Forthcoming Events

May
Monday 16th → Education Week
Friday 20th
Tuesday 17th Primary Netball, Football, Hockey trials - Stawell Year 12 Students to TIS in Charlton
Wednesday 18th Education Week Celebration Night for students, parents & friends
Tim Whitford lecture - discovery of mass graves at Fromelles
Netbooks & Notebooks distributed from 6pm
Thursday 19th Australian Informatics Examination
School Council
Friday 20th Primary Cross Country - Donald
‘Walk to School’ day for all students
Tony Bones cultural performance P-6
Wednesday 25th Courage to Care’-Year 8, 9 & 10 History students to Kerang
Austech Industry Tour for Engineering and D&T students
Thursday 26th North Central Cross Country - Wedderburn
Gnurad Gundidj Information Night at Rainbow Secondary College - 7pm
Tuesday 31st Uni of Ballarat visit - talk for Yr 10 & 11

June
Monday 6th Primary State Cross Country - Bundoora
Tuesday 7th Physical Resources Meeting
Wednesday 8th Australian Science Competition
Friday 10th Report Writing Day - pupil free day
Monday 13th Queen’s Birthday holiday
Tuesday 14th VCE examinations - Biology, Physics
Wednesday 15th VCE examination - Chemistry
Thursday 16th VCE GAT examination
School Council
Friday 17th Primary Winter Sports - Grade 5&6
Tuesday 21st Cyber Safety Talk - Susan McLean
Thursday 30th Years 10&11 Careers Expo - Horsham

July
Friday 1st Last Day Term 2 - 2.30pm finish. Reports distributed at 2:25pm at Home Group Assembly

Grade Six Camp – Maldon

The grade six students along with Mr Welton, Mr Tyler and Mrs Connelly have enjoyed their stay at the Police Camp in Maldon. Students have been cycling around the town and visiting various gold mining places of the past. Mr Welton reports that the children have been excellent and the camp very enjoyable albeit the weather extremely cold. A comprehensive report will appear in next week’s newsletter.

New faces around the school

This week we welcomed Ms Harneet Mann and her son Jaskirat to our school. Jaskirat is in Grade Two and enjoying his time in Mrs Welton’s Grade One & Two class. Ms Mann is working at the school on a five week international teacher placement. Harneet is a fully qualified and registered teacher. She is working with Mr Russell Christie (11 & 12 Agriculture & Horticulture) and Mr Joshua Richmond (7 Mathematics). She will also observe other teachers during her stay.
On Monday we also welcomed Miss Sam Stacey. Sam is undertaking a three week teaching round at the school. She is working with Mrs Merrilyn Kelly in the Grade Prep & One classroom. Sam is currently studying at Latrobe University (Bendigo Campus) and undertaking a Bachelor of Education.

Congratulations to Mr Kevin Delaney
Forty Years Service to Education

Today, Friday 13th May 2011, Mr Delaney was honoured for his services to education by the Minister of Education, Mr Martin Dixon MLA at a gala function in Melbourne.

Kevin (or KD as he is affectionately known) completed his secondary education at the Mortlake High School in 1970. He gained entry into Latrobe University to study economics. In 1974, Kevin graduated from Latrobe University with a Bachelor of Economics majoring in economics and politics along with a Graduate Diploma of Education.

In 1975, Kevin was posted to Birchip High School (7605) where he commenced teaching economics, politics and law. Kevin would have taught well over one thousand children in this time.

Since arriving in Birchip in 1975, Kevin has not limited himself to teaching but also been involved in community organizations including the Birchip Apex Club (President 1984 & 1985), the Birchip and Birchp Watchem Football Clubs President (2000 & 2001), Birchp Bowls Club and St Mary’s Catholic Church Parish Team (Leader since 2001). Kevin was awarded life membership of the Birchip Football Club in 2001.

Congratulations Kevin! Thank you for your excellent service to education in Birchip and indeed the whole community. Best wishes for the future.

MOTHER & BABIES VISIT OUR SCHOOL

Teachers, Connelly Barclay and Stacey Hicks, now proud mothers on leave from teaching, visited school on Wednesday to catch up with staff and students. Connelly’s infant, Willow who is now four months old, was perfectly at home on the carpet of the Year 10 and 11 home room surrounded by twenty students while Stacey’s four week old baby, Jace was alert and took in all going on around him. It was fantastic to see two very happy mothers and two very contented babies.

The student also really enjoyed catching up with their teachers and cradling their tiny babies.

NAPLAN

The students in Years three, five, seven and nine experienced three days of ‘full-on’ literacy and numeracy testing during the week. Many thanks to Mrs Eileen Smith who co-ordinated the program and to Mrs Emonson and Miss Arnott who ensured their students were well looked after during the examination period.
**Careers**

Mr Russell Christie, who assists Year 12 students to consider and investigate possible careers, this week organised guest speaker, Alistair Smith to speak to the group about his particular career path. Alistair is a past student of the school and was its school captain in 2001. He is now in the Air Force and has just been posted to 79 Squadron which is the lead-in fighter squadron.

The main theme of Alistair’s discussion was that in the scheme of a whole life time, studying hard for Year 12 is merely one year out of a life time and if a bit of self discipline gets you the career of your dreams then part of a year isn’t much of a sacrifice.

