Forthcoming Events

April
Saturday 25th Anzac Day
Wednesday 29th Tutti Fruitti Healthy Eating Show

May
Monday 4th → Year 10 Work Experience
Friday 8th
Monday 4th → Year 9 Advance Camp - Swan Hill
Friday 8th
Friday 8th Primary Cross Country - St Arnaud
Tuesday 12th → NAPLAN Testing for Yrs 3, 5, 7 & 9 students
Physical Resources Meeting
Monday 18th → Education Week
Friday 22nd
Thursday 21st School Council Meeting

June
Monday 1st → Grade 6 Maldon Camp
Wednesday 3rd
Monday 8th Queen’s Birthday Holiday
Tuesday 9th → VCE exams & GAT exam
Thursday 22nd
Tuesday 9th Physical Resources meeting
Wednesday 10th Australian Science Exam
Friday 12th Pupil Free Day - report writing day
Friday 19th Primary Winter Sports - Birchip
Friday 26th Last day of second term - 2.30pm finish

July
Monday 13th First day of third term

Welcome Back!
Welcome back to school for second term. We have our full complement of staff this term with the return from long service leave of Mrs Merrilyn Kelly. Second term (10 weeks) is notoriously busy with midyear examinations, NAPLAN testing for years 3, 5, 7 and 9 and student reporting along with football, netball and hockey competitions in full swing.

ANZAC Day Tomorrow
Tomorrow, Saturday, being ANZAC day, I will be attending the ANZAC day ceremony at the Birchip cenotaph at 11:00 a.m. with our School Captains, Claudia Lee and Riley Sayle

New Students
This term we welcome 6 new students to our school. We welcome Ange and Brendan Gleeson and their children Courtney (Year 8), Jacob (Year 6), Sophie (Year 2) and Chloe (Year Prep). We also welcome Jamie and Christine Tuthill and their children Brendan (Year 6) and Jayde (Year Prep). We trust you all have an enjoyable and educative stay at Birchip P-12 School.

Monday 27th April 2009
NORMAL SCHOOL DAY
Due to some questions being asked, there is a need to stress to parents and students that Monday 27th April 2009 is a normal school day and not a public holiday in lieu of Anzac Day.

Grade Prep/One Parent Teacher Afternoon with Mrs Kelly & Mrs Sheahan
As mentioned last term, the Parent Teacher Interviews for Grade Prep/One students with Mrs Kelly & Mrs Sheahan would take place this term. The afternoon of Monday 27th April 2009 suits both Mrs Kelly and Mrs Sheahan best and we trust this also suits you. Both Mrs Kelly and Mrs Sheahan will be available from 1:30 p.m. to speak with parents of Grade Prep/One students.

There are 23 students involved and so we need to limit the interviews to...
ten (10) minutes. I request you to limit the conversation to this time schedule please. If required a further meeting at a later time can be arranged for further discussion and clarification. The interviews will take place in Room 25 at the front office of the administration building of the school.

Letters to parents of students in Grade Prep and One with Mrs Kelly and Mrs Sheahan were sent home during the week. If the time allocated does not suit, please feel free to swap, if possible, with another family. Should this be the case please let the school office know of the swap.

Reorganization of classes in the Early Years (Grade Prep – Two)

Last year primary teachers divided students into class groups which, at the time, were appropriate for the student numbers we had and took into consideration the class split history and needs of the students.

These class arrangements worked well in term one however since the commencement of term two we have welcomed more students to our school, particularly within the Early Years (Prep – Two). We believe it is appropriate to alter these class groupings to more adequately cater for the needs of the students involved.

As a result, it is intended to bring the grade one class together and split the grade two class. This will result in more even class splits for the Early Years and cater far better for the needs of the students concerned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prep</th>
<th>Grade One &amp; Two</th>
<th>Grade Two &amp; Three</th>
<th>Grade Four &amp; Five</th>
<th>Grade Five &amp; Six</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Mrs Taylor</td>
<td>Mrs Weir</td>
<td>Mrs Emonson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room 21</td>
<td>Room 23</td>
<td>Room 22</td>
<td>Room 19</td>
<td>Room 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade Prep</td>
<td>Grade 117</td>
<td>Grade 27</td>
<td>Grade 420</td>
<td>Grade 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 25</td>
<td>Grade 316</td>
<td>Grade 54</td>
<td>Grade 614</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL 19</td>
<td>TOTAL 22</td>
<td>TOTAL 23</td>
<td>TOTAL 24</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The primary timetable will not need to be changed and classroom assistants will remain in their present classes.

