Forthcoming Events

March
- Presentation Ball
- Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews

April
- Senior Citizens Morning Tea & Easter Parade
- Last day of school for Term 1 - 2.30 finish
- School Resumes
- Gallipoli performance for years 7 – 11
- School Council
- Anzac Day
- Tutti Fruitti Healthy Eating Show

May
- Year 10 Work Experience
- Year 9 Advance Camp - Swan Hill
- Primary Cross Country - St Arnaud
- NAPLAN Testing for Yrs 3,5,7 & 9 students
- Physical Resources Meeting
- Education Week

June
- Grade 6 Maldon Camp
- Queen’s Birthday Holiday
- VCE exams & GAT exam
- Physical Resources meeting
- Australian Science Exam
- Pupil Free Day - report writing day
- Primary Winter Sports - Birchip
- Last day of second term - 2.30pm finish

July
- First day of third term

Parent Teacher Student Interviews
Tuesday 31st March 2009 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

All parents should have received notification of the Parent Teacher Student Interviews which will be conducted on Tuesday 31st March 2009 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Stadium.

Families have been allocated one or two of three hour blocks.

Session 1: 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Session 2: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Session 3: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Should your allotted time be inconvenient, please contact Mr Cameron Whelan at the school for an alternative time.

All teachers except Miss Howard and Mr McRae will be in attendance. Parents of students in Mrs Kelly’s & Mrs Sheahan’s Prep/One class will be able to catch up with both teachers on Tuesday 28th April 2009 at the school. Please take the opportunity to come and discuss your sons and daughters progress with their teacher. Interim Reports will be distributed on the night.

Presentation Night
Tonight
Friday 27th March 2009

The 2009 Annual Presentation Ball will be held tonight, Friday 27th March 2009, commencing at 8:00 p.m. in the Birchip Public Hall.

Tickets are available at the door:
Adults $12.00, Secondary Students $10.00
$5.00, Viewing upstairs - $2.50, primary Students – Free.
The presentation ball is an official school event and therefore appropriate behaviour will be expected.
Students have been learning to dance for some weeks now and the presentation ball is the grand finale for these students to showcase their skills and abilities on the dance floor.

Whilst alcohol will be able to be consumed at the presentation ball by adults, it is NOT APPROPRIATE for any student of the Birchip P-12 School (irrespective of their age) to do so. This will be strictly enforced and we request parent co-operation in this matter.

Student Information Updates
It is necessary from time to time to update our school records especially student details, parent’s contact details including addresses, telephone numbers including mobiles, family occupation group, medical information and emergency contact details. If your child has an allergy or asthma it is essential that a plan be completed. Would you please read and check carefully the ‘Student Information Fill Details’ listing for your sons and daughters? If any information requires changing would you note all changes on the sheet and return to the school office by Thursday 2nd April 2009. You will find this information in with the booklists sent out next Monday.

Northern Zone Swimming
Congratulations to all swimmers who represented the school at Swan Hill last Friday.
The team of 13 was made up mostly of younger secondary students with a blend of more experienced swimmers and results indicate that it was a worthwhile experience for all participants.
Hopefully next year we can build on the results and get even more students to attend some training sessions with the swimming club.
Placings
1st Brenten Delaney: 50m butterfly & 50m freestyle
2nd Brenten Delaney: 100m freestyle
3rd Ashlee Donnan: 50m butterfly & 50m breaststroke, Marshall Connelly: 50m freestyle
Thank you to the large numbers of parents, grandparents and friends who supported the students on the day.
Thank you also to Mr Delaney and Ms Digby who attended on behalf of the school.
Good Luck to Brenten who will representing the school at the VSSSA swimming finals to be held at M.S.A.C. next Thursday.

Mallee Secondary Summer Sports Carnival
As reported last week the Secondary Summer Sports Carnival was held recently.
We are extremely fortunate to have people in the community who are happy to give their time to ensure the success of such events.
In particular I would like to thank the Birchip Leisure Centre, especially the Birchip Tennis Club for the use of their facilities and Sam Goldsmith, Jak Goldsmith, Kerrie Walder, and Lee McLoughlan who were fantastic in giving their time to umpire the boys basketball competition.