Many students are unsure of their career when at school while others are certain of the path they wish to pursue. However, even those who are certain about their future can change when they learn more about their specific career path. Alistair recounted leaving Birchip and studying aerospace engineering/business but reaching a stage where he realised that his personality was at odds with doing a life time of research in a laboratory in this area. Consequently, he left university and took up a range of employment (28 jobs in all). Soon he realised he needed more of a challenge and went to Western Australia to work in the mines. The point of this being to save money to pay for his pilot’s licence just in case he didn’t get into the Air Force.

After a battery of tests, he was accepted to the interview stage but life does not always go according to plan and here Alistair was told that his life experiences in rural Victoria had not demonstrated that he had a commitment to being a pilot. Alistair pointed out to the students that it is imperative to be able to persuade an interview panel that you have the qualities needed for a specific job. From this point, he became much more pro-active in his second attempt to enter the Air Force. What he learned from his experiences is that if one has a dream then it’s worth working towards.

Alistair’s passion and enjoyment of the challenge was obvious. The fact that for every hour in the air ten hours of study is needed was no imposition as the goal of piloting a fast jet is a fantastic reward.

To improve his performance, Alistair related that his performance improved when he worked out how he learned best; this is a valuable tool which is generally overlooked. To be a more efficient learner, he learned how to prioritise and eliminate distracters.

Alistair stressed that it doesn’t matter how long it takes, that if you have a dream be pro-active, pursue it and work towards it because most people work for a long time and if you are working in a job that you’re not happy in or satisfied with, you are not going to be happy.

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<tr>
<th>Year 7 Spelling, Week Four, Term Two 2011</th>
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<tr>
<td>calendar</td>
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<td>misspell</td>
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**School uniform**

All students should now be in winter uniform. The weather has turned quite cold encouraging our students to rug up and wear their winter uniform. Thank you to parents and students for ensuring most students are in full winter uniform. Some uniform items are on back order including girls & ladies pants and white shirts. We believe these items should arrive next week.

**THE LOST DIGGERS OF FROMELLES**

Tim Whitford will be speaking at Birchip P-12 School Education Night on Wednesday 18th May 2011 at 7:00pm – 8:00pm about the excavation of the Aussie Diggers from Fromelles. For those interested in this amazing discovery, this is open to the public so please feel free to come along and listen.
Zena Coffey
2011 Australian Graduate Nurse of the Year

Congratulations to Zena Coffey who was awarded the 2011 HESTA Australian Graduate Nurse of the Year at a gala dinner at the Palladium at Crown Entertainment Complex in Melbourne last night.

Zena’s nomination read:
Zena Coffey, a young Victorian nurse, who has proven herself in emotionally charged environments, including emergency, palliative care and oncology, is a finalist in the 2011 HESTA Australian Nursing Awards.

Austin Hospital nurse Zena Coffey was short listed for the award for her dedication to superior communication.

Ms Coffey has developed innovative ways to communicate effectively with patients, including those from non-English speaking backgrounds and neurology patients struggling with speech. Body language, cue cards and alphabet charts are part of her approach.

When she realised a patient had misunderstood the implications of his surgery, she took time to explain the situation and ensure his consent was genuinely informed.

In palliative care she works closely with patients and their families to understand their emotional, physical and social needs so she can provide a higher quality of care.

“Working in palliative care is confronting, difficult and rewarding at the same time,” Ms Coffey said.

“I talk to patients and families about their spiritual needs. Facilitating important spiritual rituals for patients gives great satisfaction.”

Ms Coffey always knew she wanted to nurse, spending her teenage years working in a local aged care facility.

Passionate about the evolution and development of nursing practice, she is completing a Bachelor of Nursing (Honours) at La Trobe University and will undertake a research project exploring cardiac rehabilitation in rural settings.

“I am fascinated by the way in which nursing has evolved, and want to be a part of taking nursing to the next level,” she said.

Ms Coffey is one of three finalists in the Graduate Nurse of the Year category of the HESTA Australian Nursing Awards.

As 2011 Australian Graduate Nurse of the Year, Zena will benefit from $5,000 in education and travel grants.

The Birchip P-12 School and indeed the entire Birchip community congratulate Zena on her award and wish her every success in her chosen career of nursing; a career which promises to be one of many great accomplishments.
The Birchip P-12 School, one thousand paper crane project is now complete. It involved students and Ms Nakamura using paper to fold one thousand paper cranes. It is called ‘Senba Tsuru’.

When people have a strong wish, they make a thousand cranes to make a wish come true.

This time, the Birchip P-12 School made one thousand paper cranes to show the people of Japan that we are thinking about their many problems following the recent earthquakes and tsunami. There are twenty lines of fifty cranes put together totalling one thousand paper cranes. Each line has a ten cent coin on the bottom as a stopper and also as a lucky coin with fire bird. We hope to send the people of Japan much good luck too.

We hope our best wishes will help them feel better and give them support during the recovery from their recent disasters. ‘Senba Tsuru’ will be sent to our sister school, Shoyo High School, in Yokohama City Japan.

Thank you and congratulations to all students folding paper cranes. Many thanks to Ms Nakamura who has painstakingly sewed all of the cranes together and for her initiative in assisting the people of Japan.

An education week extravaganza

Birchip P-12 School will be holding an evening activity for parents and students on Wednesday 18 May 2011.

The evening is designed for parents/guardians to attend with their students and join in an activity. The adults are to attend the same activity as their child and enjoy the interaction and thought processes with teachers, children and other parents.

The activities will last for one hour.

6:00 p.m. Netbook / Notebook distribution in the Staff Recreation Room.
6:30 p.m. Free BBQ for all participants.
7:00 p.m. Parents and children break off into different activities in various locations.
8:00 p.m. All activities finish

There is NO cost to the evening.

