOTBALL**

Training for U13 & U16 will be held Monday and Wednesday nights, starting this Monday at 5pm. 
A BBQ will be held after training on Wednesday.  
**ALL WELCOME**

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**Birchip Cricket & Tennis senior presentation night**

BIRCHIP COMMUNITY LEISURE CENTRE  
SAT MARCH 1ST MARCH 7.30PM  
All senior players, life members, supporters & families welcome  
Could all families please bring a salad
Fruity treats make healthy lunches a breeze

Living in Australia means we have access to a variety of fresh and delicious fruits which are the perfect addition to any child’s lunch box.

Stone fruits like peaches, nectarines, cherries, apricots and plums are great for children as they are the right size for small hands and they’re ready to eat because they don’t require any peeling – they are the ultimate ‘fast food’.

You can make other flavousome fruits fun and easy for kids with some simple preparation:

- Mangos and melon pieces can be frozen overnight in a container. Your kids will love you for it on a hot day.
- Some children will devour an apple when it’s cored and cut into pieces, but will not touch it whole, so why not prepare the apple before school, with a squirt of lemon juice to stop it going brown. If you keep it in a snap lock bag the fruit will still be fresh enough to eat during morning recess.
- Get your kids eating four fruits at once! Chop their favourites into cubes, and skewer them to make fruit kebabs. Refrigerated overnight in cling wrap, they’ll stay fresh and cool in the lunchbox. *(Do this only if your kids can be trusted with skewers. Children should always eat while sitting down, never while playing or walking).*
- Treat your kids to a gourmet experience. Some fresh berries and a tub of yoghurt can provide lots of fun as they share the dipping delight with friends.


The Parents Jury is a web-based network of over 3,000 parents who are interested in improving the nutrition and physical activity environments of Australian children. It provides a forum for parents to express their views and to collectively advocate for change on current issues relating to children’s nutrition and physical activity.

Membership is free and open to all parents, grandparents and guardians of children aged 18 years and under. Register online and have your say at [www.parentsjury.org.au](http://www.parentsjury.org.au).

The Parents Jury is supported by:


The Parents Jury
570 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne 3000, ph: 03 9667 1742, fax: 03 9667 1778, email: enquiries@parentsjury.org.au
[www.parentsjury.org.au](http://www.parentsjury.org.au)
Parents Club Fete Catering  
Thursday 13th March

The March Fete is fast approaching and as always Parents’ Club will be relying on your generosity of donations of time and food to our main school fundraiser of the year.

Cake and produce stall workers
5.30 - 7.00 Lyn Boyle, Carol Kemp, Veronica Ryan, Bev Forrester

Dinner workers 5.45pm onwards
Gaye Bardell and Rhonda Bell (Coordinators)  Kerry Barker, Jan Barbetti, Carmel Rumbold, Helen Casey, Brenda Doran, Sharon Foott, Geraldine Gladman, Joan Glen.

Salads (can be delivered to school during the day, or sent with students in the morning)

Tomato and onion salad, 4 litres.  Amanda Reid, Sonia Phelan, Diona Cooper, Pam McKelvie, Barb Pellegrino
Feta Salad, 4 litres.  Sharlene Connelly, Simone Christie
Rice Salad, 4 litres.  Emma Bennett, Gail Smith, Nicole James, Claire Cook
Potato Salad, 4 litres.  Patrice Rickard, Carol Reid, Jacinta Connelly, Ros McClelland, Pia Coffey
Noodle Salad, 4 litres.  Cate Milne, Jenny (G) Noonan, Mandy Moloney, Heather Hogan, Rachael Lovett
Tossed Salad, 4 litres.  Carmel Rumbold, Kelli-ann Sheahan, Michelle Lee, Rachael Colbert, Tracey Bennett, Noeline Hogan, Cathy Young, Jackie Tierney, Kim Driscoll, Leonie Naylor
Coleslaw, 4 litres.  Carly Sharp, Sue Cozens
Beetroot, 2 x 425g tin.  Katherine Southall, Keiko Nakamura, Donald Cooper, Greg Martin.
Ice, 10 bags.  Angela Liston

Also we have some amazing prizes for our Raffles this year, and we would like the following people to spend a couple of hours selling raffle tickets down the street before the fete which would be greatly appreciated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Friday 29th February</th>
<th>Friday 7th March</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10am - 12noon</td>
<td>Deanne Botheras, Janine Paley</td>
<td>Emma Bennett, Amanda Reid</td>
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<tr>
<td>12noon - 2pm</td>
<td>Bern O’Donnell, Jackie Tierney</td>
<td>Wendy Collins, Helen Casey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2pm - 4pm</td>
<td>Heather Hogan, Pam McKelvie</td>
<td>Janet Smith, Marcia Mallia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4pm - 6pm</td>
<td>Jenny Hogan, Keiko Nakamura</td>
<td>Sharon Flowers, Julie Weir</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If anyone is unable to perform the set task, we would be grateful if you could arrange your own replacement or please contact me on 5085 4204

We are aware that a lot of people work and are busy, but if I have put you under undue pressure please let me know.