PRIMARY SUMMER SPORTS – DONALD
In very warm conditions Mr Tyler, Mr Donnellon and Mrs Emonson took a group of grade 4, 5 and 6 students to Donald to represent our school in the Summer Sports. We had two Kanga cricket teams and a TEE Ball team. The Division A cricket team, under the guidance of Mr Tyler, came up against some strong competition but managed to have one win and some good contests in the other three games. While some strong batting and bowling was displayed we were not consistent enough to score victory. We ended up second on
the day. Mr Chris Donnellon guided the Division B team to a strong last game win and some very narrow defeats. Again they displayed some strong batting but couldn’t get the wickets they needed to win the games. This team came fourth in their division. It was left to the Tee Ballers to uphold the banner. With four wins, a draw and a one run loss they came away outright winners on the day. Congratulations to the Tee Ball team for their win. Well done to all the players who represented the school on the day in a terrific and very sporting manner. A special mention must go to those students who stood out during the day to allow others a turn. Thanks also to the parents who came along and supported us on the day.

On Friday 20th March we went to Donald. It was Chanel’s birthday so we sang Happy Birthday to her on the bus. We also sang Michael Finnegan. Our first game was a bye, the second game was against Donald 1 - we easily won. Next we played St Arnaud 2 - we drew at 7 all. The fourth game was against Donald 2 we won with 16 to 6. We then had our lunch break. The fifth game was against St Patricks which we won, and Georgia got a blood nose from the heat. Our sixth game was against St Marys we won and Maddy nearly fainted from heat stroke. The final game was against St Arnaud 1 - we just lost. We won overall.

Leslee Cooper

On Friday we went to Donald to play cricket. I was in A grade but we unfortunately lost the first game with Donald 115 - Birchip 69. Next game we played St Pat which we also lost. The third game we won against St Mary’s. Scores being Birchip 154 to St Mary’s 121. Our last game was my best even though we lost. I hit 1 twelve, 2 sixes, 3 fours and some singles. The score was St Arnaud 119 Birchip 109. It was a great day all up and I would like to thank Mr Tyler for coaching.

Sean Hogan

On Friday the 20th March we went to Donald to play cricket. There were two different teams, A Grade and B Grade team. On A Grade team Nikko was our team captain and James was the captain of B Grade team. In the first game we played Donald. We lost by 115 runs to Birchip 69 runs. In the second game we played cricket St Pat’s. They were real hard to play. St Pat’s scored 91 runs and we scored 75 runs. The third game we finally won Birchip with 154 runs and St Mary’s 121 points. On the last game we lost by 10 runs St Arnaud with 119 points and Birchip 109 runs.

Mikko Garcia

For our first game we played Donald 1. It was a long bus trip there but we still won by 9. The scores were 23-14. We then headed to diamond B to play St Arnaud 2. Everyone in our team and most of the other teams thought that this diamond was crooked and looked more like a square than a diamond but we still managed to come a 7 all draw. Our third game was against Donald 2. This was another win but we went through a couple of difficulties including Dammy not being able to see through the helmet and both Chanel and I getting the wrong handed gloves. Our captain was Ty. This was our last game before our lunch break. After the break we played St Patrick’s and Georgia got a blood nose so we had to put Shae in. We won this game. We left Diamond B to go to Diamond A which we won again. Unfortunately in this game Maddy had to sit out because she felt woozy and nearly fainted.

Claudia Lee

On the Friday 20th March Grades 4/5/6 went to Donald to play Cricket or tee ball. I played A Grade cricket. The first game was Donald and they won by 46 runs. Our second game we played St Pat’s and we lost that game and we all thought that we would win but we lost by 16 runs. Next we got to play St Mary’s I got 1 wicket and 1 run and we won by 16 runs. The last game we played St Arnaud and I got 1 wicket and 23 runs off the over. We lost by 10 runs.

Royce Bennett

Homework Questions
due Friday 3rd April 2009

1. When and where did the last surviving Tasmania tiger die?
2. When did HMAS Sydney sink?
3. Who was the only survivor rescued from the Thredbo landslide?
4. What Australian disaster occurred on 18th January 1977?
5. How many years ago did the West Gate Bridge collapse?
6. What was the name of the freighter that crashed into the Tasman Bridge in 1975?
7. What was the name of the space shuttle that exploded as it returned to earth in 2003?
8. What was the Hindenburg?
9. What date was the Chernobyl nuclear disaster?
10. Where was the Titanic travelling from and to?
Year 12 Agriculture and Horticulture

Dr Michael Walsh from the University of Melbourne and The Birchip Cropping Group spoke to the Unit 3 Agriculture and Horticulture students about weeds, herbicides and herbicide resistance.