All parents and students are very welcome and encouraged to attend.

Notebook Distribution – assuming notebooks and netbooks have arrived and are ready

It is anticipated to distribute notebooks and netbooks on Wednesday 18 May 2011 from 6:00 p.m. – prior to the Education Week Extravaganza Evening (to avoid extra parent trips to town) in the Staff Recreation Room.

Students and parents involved:
Year 5 ACER Aspire 1830 11.6”, Netbook – co-payment of $200 required  
Year 6 ACER Aspire 1830 11.6”, Netbook – co-payment of $200 required

Year 7 ACER Aspire 1830 11.6”, Netbook – for students without a netbook - co-payment of $200 required
Year 8 Lenovo ThinkPad L410, Intel i3-370, 14.1”, 2Gb RAM, Notebook from existing trolleys – co-payment of $200 required

Year 9 ACER ThinkPAD 8572T 15.6”, Notebook – new – no co-payment is required
Others ACER ThinkPAD 8572T 15.6”, Notebook – new – no co-payment required if students in years 9, 10, 11 & 12.

NOTE:
No money for netbooks and notebooks is required to be paid on the night unless parents wish to do so. The school office will set up accounts and payment schemes for parents.
Three Defence Technical Scholarships for Birchip

Congratulations to Jake Hogan, Curtis Smith and Brenten Delaney on being awarded a 2011 Defence technical Scholarship. These students receive a cheque for $2,000 and a certificate acknowledging the award.

Technical trade professionals are the backbone of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and enable the Services to carry out any given task successfully in various environments and situations. The ADF offers a diverse range of trades across the Navy, Army and Air Force, such as Marine Technician in the Navy, Telecommunications System Technician in the Army and Aircraft Technician in the Air Force just to name a few.

The ADF trains soldiers, sailors, airmen and airwomen in over 30 different trades to provide vital support to the ADF - maintaining and enhancing the operation of the three Services.

The Defence Technical Scholarship (DTS) was created to generate knowledge of technical trade careers available in the Navy, Army or Air Force across the school community and to encourage students to complete their secondary school studies before embarking upon a trade career.

Every year, up to 1,500 students are awarded a Scholarship, with year 11 students receiving $2,000 and year 12 students receiving $3,000 over two semesters. Previous DTS recipients have used their money to pay for school fees, laptop computers and tools or hardware products to assist them not only to complete their school year but to prepare them for a trade career beyond year 12.

Selected year 11 Scholarship recipients may also be given the opportunity to attend a week long Defence Experience Tour, allowing them to further enhance their knowledge of ADF trades by visiting ADF Trade and Recruit schools.

In order to apply for the DTS, students needed to demonstrate an interest in a technical trade career in the Australian Defence Force and meet the relevant selection criteria. They also needed to provide supporting documentation, including two referee letters and school subject results to be successful in their application along with responding to specific questions and write about a defence force career.

Birchip is indeed lucky to have three successful students gain these very valuable awards. Congratulations Brenten, Jake and Curtis.

Maths is Marvellous - You Can Count on it!
Keep a box of loose change for playing and counting. Pretend to buy things from around the house.

Thank you - Parents’ Club
Thank you to Janine Paley, Julie Lowry & Maureen Trollope for organising and running the very successful Mothers’ Day stall again this year.

Birchip Golf
The Golf Clinic which was to be held on Sunday 15th May 2011 has been cancelled until further notice.

SCHOOL FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP - 2012 APPLICATIONS
Students in year eight have the opportunity to apply to attend the ‘School for Student Leadership’ in 2012. We are able to apply for all three campuses: Term 1, 2012 - Gnurad Gundidj, Term 3, 2012 – Snowy River Campus and in Term 4, 2012 – Alpine School Campus.

Any student in the current year eight class who wishes to be included in Birchip’s application for 2012 should let Mr John Richmond know by Friday 20th May 2012. The cost to families for the nine week stay is $1,000.
Walk to School’ Day – Friday 20 May 2011

Next Friday, 20 May 2011, the school will hold a ‘Walk to School’ day.

All students should meet at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre by 8:50 a.m.

Students living in the town are requested to meet at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre and those parents wishing to drive their children should ‘drop’ them off at the BCLC by 8:50 a.m.

All school buses will be ‘dropping’ students off at the BCLC by 8:50 a.m.

It is proposed to hold a school assembly at the BCLC at 9:00 a.m.

Following the assembly, all students, teachers and staff members will then walk along King Street back to school ready to commence lessons at approximately 9:30 a.m.

At recess time (10:45 a.m.) all P-12 students will be offered fruit and vegetables.

All students will be able to purchase a healthy sandwich with a variety of fillings for $2.00 per sandwich.

Please complete the attached form and return to school by Wednesday 18th May 2011 should you wish to purchase your healthy sandwich on this day.

We also intend to minimize the amount of energy used on this day by reducing our need for lighting and heating.