We believe the earlier the change occurs the better and hence the following class groupings will take effect from Monday 27th April 2009.

Mid-year Examinations

Many senior students are increasing the amount of studying for their mid-year exams and undertaking extra classes. This year the school is introducing official exams for students in years 9 and 10. These exams will count towards their end of semester results. So, students in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 will experience mid-year examinations in June of this year. Miss Stacey Hicks is presently organising the exam timetable for students.

GALLIPOLI TALK

On Monday, students were treated to a unique re-telling of the Gallipoli story entitled Lest We Forget by Jan. The performance was unique because it used both Turkish and Australian song, poetry and yarn spinning to tell a story central to both Turkish and Australian literature.

Jan’s performance was challenging and gave students perspectives of the war from both sides. Students took note when Jan mentioned that the Turkish people today say that indeed the ANZACS were lucky that they landed at the wrong beach because if they had been on course and landed where they should have, the list of casualties would have been far greater as here there were thousands of Turks waiting for them. He explained that the cliffs where the ANZACS landed were so steep the Turks didn’t guard this area well.

The students from years 7-11 were obviously engaged and asked some interesting questions. From their questioning they learned that we see Gallipoli as the focal point for the war because unlike wars today which go on for protracted periods of time and cover many arenas, the Gallipoli campaign had a definite beginning and end. They also learned that the Australian and Turkish soldiers had an obvious respect for one another because the war was honourable.

Jan was impressed with the depth of the students’ questioning and thinking on the issue.

SKILLS CENTRE FUNDING

The school is extremely fortunate to have been given a $61,000 grant to construct a commercial hospitality centre. This means that half of the existing kitchen will be ‘ripped out’ and replaced by a commercial kitchen with stainless steel equipment, a combo steamer oven, a new dishwasher, grill-top stove and new storage area along with a barista machine. New non-slip, industrial floor coverings will also be installed. Food teacher, Mrs Barb Smith, is excited by these
new developments as not only students will benefit but also the community who will be able to cater from the new centre.

The commercial kitchen will add even more variety to the school’s curriculum offerings as now students are able to leave the school with Certificate II in hospitality and selected units in Certificate III. This means that our students have the ability to leave the school with not only their VCE but also with a variety of industry recognised certificates that will help them make their way in the job market.

Primary Cross Country
The School Primary Cross Country events will be held at school on Wednesday 29th April 2009 commencing at approximately 2:00 p.m. All primary children are expected to participate but if this is not possible could a note be supplied please. Children are encouraged to wear suitable clothing and footwear for the activity. There will be an event for the 5-8 year age groups and another for the 9-12 year olds. Age groups are calculated as at 31.12.2009. Parents and other interested onlookers are most welcome to attend.

‘Go for your life’ Healthy Start in Schools
The school has also received a grant of $6,000 to upgrade the fitness track which follows the boundaries of our school. The fitness track over a past few years has fallen into disrepair. Our Alpine School students Laura lee, Emily Smith, Jesse Smith and Ashlea Potter will be able to avail themselves of this funding to assist with them with their Community Learning Project.

The planned works include completely grading the track, repairing a bridge across a wetland area, repacking man made hills, and providing signage for the various checkpoints. It is proposed to use the fitness track for timetabled classes, such as Physical Education, Art and Science. Community members and town sporting groups would also regularly access it for walks and fitness activities.

Many thanks to Mrs Merrily Kelly for her work with this successful submission.

Word Quiz
Words for this week. Pick the odd word out in each column. See if you can pick the subtle difference between the words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anger- noun</th>
<th>Blemish-noun and verb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outburst</td>
<td>tarnish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livid</td>
<td>Brilliant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affectionate</td>
<td>marred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irritated</td>
<td>pitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glowering</td>
<td>disfigured</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Uniform
We have a two week changeover time from summer to Winter uniform. On Monday 4th May 2009 all students are expected to be in full Winter uniform. The uniform policy can be found under the information tab on the school’s webpage http://www.birchip.vic.edu.au. I have also included the winter uniform list below for your convenience.

P - 6 Winter Uniform

**Boys:**
White polo shirt or gold skivvy
Grey trousers or grey shorts or dark green track pants
Dark green windcheater or fleecy top.

Black or white socks
Black shoes
P6 students may wear sneakers

**Girls:**
White polo shirt or gold skivvy
Green tailored slacks or dark green track pants.
Dark green windcheater or fleecy top.

