**Forthcoming Events**

**June**
- Friday 12th: Pupil Free Day - State wide report writing day
- Saturday 13th: Community Learning Projects Presentation at Alpine School
- Monday 15th → Friday 19th: Years 9-11 end of semester unit examinations
- Wednesday 17th: Year 12 VCE Physical Education Excursion
- Thursday 18th: School Council Meeting
- Friday 19th: Primary Winter Sports - Birchip School Nurse
- Tuesday 23rd: Year 9/10 Law Makers-Law Breakers excursion
- Friday 26th: Student reports available at 2.25pm during Home Group Assembly

**July**
- Thursday 2nd: Birchip Cropping Group-Ag Expo at Birchip P-12 School
- Monday 13th: First day of third term
- Monday 13th → Friday 17th: Year 10/11 Melbourne Camp
- Monday 13th → Friday 17th: Year 9 Rubicon Camp
- Tuesday 28th: Year 12 Biology excursion to GTAC Melbourne

**August**
- Monday 3rd: Parents Club Meeting - 7.30pm
- Tuesday 25th: School Photographs
- Thursday 27th: Staff PD Literacy across the Curriculum - Joan Stewart - 3.30pm - 5.30pm

**PUPIL FREE DAY TOMORROW**

Tomorrow (Friday 12th June 2009) is a ‘Pupil Free Day’ due to the Victorian state wide report writing day. Teachers will be writing reports and correcting work during this time.

The Australian Science Examination will be conducted at the school on Wednesday 10th June for students in years 3 – 12.

**Unit selections**

Mr Sayle has been catching up with all students in years 9 and 10, and Mr Christie with students in year 11 about their unit selections for next semester. A letter has been sent home identifying the subjects your sons and daughters have initially selected. Unit descriptions are attached for your assistance.

Please have a conversation with your sons and daughters. Mr Sayle would like ALL unit selection receipts back next Tuesday 16th June 2009 please.

**Evening of performances**

9/10 Drama and Mr Tyler’s Music students Weds 24th June 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Family members of students doing year 9/10 drama are invited to attend their end of semester performance. This semester’s performance is called “The Actor’s challenge”.

Mr Tyler has asked some of his senior music students to accompany the drama performance. Family members of these students are also invited to attend.

BYO drinks and hors d’oeuvre

**Maths is Marvelous – You can count on it!**

**Dice Games**

Throw two dice. Have children record the largest and smallest numbers they can. Throw two dice and have children multiply them together to reinforce times tables. Throw two dice and have children add the number and multiply the total by 1 to 12 to reinforce times tables.
Exam Period
The following examination schedule will be conducted from Monday 15th June – Thursday 18th June 2009. Students should ensure they are aware of what exams they have, when and where.
I encourage all students in years 9 – 11 to prepare well for these examinations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 15th June</th>
<th>Tuesday 16th June</th>
<th>Weds 17th June</th>
<th>Thurs 18th June</th>
<th>Friday 19th June</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 10:40</td>
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<td>9:00 – 10:40</td>
<td>Primary Winter Sports to be held in Birchip</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Economics</td>
<td>11 Economics (2 hrs)</td>
<td>11 Studio Arts</td>
<td>11 Studio Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Food</td>
<td>9/10 Gen Science</td>
<td>11 Physics</td>
<td>9/10 Literature (2 hrs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 Physical Ed</td>
<td>9/10 Drama</td>
<td>11 Literature</td>
<td>9/10 Science (In/Out)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 English (Aust)</td>
<td>9/10 Global Issues</td>
<td>9/10 Japanese</td>
<td>9/10 Japanese</td>
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<td>9/10 Graphics (C)</td>
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<td>9/10 History</td>
<td>9/10 History</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 12:40</td>
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<td>9/10 Law Makers</td>
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<td>11 Maths Methods</td>
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<td>11 Psychology</td>
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<td>9/10 Systems</td>
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<td>9/10 Murder Ink!</td>
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<td>9/10 Horticulture</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 Leaving Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 General Maths</td>
<td>11 Physical Ed</td>
<td>11 Chemistry</td>
<td>11 Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 Wood</td>
<td>11 Japanese</td>
<td>11 Bus Mgt</td>
<td>11 Wood</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 Forensic Sc</td>
<td>10 Algebra 3</td>
<td>9/10 Japanese</td>
<td>9/10 English (Survival)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 Art</td>
<td>9 Algebra 2</td>
<td>9/10 History</td>
<td>9/10 Info Tech</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10 Textiles</td>
<td></td>
<td>9/10 History</td>
<td>9/10 Food</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Alpine School Report
On Sunday we headed out on our second expo. The conditions were a lot tougher than our first expo as it was snowing lightly when we woke up. It was forecast to keep snowing for the whole three days. We left school and walked to JB Hut on the first day. When we got there we set up our tents and had some lunch. After lunch we went for a short walk over the road to Dead Timber Hill. The view is usually very good but because it was snowing and raining we couldn't see very far at all. When we got back to the hut we lit the fire and stayed nice and warm for the night. It was still snowing when we got into our tents. There were a couple of centimetres of snow on our tents. We walked to Biathlon Hut on day two. It was an eight kilometre walk. We got there in good time despite the fact that it snowed the whole day. It was a challenge walking in the snow but we made it to the hut in record time. On day three we were planning on walking 3 - 4km. We walked to Wire Plain Hut, which is about a kilometre and decided to stay there because many of us weren't feeling very well. Our fingers and toes were quite numb. We were picked up at 1:30 p.m. returned to school to unpack. Overall we all had a good time on our expo and found it a great challenge. We all made it safely home. It is CLP night on Saturday night and we are all looking forward to it very much. The roads are very slushy because of all the new snow. It is meant to continue to snow for the next couple of days. We are all looking forward to seeing Mr & Mrs Richmond and Mr & Mrs Smith at CLP night. We can't wait to get home and see all our friends and family. It is only 10 sleeps now.

