Forthcoming Events

May

Sunday 4th → Year 10/11 Canberra Camp
Friday 9th
Monday 5th → Year 9 Advance Camp
Friday 9th
Monday 5th → Parents’ Club Meeting
Tuesday 6th → Year 12 TIS – Charlton
Physical Resources Meeting
Wednesday 7th → Parents’ Club Meeting - 7.30pm
Friday 9th → Primary Cross Country - St Arnaud
Parents’ Club Mothers’ Day Stall
Monday 12th → Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 13th → National Assessment Program for Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 students
Thursday 15th → School Council
Thursday 15th → VCE Exams
Tuesday 20th → Law Makers, Law Breakers Loddon Jail,
Castlemaine Excursion
Thursday 22nd → Year 11 & 12 Literature students–Melbourne
Friday 23rd → Secondary Motivational Media ‘The power of everyone’
Monday 26th → Bell Shakespeare Company
Thursday 29th → Primary Zone Cross Country - Dimboola
Science Competition
June

Tuesday 3rd → Yr 9 Youth Program trip to Bendigo
Monday 9th → Queens Birthday Holiday
Tuesday 10th → Physical Resources Meeting
Wednesday 11th → VCE Exams
Friday 13th → School Council
Thursday 19th → Primary State Cross Country Championships
Friday 20th → P-6 Emergency Services Day
Thursday 26th → Last Day of Term 2.  2.30pm finish
Friday 27th
July

Monday 14th → First Day Term 3
Monday 14th → Yr 9 Rubicon Camp
Friday 18th

Hello from Lorne

I have just returned from a walk along the beach at Lorne after a long day of meetings and professional development activities. I was rewarded with being able to watch a pod of dolphins frolicking in the bay – an amazing sight. Mrs Eileen Smith, Mr Russell Christie and I are attending the Grampians Principal Conference at Lorne. The focus of the conference is ‘Leading for School Improvement’. We have heard some excellent speakers and will bring home some strategies to implement back at school. I hear it has rained a little so let’s hope more is on the way.

Welcome Miss Rikako Iwasaki

Rikako is from Tokyo. She has been learning international culture and Japanese language teaching at the University of Tokyo. Rikako will be with us in Birchip until the end of Term 2. Rikako will assist Ms Nakamura with the delivery of Japanese to our students from Prep – Year 12. If any families are interested in being a host family for a period of time during this term, would you please contact Ms Nakamura at the school.
Year 6 students home from Maldon camp

Thanks to Mr Welton, Mr Tyler and Mrs Cozens for their organization and assistance accompanying our grade 6 students at the Maldon Camp.

Yesterday our Maldon Camp travellers returned, weary after an action packed four days of activities, but most satisfied with their efforts. It was most pleasing to see our children impressively applying cycling skills acquired at school. They responded most positively to activities undertaken and a highlight was the climbing wall where a number of students, and teachers, conquered their fears.

Our children have attended the Maldon Camp for many years and our school has gained a reputation which we can be most proud of. This year’s group further bolstered that reputation.

Greg Welton

Work in progress around the school

Thank you to everyone (staff, students and parents) for your patience and understanding during Stage Two of the asbestos ceiling removal and reinstatement.

The primary toilet block is gradually taking shape with builders constructing the wall and roof framework. Windows will be installed next week followed by brickwork.

Stuart Nicholls and his team commenced trenching from the school to the AWB Grainflow site. This pipe will bring recycled water from the bunker area to the school if and when some serious rain falls.

MEEP workers completed the trenching of the main oval and are now fitting sprinkler risers to the pipes to water the main oval. The front lawn area is still to be trenched.

Habits of Mind
PUPIL FREE DAY
Monday 12th May 2008

James Anderson (Habits of Mind) will lead all Birchip P-12 School staff in a whole day seminar on Monday 12th May 2008. This will be a pupil free day for all students Prep → Year 12.