Plain white socks
Brown or black shoes
P6 students may wear sneakers

7 - 12 Winter Uniform

**Boys:**
Navy jumper with collar and school logo
White **tailored** shirt with **stiff collar**
School tie
Grey trousers or grey shorts
Black socks
Black shoes

**Girls:**
Navy jumper with collar and school logo
White **tailored** shirt with **stiff collar**
School tie
Green six-gore skirt or green **tailored** slacks
Plain white socks
Brown shoes
Maths is Marvellous – You can count on it! 

**Mass and Height**

Keep a record of your child’s mass and height. See how much they have grown each year. Do this for everyone in the family.

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**Grade Five and Six Homework Questions – due Friday 1st May 2009**

1. If you were in the Doldrums, would you be on land, sea or air?
2. How many bones are there in the human body?
3. What is a trilby?
4. What animals would you find in a byre?
6. Which animal is the symbol of the World Wildlife Fund?
7. Which mountain is sacred to the Japanese?
8. What's the longest river in Britain?
9. How many stars are there on the US flag?
10. Cos and icebergs are types of what?

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**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**North Central Local Learning and Employment Network**

**Monday April 27th 2009 at the Birchip Leisure Centre commencing with a meal at 6:30 p.m.**

The Annual General Meeting will commence with a light tea to be followed by guest speaker **Ian McClelland OAM** and a presentation by young people and the LLEN from the **Global Gateways International Experience**. All students, staff, parents and community members most welcome to attend. Please RSVP to the North Central LLEN office (54 911 144) if you would like to attend.

**Guest Speaker – Ian McClelland OAM**

Ian McClelland is the inaugural chairman of BCG (Birchip Cropping Group and Wimmera Farming Systems) which was established in 1992. Ian runs an 8000ha farm in partnership with his brother Warrick, growing wheat, barley, canola, lentils, sheep and cattle. His interests are in education, research and practical applications on the farm. He is an honorary Senior Fellow of the Institute of Land and Food Resources – Crop production, Melbourne University, a Board Member of Marcus Oldham College, recipient of the 1998 Hugh McKay Innovators Award, a member of the selection panel for Churchill Scholarships, and recipient of the 2004 GRDC Seed of Light Award for Excellence in Research and Extension. In 2008 Ian George McClelland was awarded a 2008 OAM ‘for service to agriculture, particularly through the development of sustainable crop production systems, and innovative farming and land management practices.’

As Ian admits himself, he is a ‘big picture’ man, and even a cursory glance at his strewn desk at his home tends to endorse this. Not one to be either daunted by apparent obstacles, or distracted by the minutiae of detail, he is both an optimist and a realist. Once he has an idea in his head, there is little to be done to divert him until that idea becomes a reality or is discarded or modified after its virtues have been explored. As far as he is concerned, things will work. Nothing is too outrageous, nothing too speculative.

Ian McClelland is definitely a glass half full man. Passionately devoted to the BCG, Birchip, the Mallee and agriculture in general, he sees the way forward in terms of empowering present day farmers by means of knowledge and understanding. He believes in growing and developing youth through education so that they can face the obvious challenges that the future holds.

Global Gateways International Student Experience – Presentation

Several young people from the communities of Boort, Cohuna, East Loddon and Pyramid Hill who participated in the global experience will make a presentation to attendees at the AGM. Twenty young people 4 teaching staff, one Principal and Jerri Nelson the Executive Officer of the North Central LLEN were fortunate to participate in the Global experience. The young people each had an area of interest relating to the theme of ‘Water Land and Food’ to investigate while visiting California, School staff also investigated ways of delivering vocational education and teaching methods abroad. The LLEN spent time researching different methods of engagement and retention strategies of two schools within two education districts in California.

This exciting opportunity was an initiative of the International Division of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development. Sponsors and Stakeholders alike will be impressed by the outcomes of this program.

The global experience is strongly linked to the’ Gateways 4 Sustainable Communities’ (G4SC) program which commenced in the Region in 2009.
First Aid Management of Anaphylaxis 21659VIC with Neil Ritchie

(Wednesday 20th May2009 from 5.30-8.30 $100.00). Subsidies may be available for anaphylaxis & food handlers course if you are using these skills for volunteering. Contact the Simone Christie at the Birchip Business and Learning Centre.

Austswim Course

An Austswim course will be held at Swan Hill on the 16th, 17th & 24th May 2009.

Upon completion of the course, successful candidates are qualified to teach swimming.

For those requiring points towards reaccreditation, a professional development component will be conducted both morning and afternoon on Sunday 17th May 2009.

