Forthcoming Events

August
Monday 18th  House Athletics Sports - Field Events
Monday 18th  →  Book Fair
Friday 1st  Sept  7 – 11 Drug & Alcohol Talk #2
Tuesday 19th  House Athletics Sports – Track Events
Monday 25th  Radiance Program Yrs 9,10&11-Leisure Centre
Tuesday 26th  SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS
Wednesday 27th  Drug & Alcohol Parent Evening
Thursday 28th  Hepatitis B - Immunizations
                  Year 10 & VCAL -0 North Central Careers
                  Day - Charlton
Friday 29th  Junior SRC Disco for Primary students

September
Tuesday 2nd  7 – 11 Drug & Alcohol Talk #3
Wednesday 3rd  Keys Please – Driver – Road Safety Talk
Friday 5th  P6 Athletics Sports – Donald
Monday 8th  P6 Cultural Performance - ‘It’s a mad World’
Tuesday 9th  Secondary Interschool Athletics Sports - Rainbow
Tuesday 16th  7-12 Personal Safety Talk
Tuesday 16th  →  Grade 4 & 5 Camp to Wesley Point - Lake
Thursday 18th  Eppalock
Friday 19th  Term 3 ends at 2.30pm
Monday 22nd  →  Driver Education Year 10, 11 & 12 students
Tuesday 23rd

October
Monday 6th  Term 4 commences
Wednesday 15th  Keys Please
Friday 17th  Hospital Flower Show
Thursday 21st  Year 6 Environmental Festival Wyechoo

Rock Eisteddfod – we’re in the Grand Final!

What an amazing success!

The school was so immensely proud of our students and Miss Johnson last Friday evening when our students competed in the 2009 Rock Eisteddfod. Our students executed their dance routine with distinction. It was wonderful to hear so many positive comments from our students who indicated it was the best think they had ever been involved with. It was also terrific to see so many parents, family members and friends make the trip to Melbourne to encourage our students on.

We received 7 awards on the evening including:
- Award of Excellence for Drama
- Award of Excellence for Lighting Design – Raw Division
- Award of Excellence for Drug Awareness
- Award of Excellence for Concept
- Award of Excellence for Visual Enhancement
- Award of Excellence for Soundtrack
- Award of Excellence for Performance Skill
Early Tuesday morning, Rock Eisteddfod co-ordinator, Miss Elisha Johnson received news that our Rock Eisteddfod performance was placed in the top six in the state and had gone through to the RAW division Melbourne Grand Final. Miss Johnson could barely contain her excitement after the announcement and waited at the front of the school to tell students on arriving at school. Shrieks of delight could be heard across the school (and possibly the town) as the news spread. The whole school community is very proud of our performers and crew who will return to Melbourne’s Hisense Arena on Thursday 11th September 2008 to perform in the grand final. The Melbourne Grand Final will be televised on the ABC later in the year.

**Drug and Alcohol program**

The program continues with day #2 on Tuesday 19th August 2008 with Snr Constable Andrew Downes and Snr Constable Roberta Barry delivering the program to students from year 7 – 12. Roberta commented very positively about the receptiveness of our students. The program continues each fortnight thereafter on Tuesday 2nd September 2008 and Tuesday 16th September 2008.

**Travel safe to and from school**

It has been reported that many students should take more care when walking to and from school. A parent driving a car and a student narrowly missed each other yesterday as a result of the student being unaware of an approaching car. The student, with headphones connected, walked straight out onto the road into the pathway of an approaching car completely unaware. Another group of students were dawdling across the highway unaware of oncoming traffic. I urge all students to take care and be considerate of others.

**Parent Drug & Alcohol Information Evening Wednesday 27th August 2008**

All parents are asked to keep this night free please. *A casserole tea will be provided free of charge.* Snr Constable Andrew Downes and Snr Constable Roberta Barry will then deliver an address on Drug and Alcohol issues within our communities along with aspects of the Party Safe program. **Lucky door prize of a DVD recorder valued at $499.00.**

**Scholastic Book Club Orders**

Students and parents should note that *Scholastic Book Club Orders* are due on Thursday 21st August 2008. Please return book orders to the school office.
Japanese Trivia Day at Warracknabeal Secondary College

On Thursday 14th August, twelve year 7 and eight year 8 participated for a Japanese Trivia Day at Warracknabeal Secondary College. Teams were mixed with students from Warracknabeal Secondary College and Birchip P-12 School. It was very pleasing to see students from two schools working together co-operatively and strengthening good friendships with each other. Students enjoyed the trivia quiz day. Thanks to Ms Nakamura for her organization of the day.