ANZAC DAY

Congratulations to Mr Cameron Whelan, Conor Hogan, Nicholas Bales, Tim Walder and Karleigh Weir for their excellent presentations on Anzac Day. Mr Whelan and students delivered their address in Watchem at 9:30 a.m. and then again in Birchip at 11:00 a.m. Mr Whelan’s and the students’ talk focused on the night of 24th April 1918 when Australian Imperial Force soldiers attacked German forces at Villers-Bretonneux. In fierce fighting the Australians retook the town, ending the German advance on the Somme. The students read diary entries and letters to back home from the soldiers and nurses in the conflict. It was wonderful to hear so many positive comments from the many people who attended at both Watchem and Birchip. Thank you again.

Education week is on again!

It is envisaged that we run an evening in a similar format to last year on Wednesday 21st May 2008. Please keep this evening free for another action packed and enjoyable learning experience with your family and a chance to win several prizes. A free family BBQ will be available. Notes about what activities are available will be sent home this coming week.

PRIMARY CROSS COUNTRY

Under fine conditions, and on a rather powdery track in places, the 2008 Primary Cross Countries were held on Thursday 24th April 2008. It was tremendous to see our students endeavouring to produce their best and it was once again most heartening to see the support provided from
interested onlookers. Thanks to all who contributed to the success of the events. The overall junior event winner was Joseph Reid, while Jacob Christie took out the senior cross country. Thank you to Mr Welton for his overall organization.

Age level winners and runner ups were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 yrs</td>
<td>Niamh Lewis 1.</td>
<td>Darcy Reid 1.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Haylee Totzenberger 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 yrs</td>
<td>Rosie Hogan 1.</td>
<td>Will Sheahan 1.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Penny O’Donnell 2.</td>
<td>Oskar Bennett 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 yrs</td>
<td>Cloe Robinson 1.</td>
<td>Bill Lee 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Courtney Sayle 2.</td>
<td>Brady Paley 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 yrs</td>
<td>Sarah Botheras 1.</td>
<td>Joe Reid 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brett Hogan 2.</td>
<td>Darcy Sheahan 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chloe Rymer 2.</td>
<td>Sam Owa 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shae Colbert 2.</td>
<td>Colin Hill 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 yrs</td>
<td>Claudia Lee 1.</td>
<td>Royce Bennett 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Megan McKinnon 2.</td>
<td>Sean Hogan 2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 yrs</td>
<td>Hayley Hogan 1.</td>
<td>Jacob Christie 1.</td>
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</table>

From these results a senior squad has been selected to represent our school at the district sports at St Arnaud on Friday 9th May 2008. Our representatives will be:


11 yrs Royce Bennett, Sean Hogan and Claudia Lee.

12 yrs Jacob Christie, Hayley Hogan and Sophie Hogan.

Transport arrangements will be finalised early next week.

Booklist and Levies

Booklist and levies sheets were distributed on Monday 14th April 2008. Please make payment at the general office or contact the general office to arrange other payment alternatives. Cheques should be made payable to ‘Birchip P-12 School’. Every secondary student received a 2008 school diary this year. Can parents please make sure that when making payments for booklist and levies items that a payment of $8.50 for each child should be made – not just $8.50 per family.

Parents’ Club

Mothers’ Day Stall

Friday 9th May 2008

All primary and secondary students are able to buy gifts to the value of $5.00 for their mother.

Tertiary Information Service

Mr Christie, Mrs Barb Smith and year 12 students will travel to Charlton on Tuesday 6th May 2008 for the TIS expo. Representatives of universities and TAFEs will present information on their various courses available to students.

Rock Eisteddfod Update

As you all know, Birchip P-12 School has decided to enter years 7 to 11 in the Global Rock Eisteddfod Challenge. The performance will be held at Vodafone Arena in Melbourne on Friday the 8th of August.

Students will travel to Melbourne by bus and stay together at arranged accommodation the night before the performance. Dedicated staff and students have been rehearsing two times a week in school lunchtimes and have mastered two out of five dances. Early in term three, there will be a performance in the Birchip Community Stadium for those interested.