Best wishes to Emily Smith

Victorian Ladies Golf representative, Emily Smith is currently leading in the 2011 Murray Downs Ladies Golf Championship at Murray Downs (Swan Hill). Emily will continue in the competition again next week. We wish Emily all the very best.
PRIMARY CROSS COUNTRY

In front of a large contingent of spectators it was most pleasing to see our students striving hard during the annual cross country events held last Friday. Age group results were:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Year Old</td>
<td>1. Ella Hogan 2. Hannah Cook</td>
<td>1. Darcy Reid 2. Daniel Braine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Year Old</td>
<td>1. Rosie Hogan 2. Katie Bennett</td>
<td>1. Bill Lee 2. Lachlan Braine</td>
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As a result of these school cross country performances the following students have been chosen to represent Birchip P-12 School at the North Central Cross Country Championships to be held at Donald on Friday 20th May 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9&amp;10 yr old</td>
<td>Will Sheahan, Bill Lee, Lachlan Braine</td>
<td>Caitlin Bidstrup, Rosie Hogan, Olivia Rickard, Chloe Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 yr old</td>
<td>Joseph Reid, Jesse Kemp</td>
<td>Sarah Botheras</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12&amp;13 yr old</td>
<td>Tom Hogan, James Paley, Joe O'Donnell</td>
<td>Jessica Bidstrup, Chloe Rymer</td>
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A note regarding transport forms and travel arrangements will be issued early next week.

Many thanks to Mr Welton for his overall co-ordination of the cross-country event and all staff for their management of the event on the day.
Primary Cross Country Photographs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 1 &amp; 2 – Writing about the new class rooms</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The P-6 School has been fixed up. We have big classrooms that are bright. We have new dark carpet and a place for dancing. There are rooms to keep things in. I feel happy because it is beautiful. <strong>Tess Lee</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I walked into the new school. We looked around and we saw the classrooms. The walls were red, white and blue. The carpet was black. Our classroom was beside Mrs Kelly’s room. The main doors are where the open gate is. The new school is cool. <strong>Patrick Hogan</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We went inside the new building that the workers fixed up and it smelt like paint. The carpet is black with white squares on it and our old room is not our anymore. Miss Arnott’s old room is now ours for the rest of the year. There are roly doors and big storage spaces to put lots of stuff in that won’t fit in the classroom. <strong>William Botheras</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Our new school has been rebuilt. The carpet was black. There was a small whiteboard on a sliding door. We saw our new classroom. It was big. The walls were white. On top of the whiteboard it was red and on the bottom it was blue. I feel like moving in now. <strong>Ponnu Ajith</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The school is getting changed. It smelt nice. I think it is great. <strong>Hannah Cook</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I like the new school very much because it has pretty paint. The paint is different colours. <strong>Gemma Woods</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We went to the school and I saw a sliding door and the good white walls. I could smell a good smell. The colour was really <strong>Ella Hogan</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Today on the 5th of May grade 1/2 went to see the P-6 classrooms. I saw a door with blue and red on the sides and in the middle is a whiteboards. I love it. <strong>Kelsey Davidson</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At school we got a new gallery. When we got inside we had a look and we saw a door that had red and blue on the outside and a whiteboard in the middle. I thought it was cool. <strong>Nick Rickard</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our school has been rebuilt. Mrs Kelly’s room is the same as last time. The toilets have not changed. The colours were beautiful. I am going to miss this classroom though <strong>Cassie Turner</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The school was rebuilt. It has a smell of paint and new carpet. The carpet is black. I like it because it has two sliding doors. <strong>Ty Colbert</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The P-6 part of our school has been rebuilt. I saw walls. They were red, white and blue. The new school is good. <strong>Peter Mallia</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The new school has a new smell and we like it. I like the new classroom. The colours look cool. The black carpet has dots. The doors looked cool. The gallery looks good. The doors are a bit too hard to open but the men will fix them. <strong>Cormacc Wilson</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have a new school and today we went inside. The carpet smelt nice and we saw our new classroom. It was the best. It has a cupboard in it. The colour is a creamy sort of colour. It has a sliding door. I hope that soon we can go in it. <strong>Abigail Flowers</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At the new school it smells good and the classrooms look cool. It has red walls and pin boards. I want to move in now. <strong>Patrick Sheahan</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Today we went to the new school. It smelt good. There were little rooms. The walls were white. I like the school. <strong>Alexandra Randall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The P-6 part of our school has been rebuilt. I smelt the air and it smelt like a new school. Everyone smelt the air and they thought it was a good school. I love the new school. <strong>Blair Gould</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our new school smells nice, looks nice and is nice. It has red and blue pin boards and we are going to get sliding doors for the classrooms. I think it looks incredible. <strong>Talei Brooks</strong></td>
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Maddison McCredden’s
Weekly Reading suggestions

Maddie is in Year 7 and is an avid reader who loves to share with others the books that she reads. Each week in the newsletter, Maddie will be giving her recommendations.

Maddie’s Adventure selection- books that males and females would like.

Percy Jackson and the Titan’s Curse by Rick Riordan.

When Percy Jackson gets an urgent call from his friend Grover, he immediately prepares for battle. He knows he will need his powerful demigod allies at his side, his trusty bronze sword Riptide, and … a ride from his mum.

The demigods rush to the rescue to find that Grover has made an important discovery: two powerful half-bloods whose parentage is unknown. But that’s not all that awaits them. The Titan lord, Kronos has devised his most treacherous plot yet. They’re not the only ones in danger. An ancient monster has arisen - one rumoured to be so powerful it could destroy Olympus - and Artemis, the only goddess who might know how to track it, is missing. Now Percy and his friends, along with the Hunters of Artemis, have only a week to find the kidnapped goddess and solve the mystery of the monster she was hunting.

Along the way, they must face their most dangerous challenge yet: the chilling prophecy of the Titan’s curse.