Dr Walsh discussed what constitutes a weed and the various herbicides that can be used to curtail the affects of these unwanted plants. The effect of resistant weeds on Western Australian Agriculture was raised also.

The students paid particular attention to the costs to the Agricultural industry of spraying weeds. It is estimated that 3 billion dollars are spent annually on weed control and product development.

We thank Dr Walsh for his time.

---

Word Quiz

This week, pick the three synonyms for each word but can you describe the subtle difference between the three similar words?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conceit</th>
<th>Deft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ashamed</td>
<td>Awkward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stubborn</td>
<td>Agile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vain</td>
<td>Clumsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happy</td>
<td>Dexterous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smug</td>
<td>Qualified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

VCAL Debate

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The affirmative side</th>
<th>The negative side</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lee James</td>
<td>Ian Fraser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon White</td>
<td>Marshall Connelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Totzenberger</td>
<td>Nathan Witherow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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!

Keep the Calendar Up-to-date

Mark any special events on the calendar, e.g. family and friends’ birthdays, outings, holidays, etc. Look at the sequence days and months. Look for patterns. Encourage the children to make their own calendars.

Earth Hour will occur on Saturday 28 March, 2009 between 8:30pm – 9:30pm.

Earth Hour is a global concept in which houses and businesses are invited to turn off their lights for one hour on a specified date to raise awareness of climate change and energy use.
Bus Travellers

Bus travellers are advised that school will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m. next Friday, 3rd April, so buses will be approximately one hour earlier than usual.

Wilkur Watchem Bus Travellers

A reminder that next term the Watchem Wilkur Bus will travel on the Clockwise Route. Information booklets will be sent home next week.

GWM Water Year 9 $75.00 Awards

GWM Water is providing the opportunity for two Year 9 students from this school to receive a $75 award each this year.

Entries need to make a direct link to water, influence understanding of water in the community and be selected from one of the key learning areas as outlined in the award criteria.

For more information on the awards and how you might receive one, visit the GWM Water website [www.gwmwater.org.au](http://www.gwmwater.org.au) and type Year 9 awards in the search box, or contact GWM Water’s Community Education Co-ordinator Gillian Vanderwaal on 1300 659 961.

YEAR 9 ACTIVITIES – DAY 4

On Wednesday the year 9 class continued their journey with their activity program. Students were involved with Belly Dancing (‘The Teen Queens’) with Sheoak Belly Dancers from Donald and Self-defence (‘Run for ur life’) with Brendan Doyle from Birchip. Students were thoroughly entertained and enjoyed both sessions on the day. Thanks must go to Sheoak Belly Dancers and Brendan Doyle for giving up their time to facilitate these programs. Special thanks must also go to Rhonda Allan from the Mallee Sports Assembly for co-ordinating the activities sessions over the past month. Next Wednesday all year 9 students will travel to Bendigo for a thrilling day of activities. Students will be accompanied by Miss Meehan and Mr Knights.

Decorated Bike Competition

Sunday 29th March
Birchip Park at 9.30 a.m.

EAST WIMMERA HEALTH SERVICE - HOT SHOTS will be in attendance from 9:30 ‘Murray to Moyne’ relay – Birchip Participants will be holding a competition for BEST DECORATED BIKE. Primary Students only

9.30am - Police will be in attendance to do engraving identification on bikes.

10am - Judging of bikes will take place Section 1 Prep - Grade 3 Section 2 Grades 4, 5 & 6

1st prize Pushbike 2nd prize Bike Helmet 3rd prize Bike flag

To be awarded in both sections. Plus other great prizes to be won.

Sausage sizzle during the morning Entry $2.00 with all proceeds going to the EWHS Birchip Campus

If weather is inclement, will be held in Birchip Public Hall Foyer.
Presentation Ball Roster Friday 27th March 2009

The continuation of the traditional sumptuous supper at the presentation ball is reliant upon the generosity of our parent body.

Food may be brought to school in the morning or delivered to the hall by 6:30 p.m.

If you are unable to work or provide food please find your own replacement.