Many thanks, Trish Lehmann
Parents’ Club Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 5th March 2008
7:30 p.m. Staff Recreation Room

Agenda for this meeting:

- Apologies
- Minutes of 2007 AGM
- Business arising from minutes
- Treasurers report
- Election of Office Bearers
- Catering Committee
- Membership

Everyone is welcome to come along. We urge as many parents to come and contribute to the ongoing success of Parents’ Club. There will be a short general meeting afterwards to discuss ideas for guest speakers this coming year and other general business.

Any enquiries to Rhonda Bell (President) 54922428 or Gaye Bardell (Secretary) 53902322.

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>Prep Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Skipping with a rope</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>4/5 Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Spelling List 4, Tables 2 - 5x, General Knowledge questions</td>
<td>7th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>5/6 Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>General Knowledge questions, Tables 2x 3x 4x List Words</td>
<td>7th March ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Spelling, character and setting essay</td>
<td>6th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Langley</td>
<td>Homework sheet “Division by multiples of 10”</td>
<td>3rd March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Differences Count</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>“What’s Eating Gilbert Grape” notes</td>
<td>6th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Graphic Art</td>
<td>Miss Heyden</td>
<td>Comic assignment</td>
<td>6th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Survival</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>“Not without My Daughter” assignment</td>
<td>7th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Business Man</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>Business plan assignment</td>
<td>14th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Algebra</td>
<td>Miss Langley</td>
<td>Be up to date…test is not far away</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Studio Art</td>
<td>Miss Heyden</td>
<td>Photography assignment</td>
<td>6th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>General Maths</td>
<td>Barclay/Langley</td>
<td>Study chapter 1. Test Monday, Calculators needed by Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Chapter 3 review</td>
<td>6th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Maths Methods</td>
<td>Miss Langley</td>
<td>Review questions, up to and including Ex 2F</td>
<td>4th March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>SAC due</td>
<td>3rd March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit 3</td>
<td>Design &amp; Tech</td>
<td>Mr Whelan</td>
<td>Review text for Sac</td>
<td>3rd March</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Language analysis SAC</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Business Man</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>SAC on Tuesday</td>
<td>4th March</td>
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All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!
Netball Players

Girls interested in attending the Wimmera Mallee Region Junior Camp on March 27th & 28th at Stawell should see Julie Coffey for an application form.

$100 all inclusive for a 2 day intensive camp where players develop their netball skills under the supervision of a former State coach who will be working with WMNR coaches. For players aged between 14 – 16 years (must turn 14 by 21/12/08)

Girls interested in umpiring can also attend a Junior Level 1 umpires camp

These camps are aimed at both netball players and umpires and are for all skill levels Participants at the camp will complete a variety of different clinics in all areas of the game. All players are usually required to take bedding and a slice/fruit for afternoon tea/supper.

Concurrently with the players camp an umpire’s camp is also held over the 2 days at the same venue. This is aimed at interested girls 14 – 16. You do not have to have any previous umpiring experience. The numbers for this camp are usually lower than the player’s camp and so the instruction received is very hands-on. At the conclusion of the camp girls come out with a Junior Level 1 certificate which enables them, once they have successfully passed the umpire theory exam to attempt their C grade practical umpiring badge.
The first race meeting in Birchip in more than 50 years!

The Birchip Quarter Horse Cup

Sunday 16th March 2008
at Birchip

Enquiries please call 0419 342 106. The Birchip Quarter Horse Cup is a Birchip Development Group initiative.

And they’re racing at Birchip....

- Five card sprint races over various distances
- Feature race - Birchip Cup
- Special local horse race
- Bookmakers on course
- Great marquee packages

Site of the original Birchip Racecourse
- Scrumptious on course catering
- Whip Cracking Competition
- Eat, drink and be merry in the Mallee!

Free Non-Stop Entertainment -
- Bubble Birdcage
- Horse & Cart Rides
- Street Theatre
- Live Music
- And the fastest horses over a quarter of a mile!

Kick up your heels, kick up the dust and bring on the fun!