Percy Jackson and the Battle of the Labyrinth by Rick Riordan

Honestly, blowing up another school was the last thing I wanted to do. As the son of a Greek god, I’ve had my share of near-death disaster. This summer, I didn’t choose to battle the cheerleading squad, but when two hissing she-devils with fangs are heading straight for you, what’s a half-blood meant to do? That was just the beginning. This is the one where my arch-enemy, Luke, is looking for a way to invade our camp via an ancient labyrinth. If he succeeds, thousands of bloodthirsty monsters will attack. So it’s goodbye sunshine, hello darkness as four of us descend into the terrifying underground and beyond …

Managed Individual Pathways - Year 12s: Get ready for TIS Day!

Next Tuesday 17 May 2011, the North Central LLEN will be hosting the annual Tertiary Information Service (TIS) event in Charlton from 10:30 - 12:00. All Year 12 VCE students are invited to attend (the school will be running a bus). The day will include a general presentation covering the key aspects of transition from Year 12 into tertiary study, then an opportunity for students to visit stalls set up by over 20 tertiary providers! Now’s a great time to start making a list of courses and institutes you’d like to investigate or questions you want answered by the representatives. The better prepared you are, the more you’ll get out of the event. For hints and advice speak with your Careers Teacher or Lizzie Judd (0429 148 399 or mips@nclllen.org.au).

Some questions to consider before arriving:

- Are there any tables in particular that you would like to visit?
- Open Day dates and any travel grants that might be available to get there
- Accommodation options
- Scholarships
- Access schemes (e.g. Ballarat's REEP program, La Trobe’s SALT, ACU Early Achievers, etc)
- TAFE/alternative pathways
- Course duration
- Industry placement or links with industry
- Can they defer?
- Contact details of various faculties
- Whether or not the course qualifies for FEE/HECS-HELP

Lizzie Judd   Mobile: 0429 148 399
Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs) Co-ordinator
North Central Local Learning and Employment Network, PO Box 12, Charlton 3525
Dear Parents of students attending Gnurad Gundidj in Term 3, 2011

I received a letter from Mr Peter Torey, Acting Campus Principal of the School for Student Leadership, Gnurad Gundidj Campus today indicating the dates and times for the information evening.

2011 students involved include: Marnie Lehmann, Dianne Winnera, Aaron Riggall, Cooper Benfield, Ronald Turner, Connor Buteux

Peter will be conducting an Information Evening for students and parents at Rainbow Secondary College on Thursday 26 May 2011 commencing at 7:00 p.m.

The session will normally go for one and a half hours including question time.

It is very important that students and families attend this meeting so that everyone is informed of the proposed Term 3, 2011 visit and also to meet some members of staff at Gnurad Gundidj.

Some dates for your calendar and information:

1. Starting date is **Sunday 24 July 2011**. Students need to be at the Gnurad Gundidj Campus between 10:00 a.m. and midday and immediate families are invited to join us for lunch. It is much less rushed if you can arrive closer to 10:00 a.m. We ask that you depart by 2:30 p.m.

2. Parent visiting weekend is **27th and 28th August 2011**.

3. Community Learning Project Presentation is **Wednesday 21st September 2011**. This is the day students present their project outcomes to principals and other school representatives.

4. Finishing date is **Saturday 24th September 2011**. Students depart with their families from 10:00 a.m. onwards. All students must depart by midday. Families are encouraged to pick-up students personally due to the value of this reunion in the reintegration phase of the program.
Birchip Angling Club –
Sunday 15 May 2011

Birchip Angling Club Fishing Competition at Tchum Lake Sunday will be held on Sunday 15 May 2011.

Boat and bank competition commencing at 2:00 p.m. and weigh in at 5:30 p.m.

Competition entries will be taken at the north end boat ramp.

Costs: $5 senior, $2 junior entry with barbecue to follow.

All current and new members very welcome.

For further information please contact Jarrod Tyler.

Primary students have been very active in PE so far this term by participating in many skipping related activities. For many it has required great persistence to keep trying as skipping coordination does not come easy. For others it is serving as a platform for polishing their skills and learning some more advanced moves.

FAMILY SKIP KITS: Available for loan from the library are 5 family skip kits. Many students have already borrowed these kits and I am pleased to hear feedback from students and parents about their skipping experiences at home with many members of their family. Keep up the great work! The kits include 3 different sized ropes and a booklet of various skipping techniques.

Preliminary Notice……..JUMP OFF DAY: Stay tuned! It will be held later on this term for all primary students and it will involve a variety of skipping activities and challenges. There will be a small cost for each student, with the proceeds going towards the Heart Foundation. The small fee will cover students dressing in casual clothes with the theme of Dress as favourite sports person or in favourite sports colours. It will also include healthy snacks.

DID YOU KNOW? The Heart Foundation is Australia’s leading not-for-profit heart health organization, working since 1959 to build community awareness about heart disease. On average, every year more than 46,000 Australians die from heart disease, stroke or blood vessel disease; that’s a life lost almost every 10 minutes! Donations by you help the Heart Foundation continue the fight against cardiovascular disease (a disease affecting 2 in 3 Australian families). Many families in our school community have had their own personal experiences with family members suffering heart complaints. If you would like to make a donation, online donations can be made directly through the Heart Foundation website by credit card www.heartfoundation.org.au/jumpropeforheart or by phoning the Heart Foundation on 1300 72 48 04.

