Forthcoming Events

May
Monday 25th Education Week Activity Evening

June
Monday 1st Parents Club Meeting - 7.30pm
Tuesday 9th VCE exams & GAT exam
Saturday 13th Physical Resources meeting

Wednesday 3rd Grade 6 Maldon Camp
Thursday 4th Australian Science Exam
Friday 5th Pupil Free Day - report writing day
Saturday 6th Last day of second term - 2.30pm finish

July
Monday 13th First day of third term

August
Monday 3rd Parents Club Meeting - 7.30pm
Tuesday 5th School Photographs

SECONDARY CROSS COUNTRY
PERIOD 4, TUESDAY 26TH MAY 2009

As Mr Sayle mentioned at school assembly last week and mentions each day during home group assembly, the secondary cross country will be conducted during period 4 on Tuesday 26th May 2009. I trust everyone has been practising and doing some runs in readiness for this event. There are new age group divisions this year which will match up with Northern Zone and the Victorian Secondary Schools Sports Association age divisions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12-13 years:</td>
<td>12-13 years:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 years:</td>
<td>14 years:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 years:</td>
<td>15 years:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 years:</td>
<td>16 years:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17-20 years:</td>
<td>17-20 years:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3000m</td>
<td>3000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3000m</td>
<td>3000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3000m</td>
<td>3000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3000m</td>
<td>5000m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3000m</td>
<td>5000m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr Sayle has included some (reasonably easy) standards for students to aim for.

It should be noted that the cross country event is a great opportunity for Fraser House to consolidate the House Championships after winning the swimming sports and for Young to square the ledger with only the athletics remaining.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ratings</th>
<th>All girls events (3 km)</th>
<th>Boys 12-13, 14, 15 events (3 km)</th>
<th>Boys 16, 17-21 events (5 km)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>&lt;15 min</td>
<td>&lt;12 min</td>
<td>&lt;20 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tops</td>
<td>15-17 min</td>
<td>12-14 min</td>
<td>20-22 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great</td>
<td>17-20 min</td>
<td>14-15 min</td>
<td>22-25 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good</td>
<td>20-23 min</td>
<td>15-17 min</td>
<td>25-27 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OK</td>
<td>23-27 min</td>
<td>17-18 min</td>
<td>27-30 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Just!</td>
<td>27-31 min</td>
<td>18-22 min</td>
<td>30-35 min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You need to do some exercise for your health.

>31 min | >22 min | >35 min

Education Week Activity Evening
[Please note change of date]

This Monday 25th May 2009 the school will again host an evening of learning and enquiry for students, parents and friends. Please keep this evening free for another action packed and enjoyable learning experience with your family. A free family BBQ will be available. A list of activities is available elsewhere in this newsletter. There will also be a chance to win a beautiful.
brand new, Malvern Star bicycle and helmet. All attendees will receive a ticket in the free draw.

Hovercrafts | Full
Healthy snacks | Full
Kite making | Full
Volleyball | Full
Mosaics | Full
Problem solving | Full

Brain training | Full
Board games | Full
Chop sticks | Full
Spaghetti towers | Full
Plastics | Full

Red Shield Appeal - Go Red Day

Today was Red Shield Appeal - Go Red Day. Today the Senior and Junior SRC collected a gold coin donation from students who came to school proudly wearing red or casual clothing.

The senior SRC conducted a sausage sizzle for all students.

The Annual ‘Red Shield Appeal’ is planned for this coming weekend. Parents and students from Football, Netball and Hockey will be part of the roster to collect around the Birchip streets.

Collectors will need to call at Richmond’s house to collect a receipt booklet and package prior to their walk and then return all receipts and monies back after the walk.

Chicken pox

There have been some reported cases of chicken pox within the school and community. The following guidelines are published by the Department of Human Services. If a student develops chicken pox then they are to be excluded from school until fully recovered or for at least 5 days after the eruption first appears. Note that some remaining scabs are not a reason for continued exclusion.

There is no exclusion for anybody who has come into contact with a person with chicken pox.

Maths is Marvellous – You can count on it!

I Spy!
I spy with my little eye . . . something that is longer than my pencil but shorter than a belt, etc. Other concepts could be used, e.g. taller/shorter, heavier/lighter, more than/less than, few/many, etc.

School Nurse Visit

Kerrie McCosh, primary school nurse, will be visiting our school on June 9th and 19th 2009. The purpose of this visit is to undertake health assessments and discuss health concerns that parents and/or teachers may have with their children/students.

Prep Health Assessments: All parents of prep grade children will be requested to complete a Health Questionnaire and return the forms to the school office by June 9th – prior to the school nurse visit. (Thanks to those who have returned their forms already.)

Referrals (All Grades): Parents and/or teachers may refer children from any grade for assessments of vision, hearing, basic speech, physical abilities, medical conditions, behavioural and parenting issues. Please collect a referral form from the school office. Completed forms are to be handed into the school office by June 9th 2009. Should parents wish to have an interview with the School Nurse, please indicate your request on the form. Please note: You can talk to the school nurse at any time throughout the year. The school has her mobile phone number.

