Forthcoming Events

March
- Tuesday 17th: Secondary Summer Sports
- Thursday 19th: School Fete
- Friday 20th: Primary Summer Sports - Donald
- Thursday 26th: School Council at 8pm
- Friday 27th: Shake Rattle & Read at 10:00am
- Presentation Ball

April
- Thursday 2nd: Senior Citizens Morning Tea & Easter Parade
- Friday 3rd: Last day of school for Term 1 - 2.30 finish
- Monday 20th: School Resumes
- Saturday 25th: Gallipoli performance for years 7 – 11

FETE Day – Thursday 19th March 2009

Late Start – The school day will commence 2 hours later than normal on Fete Day.

The normal six (6) classes are scheduled for the day but the school day will begin at 11:00 a.m. and finish at 4:30 p.m. School buses will deliver children to school by 11:00 a.m. but there will be NO homeward bound buses in the evening. Parents of bus travellers should adjust pick-up times to be 2 hours later in the morning to what is currently occurring.

Primary school students will finish classes at 3:50 p.m. which allow RED FACES to commence at this time. Parents, family and friends are most welcome to come and see the Red Faces performances. These will be held in the gallery with the best acts also performing later in the evening in the quadrangle.

Following the Red Faces acts BBQ sausages will be available at 5:00 p.m. for primary students. Parents are asked to provide $1.00 per sausage for their children.

The Fete is scheduled to commence at 5:30 p.m. with the sit-down roast meal commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Please refer to the individual letter attached the newsletter for all activities at the fete.

Fete Pet Show
The pet show will be running again at this year’s fete. The categories include:
- most unusual
- best behaved
- best dressed
- most intimidating

There will be a fifty cent entry fee to each category. Pets must be registered at the stage before 5:20 p.m. with the show commencing at 5:30pm.

Nathan Bennett and Ian Fraser organizers.

Secondary Students Summer Sports Carnival

On Tuesday 17th March 2009 secondary students will be involved in a sports carnival against students from Hopetoun and Rainbow schools.

Sports include basketball, tennis, softball, cricket and lawn bowls.

Some sports will be at Hopetoun (lawn bowls, boys tennis, girls basketball and cricket), while Birchip will be hosting boys basketball, girls tennis and boys and girls softball.

Transport notes (for students travelling to Hopetoun) were handed out on Thursday and should have been returned today or Monday.

All sports will be conducted during normal school hours.

All Birchip students will work period one before departing for sporting venues.
NORTHERN ZONE SWIMMING
FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2009 AT THE SWAN HILL SWIMMING POOL.

The swimming team is being finalised and notes will be handed out early next week.

Any parents willing to assist with transport will be appreciated.

Alpine School Meeting

Our students attending Alpine School at Dinner Plain in Term 2 attended a briefing from Mr Russell Shem at Hopetoun Secondary College last Tuesday. Laura Lee, Ashlea Potter and Emily Smith were able to meet Mr Shem and other students from Hopetoun, Rainbow, Sebastapol and Ararat and hear of the activities they will experience during their stay.

VCAL Debate

“It is too much of an imposition to expect ‘L’ plate drivers to document 120 hours of driving experience”

The affirmative side  The negative side
Lee James        Ian Fraser
Simon White      Marshall Connelly
James Totzenberger Nathan Witherow

Come along and see the VCAL students argue both sides!

When: Monday 30th March 2009 commencing at 6:00 p.m.
Where: Birchip P-12 School Staff Recreation Room

Refreshments provided

Everyone welcome - audience required

Maths is Marvellous – You can count on it!

Play games that involve mathematics. Materials and games to have on hand include: - dice, playing cards, dominoes, number cards 0-9, number chart to 100, games such as UNO and Snakes and Ladders and Monopoly.

Grade Five/Six Homework Questions – due Friday 20th March 2009

1. Of which make of car is the Silver Spirit a model?
2. By what name was champion racehorse Gunsynd affectionately known?
3. What anniversary does a bimillenary mark?
4. Who is the receiver of stolen goods and trainer of young thieves in Oliver Twist?
5. In sumo wrestling, what is the Japanese title for a grand champion?
6. What is birling?
7. How many carats are there in pure gold?
8. In the list of English kings, since 1066, only one has a name not repeated by any of his successors. What is that name?
9. What is a stave?
10. What was long distance runner Paavo Nurmi’s nickname?