Michelle Lee    P-6 PE teacher

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BirchipP-12 School Newsletter

SACs Next Week

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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Biology: Homeostasis write up</td>
<td>Friday 20th</td>
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<td>Chemistry: Instrumental analysis</td>
<td>Thursday 26th</td>
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<tr>
<td>TDD Wood: Design aspects</td>
<td>Tuesday 17th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospitality SAC: Vegetables, eggs &amp; farinaceous dishes</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Management: Area of study 2, Part B</td>
<td>Wednes 18th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Monday 23rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English: Persuasive language analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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JUMBLE SALE AND DEVONSHIRE TEA
BIRCHIP UNITING CHURCH GROUNDS
Saturday 14 May 2011
commencing at 8:30 a.m.

PLANTS      CAKES      CAPPuccinos
CRAFTS      WOODWORK   SLICES
USED FURNITURE BRIC A BRAC
BISCUITS     BOOKS      HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS

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Heart Foundation

Jump Rope for Heart

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Birchip Business and Learning Centre classes start next week. Participants must register and pay in advance.

**Courses include:**

- International cooking: Indian, Italian, Japanese and Australian
- Auslan
- Computers
- Dance for fun with Connelly Barclay (Monday nights - primary and secondary students)
- Yoga (beginners, advanced and a men’s only class)
- Fit circuit, circuit with Latin dance moves
- Book club
- Sustainability workshop
- Body bar for men
- Mixed indoor hockey
- Social women’s netball.

**CLASSES STARTING NEXT WEEK**

**COOKING**
- **Italian** - Wednesday 25th May 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
  (risotto, homemade pasta dishes & sauces, meats & vegetables)
- **Indian** – Friday 3rd June 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

All cooking classes are at the Birchip P-12 School
$25.00 per course (or $50 for 3) includes a meal and recipes.

Bring along your own drinks or a bottle of wine to share (try to bring drinks in theme)

Come along and enjoy a different cuisine each week, and increase your culinary repertoire and impress your family and friends at your next dinner party

Please register with Birchip Business and Learning Centre "At the Shamrock" at the contacts above.

**EXERCISE**

- **Fit Circuit** – Tuesdays from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. in the stadium
- **Circuit with Latin Dance Moves** – Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 at St Mary’s Parish Centre
- **Body Bar for Men** – Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at IHOM

All exercise activities are $50.00 for 8 weeks

Change of times for ‘Dance For Fun’

- Grade Prep - Year 3 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
- Grade 4 - 6 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

All at the Public Hall
All participants must be registered PRIOR to taking part in the class.

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**Birchip & District Pre-School 2011 Fundraising**

**Drum Muster**

Remove all your chemical drums off your property
For drop off details contact Nathan Kemp on 0438935286
“National Career Development Week” is 16 to 22 May! The NCDW campaign is a unique initiative of the Career Industry Council of Australia (CICA), which motivates and supports many hundreds of thousands of Australians each year to get the life they love!

Research shows that parents and carers probably have the greatest influence on their children’s career decisions.

Check out the NCDW website at www.ncdw.com.au or www.aussiecareerweek.com which along with the largest careers event database in Australia, contains career factsheets, exciting educational videos, celebrity interviews, links to career resources and services, and a range of other helpful and inspiring career development content.

The AusCareerWeek Facebook page is updated regularly with information, photos and links. It is designed to help students understand how career development assists them to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes to make informed decisions about school and post-school education, employment and training options. Look at the AusCareerWeek YouTube Channel and follow NCDW on Twitter: www.twitter.com/Career_talking for your career tip of the day.

The North Central LLEN MIPs coordinator at our school, Barb Bear & Lizzie Judd and work place coordinator Barry McKenzie encourage students to explore all their career path options and access the wide range of resources available.

“Getting the life you love takes more than just luck – it means actively managing your life, always learning, and being ready for change.”

For more information please contact Barb 0429 426 950, Lizzie 0429 148 399 or Barry 0400 696 156.
Factsheet - Stepping Stones to your future - what comes after school ...

STEP 1. Who are you?
Think about yourself:
- Your interests
- Your values
- What are you good at?
- What do you enjoy doing?
- What skills do you have?
- What environment do you want to work in?
- Do you want to study full time, part time or later?
- What type of personality are you?
- Do you know what you want to do?
- Your needs.

STEP 2. Be aware of your options?
Work -
- Explore the occupations that interest you
- Research the industries in which you would like to work
- Research where the vacancies are.

Further Education -
- Explore your study options (university, TAFE or other), courses offered, entry requirements, cost of courses, etc

Training -
- Apprenticeships, Cadetships, traineeships, on-the-job training, etc

STEP 3. Making decisions - use Steps 1 & 2 to make your decision
Looking at who you are and what options are available for you can help you to decide:
- Your next step
- How to get there
- Implications on your life
- Funding
- Short term & long term goals.

Resources to assist you include:
- Job Guide
  http://www.jobguide.deewr.gov.au
- Myfuture
  http://www.myfuture.edu.au

STEP 4. Doing it
Getting a job -
- Job Search - look for vacancies
- Prepare your application/resume
- Prepare for an interview.

Further Education and Training -
- Complete your application for your chosen course.

Things to remember:
- You are surrounded by people who can assist you – teachers, careers advisors, VET coordinators, parents, family friends, university/TAFE course coordinators, professional associations, etc
- Do your research
- Do what YOU want – not what your friends are going to do.
Asthma, Influenza & Winter

As the weather starts to cool down, the cold and flu season will soon be upon us.