Workers 7:00 p.m. coordinators
Rhonda Bell, Sam Kemp, Colene Delaney, Deanne Botheras, Wendy Buteux, Renae Dingley, Denise Emery, Margaret O’Keefe

Small Cream Puffs, 2doz Sam Kemp, Rachel Colbert
Éclairs 2doz Michelle Lee, Deanne Botheras
Jelly Slice2 doz Wendy Collins, Wendy Buteux
Hedgehog 2doz Danine Brody, Mandy Braine
Own Choice slice 2doz Rosalie Gould, Bev Forrester
Sausage rolls- 3 doz Debbie Emonson, Nicole James, Carly Sharp
Mini Quiches- 3doz Denita Donnan, Rhonda Bell, Colene Delaney
Meatballs- 3 doz Renae Dingley, Lyn Boyle, Veronica Hogan
Pin Wheels-3doz Fiona Sayle, Kim McInerney
Milk 4 litres Greg Martin
Tomato Sauce 4 litres Margaret O’Keefe

Bull n Pine Cafe
As we have sold our business, could all accounts please be paid by Monday 30th March.
Thank you - Helen and Shane Blencowe.

Bull n Pine Cafe
As we have sold our business, could all accounts please be paid by Monday 30th March.
Thank you - Helen and Shane Blencowe.

Bushfire Appeal Garage Sale
As Watchem Playgroup is no longer operating we will be holding a garage sale to clear all of our belongings on Sunday 19th April 10am at the Watchem Resource Centre with the proceeds from this being donated to Playgroup Victoria Bushfire Fund. Anyone is welcome to hold a stall. Proceeds from all stalls are donated to the Victoria Bushfire Appeal. If you would like to know more or book a stall please contact Rachel 5498 1268 or Melissa 5498 1274.

Boys & Girls Boxercise Class with Brenda
Monday nights term 2, 4pm if enough interested.
Please contact Simone at the BB&LC
Email birchipblc@bigpond.com
Phone 0429 922 745

Sunday School Easter Lessons
will be on Sunday 29th at 10.30am. Birchip Uniting Church.
Contact Annette Mengler Bennett 5085 4253

Jumble Sale
Birchip Uniting Church Grounds
Saturday March 28
9.30am - 12.30pm
Sundry items for sale including furniture
Cake and cappuccino available $5

SACs next week
- PE Tuesday
- Chemistry Thursday perhaps

Birchip Watchem Netball Club Meeting
Thursday 3rd April
7.30pm
Netball Rooms
## 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>Prep</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Sheahan</td>
<td>Look for things being with Ll</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Recognise/write numbers 1 - 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Sheahan</td>
<td>Practise ‘th’ sound</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Counting x 5, x 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Counting 0 - 150+</td>
<td>30th Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>31st Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Weir/Emonson</td>
<td>Spelling activities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Spelling test</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Continue to learn times tables</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SOSE project research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>General Knowledge Questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7 x tables. List Words</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Assignment due</td>
<td>2nd April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Spelling, Found essay</td>
<td>2nd April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Work on assignment</td>
<td>2nd April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Wool assignment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Aust. History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Practise exam questions</td>
<td>30th Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Drover writing piece</td>
<td>30th Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Law Makers</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Ideas for laws questions</td>
<td>30th Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Lord</td>
<td>Read Unpolished Gem</td>
<td>20th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>General Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Test - study Assignment</td>
<td>31st Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Chapter 4 Review questions</td>
<td>2nd April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>VCAL</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Final debate presentation</td>
<td>30th Mar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>Chp 6 questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>SAC enzymes</td>
<td>2nd April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Smith/Hicks</td>
<td>Inheritance, start Conflict folio</td>
<td>2nd April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!
Habits of Mind

Applying Past Knowledge

Over the past few weeks, Year 9 students have been using what they have previously learned to help them in new situations.

Brenten: I use formulas from maths last year to help me understand maths better this year.

Sarah: In Leaving Home I use past knowledge from Food classes to help me measure all food sizes.

Demi: I use what I have previously learnt in Japanese because it helps me remember words for new situations.

Jake: What I know from last year in Maths is helping me this year, especially with ‘Gathering Like Terms’.

Sophie: My previous knowledge of maths has helped me this year in linear equations because I understand the problems more.

Claire: What I know from my Food classes is helping me cook without burning any of the food.

Megan: I use my knowledge of science to ensure that I am safe in the science room.