Congratulations to the following winning students.
Category – General Knowledge – Dean Lovett, Claire Boyle
Category – Numbers – Laura Lee, Nick Burke
Category – Language – Tim Phelan, Emma Hogan
Grand Championship – Ethan Cooper and Maryanne Bell

Homework Questions
due 22nd August 2008

1. Which season does the word vernal relate to?
2. What does a chandler make?
3. In which country was the first permanent bungee jumping site established?
4. Name the three original members of The Supremes.
5. At what stage of development is the imago stage of an insect?
6. Baguette is the French word for what?
7. In which constellation is Rigel?
8. If a clock shows ten to nine in a mirror, what time is it really?
9. What is octopush?
10. Which fabric is Donegal famous for?

Answers to Last week’s questions
1. How many tiles are there in a game of mah-jong? - 144
2. Which sport follows FINA rules? - Swimming
3. Serigraphy is what type of printing? - Silk screen
4. In snooker, how many points are awarded for potting the green ball? - 3
5. Hamlet was prince of which country? - Denmark
6. From which wood were longbows made? - Yew
7. In which country is the Corinth Canal? - Greece
8. What did people do with Oxford bags? - Wore them. They were wide baggy trousers
9. The letters UXB stand for …….? - Unexploded Bomb
10. Back, blanket and buttonhole are all types of what? - Stitch

WANTED

Old or Unwanted vinyls and records. All donations appreciated. Send to school or give to Brooke Morris
School Dental Service

The Boort Dental Clinic auspiced under Boort District Health now provides School Dental Service program to eligible school aged children. The School Dental Service offers dental care to all primary children and eligible adolescents in years seven and eight whose families have a concession card.

The School Dental Service offers care to children every two years. Children who are assessed as high risk will be seen every 12 months.

The service is free for children of families who hold a current health care or pensioner card. Non-concession card holders pay a fee of $27.50 per child (maximum $110.00 per family) which includes a dental examination and all general treatment.

Appointments for this service can be made on 03 54 552 306.

MIPS TIPS – Attention all Year 12 students and parents

VTAC Guide 2009 – If you are thinking of going on to tertiary education, make this guide and www.vtac.edu.au your new best friend. The site has just been updated for the 2009 courses and there is access to lots of information on, or linked to this site – including links to ALL the courses and tertiary institutions in Victoria including scholarships information. Timely applications for 2009 Courses open August 4th and close 30th September 2008. How’s your list going? The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) is the central office that receives and processes applications for tertiary institutions in Victoria – Universities, TAFE and independent Tertiary Colleges. VTAC does not decide who will receive offers to courses. If you don’t receive a copy of the VTAC guide from your School (Year 12s only), you can purchase one from your newsagent.

See your Careers Teacher or MIPS Coordinator if you have any queries.

Parent Opinion Survey

Some parents in our school community have been randomly selected to participate in this year’s ‘Parent Opinion Survey’. Each year the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development asks parents from within our school to participate in an information gathering survey. This opinion data acts as a measure of school performance according to parent opinions, and the results are taken very seriously. This information can, and does, inform us on directions the school will take in the future towards our goal of overall school improvement. If your family is randomly selected to participate in this year’s ‘Parent Opinion Survey’, please complete the survey as soon as possible and return it to the Office. Opinion surveys are then sent directly to Melbourne, and the school will be notified of the results in due course. The parent opinion survey is planned to commence from Monday 18th August 2008 until Friday 29th August 2008.

Book Week

Book Fair

Theme: Fuel Your Mind

Book week will be celebrated with a Book Fair in the Library. A large collection of quality books, pre-school to adults, together with activity books, special packs and posters, will be on display in the Library commencing 18th – 29th August.