The Facts:

- Approximately 2,800 Australians die every year either directly from the seasonal flu, complications due to the flu, or pneumonia.
- Adults and children with chronic illnesses (such as asthma) are at a higher risk of complications from the virus.
- Colds and flu can be a trigger for some people with asthma, and can make your symptoms worse.
- Flu vaccinations are the single most effective action in helping fight the spread of flu in the community.
- The vaccine provides protection from about two weeks after the injection, and lasts for about one year (so even if you were immunised last year, you need to have the vaccine again this year).
- The flu shot cannot give you the flu – as the vaccine does not contain any active virus.
- In Victoria, under the National Immunisation Program, the criteria state that an annual free influenza immunisation is available to children or adults with severe asthma.

The vaccination is available now, so contact your doctor or immunisation provider to make an appointment. Many workplaces provide free vaccinations for staff to help prevent absenteeism during the winter months, so it is a good idea to ask your employer if this is available to you.

With the winter months approaching, it is important to be aware of the triggers that can affect your asthma at this time of year.

Sudden changes in temperature

Certain weather situations like very cold temperatures, humidity and dry air can trigger asthma symptoms. In a school environment, students are exposed to sudden temperature changes many times during the day as they go between heated classroom environments to outdoor activities and lunch breaks.

Wearing a scarf over the mouth and nose is recommended as it can help to warm the air as you breathe in. Exercise-induced asthma may be exacerbated by breathing in colder air than usual, so ensure that you take your reliever puffer 5-20 minutes prior to exercise, warm up adequately, monitor your symptoms during exercise, and have a blue reliever puffer handy in case of an asthma attack.

Thunderstorms

Thunderstorms can be an asthma trigger for some people, as raindrops can cause grains to be broken down into hundreds of tiny allergen-containing particles – allowing them to penetrate the lungs.

If you experience asthma symptoms during thunderstorms, it is best to stay inside with windows closed, and ensure that you update your asthma action plan with your doctor outlining the management of your day to day asthma, what to do if your symptoms worsen, and the first aid procedure in the event of an asthma attack.

For further information please contact the Asthma Foundation of Victoria on 1800 645 130 or email schools@asthma.org.au
Birchip P-12 School Joins McCAIN Veggie Patches

Show Your Support

Birchip P-12 School urges local community to donate points for its School Veggie Patch

Birchip P-12 School has registered for the McCAIN School Veggie Patches program, and is urging local community, businesses and families to show their support by collecting barcodes.

Every barcode from McCAIN frozen vegetable or McCAIN Purely Potato packs purchased will provide points that Birchip P-12 School can redeem for gardening tools, seeds and equipment such as wheelbarrows, water tanks and compost bins for their school veggie patch.

This is a great opportunity for Birchip P-12 School students to be involved in an educational program that aims to teach children about the benefits of healthy eating in a fun, outdoor environment.

McCain School Veggie Patches will allow Birchip P-12 School to play an active role in engaging children in an interactive and entertaining way to learn more about the foods they eat, and the world around them.

The McCain School Veggie Patches program equips students with invaluable knowledge and hands-on experience that will continue to grow with them well into the future.

To show your support and earn points for the Birchip P-12 School, simply collect barcodes from any pack of McCAIN frozen vegetables or McCAIN Purely Potato and drop then into the front office.

NOTE:
The Birchip P-12 School is in no way encouraging parents to go out and buy McCain frozen vegetables. However, if parents do purchase these products then the school would be very grateful of your support by collecting the barcodes and taking them to the school office for processing.

Prizes include: wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels, etc.,

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KEYS 2 DRIVE ...... helping parents teach their Learner Driver

As a parent you may be a good driver; but being able to teach your Learner is not an easy task.

A recent national survey of more than 1,250 parents of Learner drivers found that almost half (45.5%) were nervous or apprehensive when they began teaching their teen how to drive.

keys2drive is a federally funded program that has been developed by the Australian Automobile Association which aims to take the drama out of learning to drive. It helps parents to prepare for their role as a supervising driver and to ensure that any time spent in the car with their Learner is successful and effective.

keys2drive is a free lesson (involving theory and on-road) delivered by an accredited professional driving instructor to any Learner who is accompanied by their supervising driver – most often a parent.

This program, the single largest Learner driver safety program undertaken in Australia, represents a unique and valuable experience for parents and their Learner drivers.

To register for a free lesson or to learn more, visit www.keys2drive.com.au

The Australian Automobile Association constituent members are the motoring clubs in each State and Territory
Birchip Watchem Football Club - Junior Roster for Saturday 14th May 2011

Birchip Watchem is at home to Wedderburn

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Under 16</th>
<th>Boundary Umpires</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th>Water Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U13 Timekeeper</td>
<td>U13 Interchange</td>
<td>U13 Goal Keeper</td>
<td>U16 Timekeeper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Family</td>
<td>McGinnis Family</td>
<td>Sheahan Family</td>
<td>Bland Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Under 16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boundary Umpires</th>
<th>Reserves</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th>Reserves</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Justin S</td>
<td>Jake Morris</td>
<td>Harry Christie</td>
<td>Sam Owa</td>
<td>Bill Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Sands</td>
<td>Curtis Smith</td>
<td>Riley Doran</td>
<td>Liam McGinnis</td>
<td>Carl Egerer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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>Play “1 Spy!” Suggest rhyming words. Count by 1 to 50, 10 to 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Spelling words Count by 1 to 150, 10 to 200</td>
<td>Each day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Spelling Counting by 1s from 75 to 150</td>
<td>20th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Lewis</td>
<td>Spelling words</td>
<td>16th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Aust. Made</td>
<td>Miss Lewis</td>
<td>Spelling words</td>
<td>20th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Wright</td>
<td>Complete questions</td>
<td>16th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Lewis</td>
<td>Spelling words</td>
<td>17th May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Wright</td>
<td>Revision of visual perception. Test on Friday</td>
<td>20th May</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

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Healthy Sandwich Lunch

Friday 20th May 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Names</th>
<th>No of sandwiches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Payment (at $2.00 per sandwich) Total enclosed $ 

Please return this sandwich order to the General Office by Wednesday 18 May 2011.
Dear Parents,

The week of Monday 16th May – Friday 20th May 2011 will see the Birchip P-12 School celebrate Education Week. This year we have again decided to involve the family and have identified Wednesday 18 May 2011 as ‘Activities Evening’. An evening of activities is planned for you and your children. The idea of the night is to have parents and children build, think, create, plan, or solve problems and exercises together.