Grade Five and Six Homework Questions – due Friday 29th May 2009

1. Which god is Thursday named after?
2. Which sea separates Britain and Eire?
3. Who discovered America in 1492?
4. Which male singer has the highest voice: a bass, a baritone or a tenor?
5. Do peanuts grow above or below ground?
6. What is measured in phons?
7. Vaduz is the capital of which tiny European country?
8. How did troubadours entertain people in medieval times?
9. Who designed St Paul’s Cathedral?
10. What kind of hat did Sherlock Holmes wear?

Last Week’s

1. What is another word for nacre? Mother of pearl
2. How is Frances Gumm better known? Judy Garland
3. In which branch of the arts is a metronome used? Music
4. Which is the USA’s largest state? Alaska
5. Where are your clavicles? The base of the neck
6. Which vegetable goes into sauerkraut? Cabbage
7. In which decade was the bullet proof vest developed? 1960s
8. Which country has .pt as its internet code? Portugal
9. True or false? A jalousie is made with flaky pastry. True
10. What sort of creature is a capercaillie? A bird
KODOMO NO HI

Primary students enjoyed KODOMO NO HI (Children's / Boys' Day) celebration on Tuesday 20th May 2009. Thank you to Ms Nakamura and Mrs Barker for their organization and initiative.

Primary Wimmera Zone Cross Country

We wish our participants in the Wimmera Zone Cross Country at Dimboola next Thursday 28 May 2009 all the best. Our representatives are Joseph Reid, Sarah Botheras, Jessica Bidstrup, Nakita Turner, Joe O'Donnell, Georgia Lee, Claudia Lee, Royce Bennett, Sean Hogan and Jake Gleeson. We are sure that they will acquit themselves well.

Bike Education

The Grade 6 students have been undertaking a Bike Education program in preparation for the Maldon Camp from 1 - 3 June 2009. It has been most pleasing to see skills showing improvement as well as an increased awareness of road rules. Next Friday the students will go on a supervised ride around town as a culmination of this activity.

Birchip Junior Golf

Junior Golf will commence this evening Friday 22nd after school. Please contact the Junior Coordinator Beryl Fietz if you are interested.

SACs next week

- Chemistry
- Maths Methods
- P.E.

Birchip Archery

May shoot, Kirsch Road, Birchip, Sunday May 24th 2009 at 10am. Everyone is welcome. Enquiries to Bob Darby 0400 958 915

Auskick

On 30th May 2009, Birchip Watchem plays Charlton at home. There will be an Auskick match at half time of the seniors game. All Auskickers will be able to play and are encouraged to attend. If you have any queries please contact Janine Paley (Auskick Coordinator) 5492 2767

FOR REMOVAL

At the southern end of the main school oval we have two storage sheds (one large and one small garden variety) for removal. Any person interested in removing these sheds should contact John Richmond on 0417 106 033.
Changes to Youth Allowance

There has been much discussion lately about the changes to Youth Allowance and its affect on young people being able to access independent status required to gain Youth Allowance. I have visited the website and pulled the following information out for your interest. I encourage all parents to read and see how it affects you and your son/daughter.

The Bradley Review identified that between 2001 and 2007, the number of Youth Allowance recipients in higher education who were assessed as dependants had fallen by 23 per cent, and the number of dependants living away from home for study had declined by 34 per cent. Forty-nine per cent of Youth Allowance recipients were from families with household incomes of more than $80,000 and would therefore be receiving Youth Allowance as independent students.

The review concluded that current income support arrangements for students had failed to adequately support the participation of students from low socio economic backgrounds. It also found that the benefits did not go to the neediest students. As a result, the review recommended urgent action to reform student income support.

In response, the Rudd Government is introducing a package of significant reforms designed to achieve its target of 20 per cent of higher education undergraduate enrolments representing students from low SES backgrounds.

Parental Income Test

From 1 January 2010 the Parental Income Test (PIT) threshold for students applying for Youth Allowance or ABSTUDY will be increased from $32,800 to $42,559 per annum to align with Family Tax Benefit—Part A (FTB). Further the PIT indexation and taper rate arrangements will also be aligned with those applying under FTB.

Age of Independence

The current age of independence for Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY is 25 years. The Bradley Review found that the age of independence was high by international standards.
The Government is introducing a new initiative that reduces the Age of Independence to 22 years. This will be phased in so that the Age of Independence would be reduced to 24 years in 2010, then to 23 years in 2011 and 22 years in 2012.

**Workforce Participation Criterion**
From 1 January 2010, the workforce participation criteria for independence under Youth Allowance will be tightened to target assistance more effectively to students from low income backgrounds. All existing student income support recipients will be 'grandfathered' so that no existing recipient would be disadvantaged by this change.