Come and browse
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 – 4:30
Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 – 7:30
Saturday 10:00 – 12:00

Buy a book and enter the draw to win a daily prize.
All daily entries go into the final draw to win the Grand Prize!
Athletics Sports
Primary students will be starting practice next week in readiness for the Primary Athletics Sports in Donald which will be held on Friday 5th September 2008. Parent assistance to help with duties on the day would be greatly appreciated. If you can help, please contact Greg Welton at the school.

Daffodil Day
Next Friday, 22nd August, is Daffodil Day. It will be a Casual Day for those who bring a gold coin donation. The theme is yellow. All proceeds will go towards cancer research. Merchandise is also available for the next week from the front office.

Wristbands $4.00
Bears $5.00
Soft small soccer balls $6.00

VCE SAC next week
Food
English
Further Maths

Under 13 Netball training
Under 13A Netball training will be Tuesday 19th of August 2008 at 4:30 p.m. at courts.
Under 13B training will be as per normal on Thursday 21st August 2008.

Pie & Quiz Night for Birchip Juniors
There will be a Junior (U16 & U13) football, netball & hockey pie night & quiz night on Tuesday 19th August 2008 following training at approximately 6:00 p.m. This will be held at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre. Please note the change of date.

Face Painting Workshop with Strawberry the Clown
Mon 18th August 2008 from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. for $15.00.
Participants need to book with the BB&LC and bring a hand towel.

Wanted: Photographs of Birchip
Slides, negatives or prints - historical or contemporary.
Photos must characterise the places and faces that have shaped Birchip.
One hundred of the best photographs will be displayed at an exhibition in October 2008 and a selection of these will be published in a book of stories and photographs of Birchip.
Please submit the photographs to the Birchip Business and Learning Centre at the Shamrock or contact Glenys Rickard to organise a time for scanning.

AWB GrainFlow Pty Ltd is seeking applications from people interested in casual employment for the 2008/2009 harvest period. Positions include grain samplers, administrators and labourers at their Birchip grain centre. AWB GrainFlow Grain Centres are state of the art grain storage and handling facilities, delivering a fast and efficient professional service to grain growers.
Experience in the grain storage industry is an advantage but not essential. You must be able to work flexible hours and various shifts. Full training is provided for all positions.

AWB GrainFlow Pty Ltd is an equal opportunity employer.
Information sessions will be held for each site for prospective employees. Please contact Jeanette Watson at jeanette.watson@awb.com.au or SMS or call 0428 394 455 to apply for these roles.

Watchem Craft Market & Car Boot Sale
Sunday 12th October 2008
Watchem Hall
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
$10.00 per site
For enquiries and bookings please call Tammie Tait on 03 53 992 228

Squash
If you’re interested in playing in a short squash competition that starts on Wednesday 27th August, give your names to Shota, Mrs Eileen Smith or Mark Bowen.
## Homework!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Homework</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P/1</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Practise counting by 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Spelling List 20, Tables test</td>
<td>21^st^ Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>22^nd^ Aug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Egg Helmet</td>
<td>18^th^ Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Egg Helmet</td>
<td>18^th^ Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>General Knowledge questions, Star Award books</td>
<td>22nd Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maths Homework, List words and tables</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Man without a Face assignment, spelling</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Run Lola Run assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Crime &amp; Punish.</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>The Law and you speeches</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Langley</td>
<td>Homework Sheet</td>
<td>19^th^ Aug</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Chapter 13 review</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Further Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>SAC</td>
<td>19^th^ Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>SAC on Tuesday</td>
<td>19^th^ Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Design &amp; Tech</td>
<td>Mr Whelan</td>
<td>Marketing worksheet</td>
<td>21^st^ Aug</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Oral presentation and folio</td>
<td>19^th^ Aug</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

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### Junior Football Roster

Saturday 16^th^ August at Boort

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Interchange</th>
<th>Timekeeper</th>
<th>Goal Umpire</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 13</td>
<td></td>
<td>Trollope</td>
<td>Boyle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under 16</td>
<td>Interchange</td>
<td>Milne</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Noonan</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Goal Umpire</td>
<td>Delaney</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Boundary</td>
<td>Sean Hogan</td>
<td>Jack Ryan</td>
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<td>Reserves</td>
<td>Waterboys</td>
<td>Matt Rickard</td>
<td>Jordan Galway</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boundary</td>
<td>Harrison Christie</td>
<td>Riley Doran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>Waterboys</td>
<td>Nathan Witherow</td>
<td>Ruben Vesikuru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boundary</td>
<td>Isaac Noonan</td>
<td>Eugene Liston</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Birchip P-12 School in conjunction with the Birchip Community Library would like to invite Mums & Dads and their children under 5 to the launch of Shake Rattle and READ