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a free BBQ. Activities will commence at 7:00 p.m. These will last for 1 hour. Parents and children are expected to attend the same activity and enjoy the interaction between themselves and other groups.

Please fill in the form below and return ASAP for catering purposes.

**Activities on offer include:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Activity Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Kite Making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Indian Cooking. Bollywood Cooking extravaganza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Go for your life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Board Games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Spicks and Specks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Making Volcanoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Are you perfect? Could you be the modern virtruvian man?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Chopstick Gun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Electronics. Build a thermostat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Talk: The lost Diggers of Fromelles. Given by Tim Whitford.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You will be required to choose one activity only for the evening. Adults and students should attend the entire session. In order to plan the evening please detach and return the slip below ASAP. No child should attend a session by themselves. Families can split up to attend more than one session. E.g., Dad with one child, mum with another or an older student (Year 10 and above) with a younger primary child. Numbers are limited for some sessions.

Activities fill on a first in basis so please return the form below as soon as possible to ensure your preference.

---

**Family Name:**

Number of adults attending: [ ]

Number of children attending: [ ]

**1st Preferences:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Code</th>
<th>Names attending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>

**2nd Preferences:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Code</th>
<th>Names attending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. In what country was Osama Bin Laden found?
   a. Afghanistan
   b. Pakistan
   c. Iraq

2. Julia Gillard has announced that in the next budget teachers will be rewarded for great performance by
   a. paid performance based bonuses
   b. paid time off
   c. free lap top computers

3. What country has Australia organised a deal with to trade asylum seekers?
   a. New Zealand
   b. Singapore
   c. Malaysia

4. What type of aboriginal artifact has been stolen from the Melbourne Museum?
   a. a rare spear-thrower
   b. a rare didgeridoo
   c. a rock painting

5. What natural event caused widespread damage in the Auckland suburb of Albany last week?
   a. Lightning strike
   b. Hail storm
   c. Tomato

6. Which bank had their some of their ATM machines stop operating on Thursday after a data centre shut down because its air conditioning failed?
   a. Commonwealth
   b. ANZ
   c. Westpac

7. What form of transport is Queensland proposing to bug so that conversations can be recorded to improve safety?
   a. Taxis
   b. Buses
   c. Planes

8. Seven spectators attending a racing event were taken to hospital on Thursday after being injured by
   a. A motorcycle flipping over a guard rail
   b. A car crashing and exploding near spectators in a motor rally race
   c. A horse jumping the outside fence into the crowd

9. What did coalition leader Tony Abbott give a young refugee boy in Sydney last week?
   a. A laptop
   b. A surf lesson
   c. Lunch at a restaurant

10. What is the nickname of the Australian Rugby League team that won against the “Kwis”?
    a. Kangaroos
    b. Wallabies
    c. Kookaburra

11. From which war did the last remaining survivor pass away last week?
    a. World War I
    b. World War II
    c. Vietnam War

12. In which country did a mine explosion last week trap 20 workers?
    a. France
    b. Mexico
    c. South Africa

13. The flight recorder device has been discovered for the Air France jet that crashed off the coast of Brazil in 2009. What is the common name for this device?
    a. flight box
    b. black box
    c. crash box

14. Which state or territory is the Great Barrier Reef mainly beside?
    a. Tasmania
    b. New South Wales
    c. Queensland

15. What is the largest city in the United States?
    a. Washington DC
    b. New York
    c. Los Angeles
1. Who created a lot of discussion by wearing this hat to the Royal Wedding?
   a. Princess Beatrice  
   b. Princess Anne  
   c. Pippa Middleton

2. In which Pacific country is our government trying to set up a detention centre in?
   a. Fiji  
   b. Papua New Guinea  
   c. Samoa

3. Name the person second from the left.

4. In which reality program has this contestant gained a lot of praise?

5. This famous building requires expensive maintenance. What country is it in?
   a. Spain  
   b. France  
   c. Italy
Habits of Mind
Thanks to Mr Travis Knights

Last week the Year nine students completed their theory component of Advance. Advance is a community based subject where students worked with several community organisations. Our students spent time at the Leisure Centre completing these tasks before undertaking their Level II First Aid certificates.

During the week students exhibited a number of different Habits of Mind:

Listening with Understanding and Empathy – when they were provided with instructions for their first aid tasks

Thinking interdependently – students learnt well with other by completing a variety of team activities and group tasks

Applying past knowledge to new situations – students used what they already knew to assist them in obtaining their First Aid certificates

Finding Humour – with students completing different activities throughout the week several students managed to find humour when watching some of the activities being completed

Creating, Managing, Innovating – throughout the week students were required to complete several presentation in front of their peers and many chose different, interesting presentation methods