To support participation in higher education, particularly amongst low SES students, the Government will reform the student income support system to target greater assistance to those in need.

The Government is tightening the definition of independence to ensure that only students who have demonstrated genuine self support can qualify for Youth Allowance through workforce participation independence rules prior to turning 22 years of age.

From 1 January 2010, the workforce participation criteria will be limited to having worked full-time for at least 30 hours a week, for at least 18 months in the last 2 years. Students who have already met the workforce participation criteria, prior to 1 January 2010, will be unaffected. Other independence rules based on personal circumstances will not change.

**Personal Income Test**
The personal income threshold will be raised from $236 to $400 per fortnight, so that student income support recipients will be able earn up to $400 per fortnight without having their income support payments reduced.

**Student Start-Up Scholarship**
A centrepiece of the Government's reforms is a new scholarship—the Student Start Up Scholarship.

Valued at $2254 in 2010, and then indexed, the scholarship is available to all university students receiving income support and those assisted under veterans' schemes.

**Relocation Scholarship**
From 1 January 2010, a new Relocation Scholarship will assist Youth Allowance and ABSTUDY recipients at university. Dependent students who have to live away from the family home for study as well as independent students who are disadvantaged by personal circumstances will be eligible for this scholarship.

The Relocation Scholarship will provide $4000 for students in their first year at university and $1000 in each year thereafter.

**References:**

Fact Sheet 22: STUDENT INCOME SUPPORT—WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION CRITERION
Fact Sheet 15: STUDENT INCOME SUPPORT—PARENTAL INCOME TEST
2008 Red Shield Appeal

Thank you for volunteering your time to collect for the Red Shield Appeal this Sunday 24th May 2008.

The activity can be undertaken at anytime on Sunday. Please call in at my house to collect your receipt book and package prior to your walk and then return all monies and books back to me.

Thank you

John Richmond

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Streets to collect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Leon Hogan Emma &amp; Sean Hogan</td>
<td>Hogan Road</td>
<td>Watson Street Percy Street Clifton Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Football</td>
<td>Simone Christie Harrison &amp; Jacob Christie</td>
<td>Lockwood Street BIRCHIP 3483</td>
<td>Morrison Street Queen Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>Sam Kemp Chelsi &amp; Aden Kemp</td>
<td>Watson Street</td>
<td>Johnson Street Simpson Street Lockwood Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>Claire Browne Molly Hogan Maryanne Bell</td>
<td>Duncan Street BIRCHIP 3483</td>
<td>Duncan Street Taverner Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>Jackie Tierney Darci &amp; Ashlee Tierney</td>
<td>Watson Street BIRCHIP 3483</td>
<td>Corack Road Fraser Street Hillgrove Street King Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>Carol Reid Sophie Reid</td>
<td>Beulah East Road</td>
<td>Cumming Avenue Watchem Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey</td>
<td>Claire Cook Ruby Cook</td>
<td>Richmond Road</td>
<td>Sherwood Street Abbott Street Rundle Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey</td>
<td>Ros McClelland Stephanie McClelland</td>
<td>‘Windarra’ BIRCHIP 3483</td>
<td>Campbell Street Sunraysia Highway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Birchip Street Map
Habits of Mind

- Interdependently
- Thinking Accurately
- Thinking & Communicating with Clarity & Precision
- Continuous Learning
- Creating, Imagining & Innovating
- Thinking Flexibly
- Gathering Data through All the Senses
- Finding Humour
- Questioning &Posing Problems
- Applying Past Knowledge
- Thinking about your Thinking
- Managing Impulsivity
- Responding with Wonderment & Awe
- Persistence
- Listening with Empathy & Understanding
- Taking Responsible Risks
- Responding with Wonderment & Awe
Habits of Mind

Mrs Taylor read “Christian the Lion” to us as a serial. When we thought about the story we identified several Habits of Mind within the context of the story. Here are a selection of the thoughts of the students in Grade 2 and 3.

John and Ace thought it was wrong for Christian to be in a cage so they made it right and bought him. (Britt Hogan. Yr3)

The two men asked questions about Christian before they bought him. (Darcy Sheahan. Yr3)

John and Ace had to stop and think about Christian’s health, living in that small flat in such a big city. (Khiana Brooks. Yr3)

John and Ace used their past knowledge of the needs of wild animals to help Christian (Brodie Connelly. Yr3)

John and Ace thought flexibly when they decided to exercise Christian in the church yard. (Bethany Emonson. Yr3)

When Christian knocked the table set for dinner and many things broke, John and Ace saw the funny side and cleaned up the mess. (Caitlin Bidstrup. Yr2)

John and Ace worked together to try and find Christian a new home because he had grown too big for the shop. (Bill Lee. Yr3)

Ace and John knew that they needed help from Bill and Virginia as well as George Adamson, to help find Christian a new home in Africa. (Brad James. Yr3)

When Christian recognised John and Ace after one year, they must have gone. Wow! (Olivia Rickard. Yr2)