Further updates will be issued, at a later date. In a few weeks time, we will be seeking minimal assistance from parents to put together the performance.

For more information on the Rock Eisteddfod, please contact Miss Johnson, at Birchip P-12 School, or visit the website http://www.rockchallenge.com.au/.
## 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>1</td>
<td>Early Years</td>
<td>DE/JWr</td>
<td>Learn List words</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Taylor</td>
<td>Practise spelling, 100 High Frequency words and</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>number words</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Differences Count</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>King Kong assignment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Finish Power Point</td>
<td>13th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Finish character wheels</td>
<td>13th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Business Man.</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>My First Car assignment</td>
<td>23rd May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Survival</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Work on Dr Morre’s car crash assignment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>20th Century</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Finish analysis on art works</td>
<td>13th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/12</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Work through work on checklist</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>All E.System Questions and Lab</td>
<td>8th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Business Man.</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>SAC Revision</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Prepare Man for all Seasons notes for SAC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Food

**The Good, the Bad and the Ugly**

BCG Conference Room  
Wednesday 7th May 2008  
7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.  
Ticket cost - $15.00  
This is a Birchip pre-school fundraiser.  
Contact Noeline Hogan – 03 54 922 988  
$10.00 from every ticket goes to the Pre-school

### Sea Lake Night Netball Competition

A night netball competition will commence in Sea Lake on Tuesday 6th May 2008. You may enter either as a team or as an individual. It is open to both males and females but players must be in year 7 or older.  
Contact: Michelle telephone 50 701 448 or facsimile 50 702 290.

### DANCE FOR FUN

A reminder that dance for fun will recommence next week (6th). The program will run for 8 weeks.  
Primary students: 4:30 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.  
Secondary students 5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

### Birchip Preschool presents

**‘The Kazoos’**  
Thursday 15th May at 11am  
Birchip Public Hall  
Tickets $12 for over 12 months old  
For more information ring Noeline Hogan 5498 1261

### Birchip Watchem Netball

**Boort Netball Times**

All now as normal but 13B & 16B at school court adjacent to home court.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Coach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.15pm</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Bern Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00pm</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Lyn Boyle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45am</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Rhonda King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.40am</td>
<td>JA</td>
<td>Julie Weir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.45am</td>
<td>JB</td>
<td>Bev Forrester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.30am</td>
<td>13B</td>
<td>Ros McClelland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.50am</td>
<td>13A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Birchip P12 School Parents’ Club

Elected Executive Committee:

President:  Rhonda Bell  03 54 922 428
Vice president:  Wendy Watts  03 54 935 218
Secretary:  Ros McCallum  03 50 772 218
Treasurer:  Deanne Botheras  03 54 922 643
School Council Co-opt Rep:  Kathy Bales  03 54 922 588

Catering Committee:

Trish Lehmann  03 50 854 204
Sam Kemp  03 54 922 755

All parents are encouraged to attend Parents’ Club meetings.

Please take the time to make a contribution to our children’s education by attending Parents’ Club.
Notice to all parents

Parents’ Club Meeting

Monday 5th May 2008 at 7:30 p.m.
Birchip P-12 School Staff Recreation Room

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY AND DATE

Guest Speaker - Mrs Eileen Smith
Topic - SCHOOL VALUES

Agenda:
- Welcome
- Apologies
- Minutes of meeting held on 5th March 2008
- Business arising from minutes
- Treasurers report
- Correspondence
- School Council report
- Catering Issues - Presentation Ball, other catering events
- Mothers Day Stall
- Fundraising
- General Business

We would like to welcome all parents both new and old to the Parents' Club for 2008. Your help and support goes a long way in helping our children achieve their potential at school. Your contribution will also help to make our school one of the best with excellent facilities for our children to learn.

Any questions please contact:
Rhonda Bell (President) 03 54 922 428
Ros McCallum (Secretary) 03 50 772 218