Those wishing to do the course are asked to contact Brian Safe, phone 50 324 357.

Applications are to be in by 4th May 2009.

Squash

Anyone interested in playing in a squash competition that begins this Wednesday? If you are interested please give your name to Eileen Smith or Mark Bowen.

AUSKICK

The AFL auskick program will commence on Wednesday 29th April at 3:40pm at the Birchip Football Oval and conclude at approximately 4.40pm.

The Auskick program is open to boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 12. The program will run for the entire term and we will endeavour to include some matches at half time on a Saturday at home games.

We have the help of some dedicated footballers from the Birchip-Watchem Football club to teach the children the skills and knowledge of our game.

The cost of the program is $50 which covers the registration fee set by the AFL auskick and includes all the insurances which covers your child if an accident should occur.

To register your child for AFL auskick you need to do this on the internet as there have been no forms issued to any clubs.

Go to www.aflauskick.com.au Click on the icon REGISTER.

Fill out your child’s details on the first page, Click to the next page and fill out the parent details. Then hit the SUMBIT button and it should bring up a page which needs to be printed.

Please bring this page along with you on Wednesday night with the payment.

If you have any trouble with the registration process, please do not hesitate to contact me so we can attempt to register your child.

Janine Paley
AFL auskick Co-ordinator Birchip
54922767 045815234

SACs next week
- Ag Hort
- Further Maths
- Design & Technology

Birchip Watchem Netball Club

Birchip Watchem Versus Boort Sunday 26th at home.

These matches have been moved to the stadium. There will be no 13B match played.
Any queries contact Jackie 0439 812 194.
13A 9.30am
JA 10.20am
JB 11.40am
C 12.30pm
B 1.45pm
A 3.00pm

Birchip Archery Club

April competition on Sunday 26th April.
10am start - all welcome.
For information phone Bob Darby 0400 958 915
# 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 Kelly</td>
<td>Practise letters and sounds a, m, s, r, f, t, l. Find objects for Bb table, Count, recognise, group 1-7. Next: 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Emonson/Weir</td>
<td>Spelling activities&lt;br&gt;Spelling test&lt;br&gt;Times tables&lt;br&gt;Grade 5 homework questions</td>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April&lt;br&gt;29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April&lt;br&gt;Ongoing 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>8x Tables, list words, oral presentations&lt;br&gt;Disaster Project - last week, General Knowledge questions</td>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; May&lt;br&gt;1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Spelling test 3&lt;br&gt;Essay</td>
<td>30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April&lt;br&gt;1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Fraction sheet</td>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>History debate</td>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Practise monologue</td>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Murder Ink</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Text response</td>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Deadly Una text response</td>
<td>30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Finish discussion - Zimbardo experiment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>General Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Study for test Chapter 3</td>
<td>28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Research event - hopes/fears</td>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Analysis - language</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Questions from class</td>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Prac questions</td>
<td>27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Man of All Seasons note, analysis - language</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; May</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!
Loddon Shire & Buloke Shire Present.....

Balistik
Youth Festival

Sunday 3rd May 2009
1pm to 4pm

Charlton Football Ground

Free buses through-out the Shire

Featuring
Live music from local bands

- Sumo Wrestling Suits
- Gladiactor Challenge
- 4 Way Bungee Tug Of War
- Human Bowling Ball Suits
- Break Dancing Demonstration
- BMX Demonstration

Fully Supervised Event

Years 7 - 12
Strictly drug, smoke & alcohol free event

FREE Entry

Contact Marc Cox 5478 0172
or email marc@buloke.vic.gov.au
OR Tony Bellenger 5494 1232
Or email tbellenger@loddon.vic.gov.au
In Biology there are a lot of terms and concepts that I don’t understand, by questioning it helps me to understand.

Kate Watts

By applying past knowledge in my Year 12 subject Design and Technology, it helps me to get over harder topics that I have covered before.

Nathan Witherow

In our English class I find the work hard but by persisting I try to keep up.

Ashlee Donnan

By sticking at studying for my PE test it will help me get a better mark.

Cassie Hogan

The Year 11’s were asked to reflect on how the development of the Habits of Mind had helped them with their school work. Following are some of their responses:

Applying past knowledge in Maths Methods has helped me progress further by remembering rules.

Brett Barker

When I compose there has been times when I have had “mental blanks” but I persist to keep going.

James Totzenberger

Striving for accuracy has helped with my preparation for exams and helps me gain confidence with the biology exam.

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