What: Read Aloud and Rhyme-time demonstration and activities
Tea and cookies ...browse the Book Fair

Where: Birchip Community Library

When: Thursday 28 August 2008 at 10:00 am

Why: Add to your existing storytelling skills
*learn new rhymes & chants
*stimulate brain development
*borrow books from the library
*socialize with other babies and parents

For more information contact: Nikki Coatsworth at 5492 2230
Birchip P-12 School
2008 Inter - House Athletics Sports
Part One – Field Events
Monday 18\textsuperscript{th} August 2008
School ovals - Beginning 11:00am.

Field Events Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Long Jump</th>
<th>High Jump</th>
<th>Triple Jump</th>
<th>Shot Put</th>
<th>Javelin</th>
<th>Discus</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>U21G U17G</td>
<td>U21B</td>
<td>U17B</td>
<td>U16G U15G</td>
<td>U16B</td>
<td>U15B</td>
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<td>01:10</td>
<td>U21B</td>
<td>U21G U17G</td>
<td>U16G U15G</td>
<td>U17B</td>
<td>U15B</td>
<td>U16B</td>
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<tr>
<td>02:02</td>
<td>U16G U15G</td>
<td>U17B</td>
<td>U15B</td>
<td>U16B</td>
<td>U14B U13B</td>
<td>U14G U13G</td>
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<tr>
<td>02:54</td>
<td>U15B</td>
<td>U16B</td>
<td>U14B U13B</td>
<td>U14G U13G</td>
<td>5/6B</td>
<td>5/6 G</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Monday 18\textsuperscript{th} August 2008: Field Events (Grades 5/6 Yrs 7-12)

School ovals - beginning 11:00am.

Work periods 1 & 2 as per timetable followed by recess at 10:39

Field Events (approximately 84 events) will be held from 11:00 a.m. – 3:20 p.m.
Field events include discus, shot put, javelin, long jump, triple jump and high jump.
Vortex throw for grade 5 & 6 instead of javelin.

All students will be encouraged to participate and achieve points for their house.
Students will be expected to eat lunch when they are not scheduled to be participating in events.
Secondary students may visit the Motel for the purchase of food. No student is allowed down the street.
Telephone: 03 54 922 287
03 54 922 553

Birchip P-12 School
2008 Interhouse Athletics Sports
Part Two – Track Events
Wednesday 20th August 2008
George Cartwright Oval - Birchip

2008 House Captains:

**Young House**
- Girls (Room 5) Brianna Smith C, Ellie Trollope VC, Miss C Langley, Miss E Johnson
- Boys (Room 2) Jak Goldsmith C, Nick Milne VC, Mr C Whelan, Mr T Knights

**Fraser House**
- Girls (Room 11) Roseanne King C, Debra Hughes VC, Miss E Heyden, Miss C Barclay
- Boys (Room 12) Steven Reid C, Arren Smith VC, Mr J Tyler, Mr M Marchesi

*We will work normal periods 1, 2 & 3 as per timetable and move to the oval at 11:30 a.m.*

**Event Times**
- 11:50 a.m. Sprint Heats –5 may be needed: Boys Gr 5/6, U15, U17, U21: Girls Gr 5/6
- 12:00 noon Sprint finals commence with 5&6 year old boys and girls
- 01:00 p.m. 200 metres events commence (Gr 3/4 through to U21)
- 01:32 p.m. 400 metres events commence (Gr 5/6 through to U21)
- 02:21 p.m. 4 x 100 metres relay events commence (Gr 3/4, 5/6, U14, U16, U21)
- 03:00 p.m. Presentations

**Students please note:**
All students will be expected to participate in the shorter sprint events for their age group.
Relay participants will be selected by their House Captains based upon sprint performances.
Relays will be held for both boys and girls Yrs: 3&4, 5&6, Under 14, Under 16, Under 21

**Parents and friends are most welcome and encouraged to attend and support our students.**

**Tuesday 9th September 2008**
Secondary Interschool Athletics Sports at Rainbow.
Team is selected on basis of House results – first two in each event will be selected; max. 6 individual events.