Welcome to Mrs Kristy Knights
The school welcomes Mrs Kristy Knights who is undertaking a teaching round with us for the next six weeks. Mrs Knights is completing a Graduate Diploma in Technical Education through Latrobe University. Mrs Knights is working with Mrs Barb Smith and Miss Helen Digby. Mrs Knights is pictured with Megan Naylor and Brady Milne.
World Vision Leadership Convention

The Connect Church hall in Bendigo was the venue for the World Vision Leadership Convention held on Tuesday 9th June 2009. Three Birchip P-12 students, Emma Forrester, Demi Donnellon and Claire Boyle, attended the convention along with students from Bendigo, Kyabram, and Kyneton.

The focus of the convention this year was the world food crisis. Students took workshops throughout the day to explore issues such as global resource distribution, the impact of drought and fuel prices on food production and the role of government and non-government organisations (such as World Vision and Greenpeace). One activity saw the students role play as families trying to find work. They could farm corn (count 100g kernels per bag) to earn $2 a day or go to the city to make tourist trinkets (8 origami elephants) for $1 a day. They then had to buy health tokens at $5 each to try to avoid getting malaria or work injuries. Each family had different sized farms and one family had no farm. This poor family found it difficult to earn enough and eventually three family members ‘died’ from malaria. Over the day, students learnt to work in small groups with people they didn’t know and shared their thoughts and ideas in front of the whole group.

One of the highlights of the day was listening to Alex from Kenya. He grew up in rural Kenya tending cattle all day, every day until one day he was lucky enough to be given an opportunity to attend school. He has attended University and now works with World Vision to help communities like his own set up more sustainable agricultural practices. His family still lives in the area where he grew up and still tends cattle as their main income. Flying to Australia last week was Alex’s first trip on a plane!

‘The convention was very informative and interesting. We learnt all about the world food crisis and World Vision. The staff were friendly and willing to share their amazing stories. We met some great leaders from other schools. Unfortunately, only about 20 people attended (instead of the 80 who registered) because of schools being afraid of swine flu. ‘It was a great day and I highly recommend it.’ – Claire Boyle

‘The day was an enjoyable day. I learnt a lot of things about poverty, the food crisis and ways of how you can do something about it.’ – Demi Donnellon
FORENSIC SCIENCE
A Murder in Birchip

As part of their studies in middle years science, the forensics class split into two groups to create a crime scene and solve another. They drew on their knowledge of hair and fibre analysis, DNA, footprints ballistics and fingerprinting to determine who committed the crime. Each group was required to create a biography of potential suspects to assist the other team in solving the murder. In week 10, the suspect will be tried to determine whether the forensic evidence provided is sufficient to prove their guilt.

Grade Five and Six Homework Questions – Last Week’s Answers
1. What kind of plant is the American saguaro the biggest variety of? Cactus
2. Which two state capitals are linked by Australia’s Pacific Highway? Sydney and Brisbane
3. What’s the coldest planet in our solar system? Pluto
4. People suffering from autophagia are always biting what? Themselves
5. Name the colour of the middle Olympic ring. Black
6. What is the term for an otter’s nest? Holt
7. How many dice are thrown in a standard game of snakes and ladders? One
8. What part of an egg goes into Hollandaise sauce? Yolk
9. Which sportspeople are masters of the balestra, fleche and riposte? Fencers.
10. Which side is the military slouch hat turned up on? Left

Word Quiz
Pick the two odd words in the following columns
Lie
Exaggerate
Exertion
Elaborate
Vegetate
Falsification
Strive
Refuge
persevere
Deceiver
vacation

Curator Contract
Notice of intention to advertise tender process for provision of mowing and maintenance services at the Birchip Recreation Reserve commencing 1st Sept, 2009 for a 3 year term. Enquiries to Secretary Julie Coffey, 0428 593 683

SACs next week
- Accounting
- Business Management
Birchip Watchem Football Club - Junior Roster for Saturday 13\textsuperscript{th} June 2009