Answers to Homework Questions – due Friday 13th March 2009

1. How is the plural of quiz spelt? Quizzes
2. Which animal is listed first in most dictionaries? Aardvark
3. In colloquial Australian, what is an “Oxford scholar”? A dollar
4. In metric measurements, what is the length of a cricket pitch? 20 metres
5. The Dalmatian was developed in which country? Yugoslavia
6. What is the maximum number of dots and dashes used for any letters in Morse code? 4
7. What colour is citrine? Lemon yellow
8. How many teeth has an adult with a full set? 32
9. What do mendicants do for a living? Beg
10. Moraine is debris carried down and deposited by what? Glacier

Word Quiz

The English Department is working to increasing students’ vocabulary and each week we will be listing two words for students and parents to talk about together. Which words are closest in meaning to the underlined word?

Words for this week

Conceit Ashamed Stubborn Vain
Happy Smug

Deft Awkward Agile Clumsy
Dexterous Qualified
Presentation Ball
The Birchip P-12 School Presentation Ball will be held on Friday 27\textsuperscript{th} March 2009 at the Birchip Town Hall. Presentation is at 8.30pm.

Tickets: Adults - $12.00  Students - $5.00
Viewing (upstairs) - $3.00  Primary Students – Free

You are strongly encouraged to pre-book your tickets to the ball. Pre-booked tickets must be paid for when the booking is made. Bookings can be made at the school office during school times. Tickets are also available on the night at the door.

Alcohol: Whilst alcohol may be consumed by adult attendees of the Presentation Ball, NO Birchip P-12 School student may consume alcohol during the evening.

Parents' Club Fete Catering - Thursday 19\textsuperscript{th} March 2009
The March Fete is fast approaching and we will be relying on your generosity of donations of food to one of our main school fundraisers of the year.

Workers from 5:30 p.m.
Jenny Hogan, Cathy Bales, Gaye Bardell, Bev Forrester, Deanne Botheras, Janine Paley, Joan Glen,
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 5:30 p.m.

**Tomato and onion salad 4 litres**
Amanda Reid, Sonia Phelan, Diona Cooper, Pam McKelvie,

**Rice Salad 4 litres**
Emma Bennett, Gaye Bardell, Bissy Ajithkumar, Kerry Barker

**Feta Salad 4 litres**
Belinda Randall, Marjorie Mattschoss, Val Connelly, Sharlene Connelly,

**Potato Salad 4 litres**
Patrice Rickard, Carol Reid, Claire Cook, Jacinta Connelly, Pia Coffey, Tammie Tait, Wendy Bidstrup, Cheryl White,

**Noodle Salad 4 litres**
Cate Milne, Jenny (G) Noonan, Veronica Ryan, Heather Hogan, Rachel Lovett,

**Tossed Salad 4 litres**
Georgina Hogan, Rachel Owa, Michelle Lee, Rachel Colbert, Tracey Bennett, Noeline Hogan, Jackie Tierney, Angela Liston, Trish Lehmann,

**Coleslaw 4 litres**
Kim Driscoll, Leonie Naylor, Carly Sharp, Wendy Watts

**Own Choice Salad 4 litres**
Jenny (P) Noonan, Jenny Atkinson, Annette Bennett, Louise Lee, Julie Weir, Barb Smith, Augustina Garcia, Trudy Mathieson, Lindy Fraser,

**Beetroot 2x425g tin**
Katherine Southall, Keiko Nakamura, Donald Cooper, Greg Martin,

**Drought tolerant Plants, and Second Hand Book Stall** - Donations to the above would be greatly appreciated

Workers 5.30pm
Rhonda Bell, Ros McClelland, Wendy Watts, Denita Donnan
Parents’ Club Roster

The following families are requested to provide an adult family member to work (help cook and serve food) for a two (2) hour period at the Birchip Race Track.

12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.
Trish Lehmann, Angela Liston, Simone Christie, Jenny Hogan, Simone Donnellon, Cathy Bales, Louise Lee, Helen Casey, Sharon Foot

2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Kerry Walder Claire Cook, Jackie Tierney, Lyn Boyle, Sharon flowers, Heather Hogan, Bern O’Donnell

If you are unable to undertake your allotted time, please organize your own replacement however if unable to do this please contact Trish or Angela.

Birchip Quarterhorse Races

Membership

Members, don’t forget to attach your ticket to yourself or bag for your admittance and benefits on the Saturday night and Sunday.

Memberships are still available from Jenny Goldsmith $30 new membership, $25 renewing membership.

2009 Membership benefits include: (benefits are not transferable)

- Free entry into the St Patrick’s Party, Saturday night March 14th 2009 which includes a free sausage sizzle, entertainment & Cup Calcutta ($10)
- Free entry into the 2nd Birchip Quarter Horse Cup race meeting, Sunday March 15th 2009 ($10)
- Free Cup Day race book ($3)
- Members re’treat’ at the races for MEMBERS ONLY! A place to go for a rest, a cool drink, meet up with others or to witness the lucky ticket and betting voucher draws before each race.
- Free entry in a members only cup day raffle & monthly member prize draws
- Special member discounts at any race events organised in 2009
- $5 discount on membership cost for the following year 2010 ($5)
- Remember there will be complimentary buses to and from the St Patrick’s party and the races leaving from the Birchip Cropping Group.
**BIRCHIP TENNIS NEWS**

**Championship & Breakup**
Draw has been given out. Please arrange to play matches as soon as possible ready for grand finals to be played on Friday 20th March at 5:00 p.m. This will be followed by the breakup with the Cricket Club in the Leisure Centre. Tennis players a salad please and cricketers a sweet. There will be a $5.00 charge to cover meat and extras and staff for kitchen.

**Pee Wee Tennis**
On again tomorrow and next Saturday. Please bring $10 sub to Bern O'Donnell or to School Office

**Ladies Tournaments**
Nullawil - Tuesday 17th March 2009 and Birchip - Tuesday 24th March 2009.

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**Preliminary Notice**

**Sunday 29th March**

**Birchip Park at 9.30 a.m.**

EAST WIMMERA HEALTH SERVICE - HOT SHOTS

*Murray to Moyne* relay – Birchip Participants will be holding a competition for BEST DECORATED BIKE
Primary Students only

Police will be in attendance to do engraving identification on bikes.

Judging of bikes will take place at 10.00 a.m.

Great Prizes to be won

Entry $2.00 with all proceeds going to the EWHS Birchip Campus

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**Birchip Watchem Football Club**

**Junior Players and Committee**

There will be a BBQ and registration evening for players intending to play under 13 and under 16 for Birchip Watchem in 2009 on Wednesday 18th June at 6:30 p.m. at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre. A short meeting will follow the BBQ for parents.

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**WINTER BUSHFIRE APPEAL**

The Watchem Craft ladies have rallied together to make warm clothing for the people who have suffered through the bushfires. We are knitting, crocheting or sewing, beanies, scarfs, jumpers, cardigans and blankets. Sizes ranging from babies to adults. If you can’t make a full garment but you can do squares, we will sew them together to make blankets. Even a much loved handmade soft toy will please a small child.

If you would like to help but don’t have wool, we do have some available or you can donate wool instead.

Ladies could you please attach a piece of paper with the size to the garment.

The closing date for the appeal is Friday 1st May.

For more information phone: Yvonne – 03 5498 1381, Maya – 03 5498 1238

ANY JUMPERS IN GOOD CONDITION CAN ALSO BE DONATED
Junior Cricket Grand Final

The Junior Cricket season culminated last week with a high quality final played on the George Cartwright Oval.

The two top teams Border and Chappell enjoyed the batting conditions of the turf pitch and a number of batsmen made good scores.

Ultimately it was Chappell the victor, however all players should be congratulated on the spirit the game was played in and indeed for their steady progress observed throughout the season.