Birchip Watchem is home to Wycheproof.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U13 Timekeeper</th>
<th>U13 Interchange</th>
<th>U13 Goal Keeper</th>
<th>U16 Timekeeper</th>
<th>U16 Interchange</th>
<th>U16 Goal Keeper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turner Family</td>
<td>Trollope Family</td>
<td>Boyle Family</td>
<td>C Hogan Family</td>
<td>Burke Family</td>
<td>Delaney Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Under 16</th>
<th>Boundary Umpires</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th>Water Boys</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reserves</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Christie</td>
<td>Jackson Sayle</td>
<td>Riley Doran</td>
<td>Mason Bland</td>
<td>Connor Buteux</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rowley Walsh</td>
<td>David Casey</td>
<td>Jake Hogan</td>
<td>Ronald Turner</td>
<td>Brady Milne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lightning Premiership

Sunday 12th July 2009

At Wedderburn

Lightning Premiership Junior Sports Carnival

This year’s North Central League Junior Carnival, (the Under 12 Lightning Premiership) for football, netball and hockey will be held at Wedderburn on Sunday, July 12\textsuperscript{th} 2009. Players will need to be under 12 years of age at 1\textsuperscript{st} January of this year to play football and in hockey there are two grades, under 12 and under 10.

The rules for the round robin competition will be the same as the minikey competition, played across the field in one 23m section of the field with modified goals, only pushing, no hitting. Football also plays on a modified size field with reduced playing numbers.

This is a good opportunity for players to play a few games on one day and is usually a well organized fun day. It starts at 9.30am and finishes about 4pm. Teams usually play about 5 games for the day. Some children will have to decide if they want to play football, netball or hockey so please have this discussion with your parents ASAP so we can organize teams.

There is no pressure on your child to play, but if your child is interested it’s a good opportunity to have a taste and play a few games in one day. Children don’t have to be playing football or hockey already, any new players are welcome in football and hockey. Netball is restricted by the number of players they can enter so anyone interested in playing netball should talk to Heather Hogan and not include their name on this form.

Should you have any queries, please contact Russ or Simone Christie on 5492 2735 work or home 5492 2488 ASAP. Please return this form to Simone or Russell or the front office at school by Saturday 20\textsuperscript{th} June.

A note will be given to students prior to the end of term with more details about starting times etc. Players will need to organize their own transport to the event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Players Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Preferred Sport (football or hockey)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</table>

Parents Signature

________________________________________________________________________________
### 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 words, letters, numerals</td>
<td>Each day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/3</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Taylor</td>
<td>Locating horizontal and vertical lines in our environment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Counting forwards and backwards from any number between 0-150. Doubles and tens facts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Spelling</td>
<td>Weir/Emonson</td>
<td>Spelling Activities &amp; Test Tables &amp; read 30 mins a night</td>
<td>17th June ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Netbook Project</td>
<td>Mr Richmond</td>
<td>Florida work</td>
<td>15th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Star Award</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Business Man.</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>15th June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Smith/Hicks</td>
<td>Prepare for Omagh SAC</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Literature</td>
<td>Miss Digby</td>
<td>Read Hamlet</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Business Man.</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>SAC revision</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>SAC revision</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
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All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

**Reminder to all year 9, 10 & 11 students.**

Exams are next week and results are a significant part of assessment.
PARENTS’ CLUB NEWS

The Parents Club general meeting was held on Monday 1st June 2009 in the school administration building. It was great to see some new parents.

Mr John Richmond presented a comprehensive account of what is happening at school; the highlight being a demonstration of “Skype” with two students at home talking to the meeting via their new NetBook computers. The most significant information though, was the announcement of all the funding received by Birchip P12 School for various renovations, refurbishments and improvement of facilities. The Parents’ Club congratulated the school on their wonderful effort in obtaining such funding.

We have catered for a number of events in term one and term two so our funds are starting to look quite healthy again. An updated “WISH LIST” is currently being written so watch this space for information as to what we will be fund raising for. So far we have purchased one new fridge and a refrigerated bubble tap. The bubble tap will hopefully be in place soon for student use.

The Mothers’ Day Stall held on the 8th May 2009 thanks to the work of Mrs Janine Paley and Mrs Deanne Botheras. The stall was again most successful.

Our next catering event is the Buloke Shire Dinner on 10/06/2009.

Our next meeting is on Monday 3rd August 2009. We will have another guest speaker in response to the request from the parent community to make the meetings more informative. Please put this date in your diary. Information regarding meeting and speaker will be in school newsletter closer to time.

The Parents’ Club would like to say thank you to Mrs Simone Christie for accessing extra funds so that all primary students were able to participate in ‘Fresh Fruit Friday’. Simone was also instrumental in gaining funds so people involved in “volunteer catering work” were able to do a food handlers course at no cost.

Thank you for taking the time to read “The news”. We hope to see a few more parents at our next meeting on Monday 3rd August 7:30 p.m. in the Staff Recreation Room.

Ros McCallum
Parents’ Club Secretary
Habits of Mind

Persisting and striving for Accuracy

At first it was tricky to hold our fingers the correct way for ‘Incy Wincy Spider’ and it was hard to cut along curvy lines, but we tried ……….

and we got better at it!