Scores
Chappell 118 defeated Border 100

Chappell
Riley Doran 33 retired
Harrison Christie 30 retired
Luke Lovett 13
Joshua Bennett 2 wickets for 4 runs

Border
Marshall Connelly 36 retired
Rowley Walsh 14 not out

Thank you to:
- all parents who umpired during the season
- captains and older players who assisted with the younger players and made their cricketing experience a positive one
- Birchip Cricket Club for the preparation of the turf pitch for the Grand Final
- Peter and Brenda Doran for organising the BBQ
- all parents and supporters that came to watch the grand final.

Hopefully we will see some senior (A Grade) cricketers emerge from the talent that has been on display this season.

Birchip Play Group

Tuesday 17th March 2009 - Come to playgroup dressed in green and celebrate St Patrick's Day. Have fun with lots with green activities.

Tuesday 24th March - Invitation to all new and existing playgroup mothers to come and enjoy a special morning tea commencing 10.30 a.m. to celebrate National Playgroup Week. Fun activities and giveaways for all the children.

Birchip Premiership Photos

Did you ever win a premiership in tennis, hockey or netball for Birchip?

Do you have an original photo of the winning team?


Please contact Simone Christie or Julie Coffey with the details and the original photo for scanning.
## 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>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Weir/Emonson</td>
<td>Spelling activities&lt;br&gt;Spelling Test&lt;br&gt;Learn times tables&lt;br&gt;Practise subtracting from 100&lt;br&gt;Practise adding/subtracting money</td>
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<td>18th Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Weir/Emonson</td>
<td>Homework Questions</td>
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<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Spelling</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Camp writing piece</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Revision</td>
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<td>9/10</td>
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<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Australian Writing Piece&lt;br&gt;Survival writing piece&lt;br&gt;Murder Ink writing piece</td>
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<td>17th Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Forensics</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Prepare for speech</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Research your modern conflict</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Aust. History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Medieval History</td>
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<td>Multiple Intelligence Assign</td>
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<td>10/11</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>Bullying Work</td>
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<td>Business Man.</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>SAC question</td>
<td>18th Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>Chapter 3 Review Questions</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>Chapter 5 questions</td>
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<td>Further Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Chapter 5 Review</td>
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<td>English</td>
<td>Smith/Hicks</td>
<td>Prepare for analysis and oral SAC</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
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All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

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**Want to help the mental health of your community?**

**MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID**

*A Mental Health First Aid Course is now available*

Mental Health First Aid is a 12-hour course which teaches first aid skills for mental health crisis situations and the early stages of mental health problems.

**Where:**
Birchip Cropping Group

**When:**
Tuesday 24th and Tuesday 31st March, 10:00 am – 4:30 pm

**Cost:**
FREE: Participants MUST register

**Contact Name:**
Rebecca Bennett, East Wimmera Health Service

**Number:**
54 772 177

**Email:**
Rebecca.bennett@ewhs.org.au

**RSVP by:**
5:00 p.m. Thursday 19th March 2009

For further information visit our website- www.mhfa.com.au
Habits of Mind

Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

On Tuesday night year seven students and their parents sat down with teachers to discuss their progress at school. 80% of parents and students in year seven attended the night. The interviews were held at 5:00 p.m. in which teachers had to communicate with clarity and precision. Interviews were followed by a BBQ dinner at 7:00 p.m.

The following day students reflected (thinking about thinking) on their interviews and highlighted areas they were doing well in and areas that needed improving. As a class, students brainstormed strategies (thinking interdependently) they could employ in order to improve their education.

Connor Buteux
“I’m doing well in most classes at school”.
“It would benefit me to work faster when doing writing activities”

Cooper Benfield
“My teachers told me that I am working well”.
“I am going to work on being more focused in English”.

Ashleigh Baird
“I am completing my work to a good standard in English”.
“Sometimes I need to concentrate more in maths”.

Molly Hogan
English: “I am quite good at fiction but non-fiction is not my thing”

Marnie Lehman
“I work well in teams... I am good at making the people who don’t work, work”