**Friday 5th September 2008**
Primary Interschool Athletics Sports at Donald

**BBQ & Food Sales:**
We will be operating a BBQ and Food outlet on this day for Primary and Secondary students and families.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sausages</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamburgers</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft Drinks</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottled water</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juice</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If there are any queries or concerns, please contact Mr Sayle.
The Birchip P-12 School final was held yesterday during VCE Food and Technology classes. Students created a range of interesting products. The judging criteria included mise en place, bench work, OH & S, production techniques, principles of cookery, creative presentation of food temperature at serving, taste and timing.

Participants – Rachael Pellegrino, Virginia Glen, Ruben Vesikuru, Brianna Smith, Anthony Ryan, Dean Totzenberger and Isaac Noonan

And the winners going onto the next round in Stawell on September 3rd are Isaac Noonan and Brianna Smith
HABITS OF MIND

Thinking Flexibly

In Visual Communication and Design recently Ms Heyden has seen some excellent results from students who are encouraged to think flexibly. She has been asking students to change perspective, generate alternatives and explore options.

Here are some of their reflections

Mitchell Maloney and Debra Hughes ponder designs for their VCE VC&D folios. Mikaela Christie experiments with mosaic designs and below are Year 8 Lino prints.
FACT SHEET 2

ALCOHOL, TEENAGE PARTIES AND THE LAW

This fact sheet explains Victorian law in relation to underage drinking and provides suggestions for minimising the harms...

Did you know?
Although Victorian laws prevent the provision of alcohol to young people under 18 years of age, there are some exceptions—such as being able to provide alcohol to minors in a private residence.

Key facts
Victoria's laws on underage drinking
The Liquor Control Reform Act 1998 sets out the laws in relation to minors and alcohol. Among these are that:

› The legal drinking age is 18 years.
› It is generally an offence to supply alcohol to a minor. This includes an adult buying the alcohol and then supplying it to a minor (other than in a private residence).
› With some exceptions, it is an offence for a minor to be on licensed premises, or to purchase, receive or consume alcohol.

What are the laws about young people drinking alcohol at a party?
› In a private home—it is not illegal for a person aged under 18 years to drink alcohol in a private residence. As the adult supervising a young person drinking alcohol in a private home, you are legally considered the host and as such are responsible for that person. Therefore, you need to be well informed of the legal and insurance implications.
› On licensed premises (pubs, bars, reception centres etc.)—a person aged under 18 years is forbidden to drink alcohol on licensed premises, unless they are accompanied by a parent, guardian or spouse and having a meal. It is up to the licensee to make sure these laws are not broken.
› In parks, on beaches or piers, in hired halls and in other public places—a person aged under 18 years is not allowed to drink alcohol anywhere in a public place and if caught may be charged with underage drinking.

Penalties for underage drinking
For offences related to underage drinking or the supply of alcohol to a minor, the attending police officer has the discretion to issue an on-the-spot fine or a summons to appear in court. They may issue a caution to a person under 17 years of age.

Special considerations and tips
› Many parents are concerned that their teenagers may legally have access to alcohol, or be given alcohol by their friends' parents or other adults, without obtaining their permission. Get to know your teenager's friends and try to establish good communication with them.
› Remember to make sure your teenager understands the risks and harms associated with drinking alcohol at a young age. It's a good idea to discuss the boundaries and limits you have set for him/her in relation to alcohol, but keep the lines of communication open. Fact sheet 7: Teenage drinking: Parents communication style can make a difference offers some tips and conversation starters.
› In some states it is an offence for anyone to supply other people's children with alcohol unless the parent, or guardian of the young person has authorised them to do this. Recent changes to the legislation in New South Wales has prompted many parents in Victoria to call for the same law to be put in place here. If you are interested in following the progress of this action, sign up to the Community Alcohol Action Network (CAAN), or see the website at www.caan.adf.org.au. Alternatively you can contact your local police station or refer to your liquor act for the underage drinking laws in your state.

Are you hosting a teenage party?
› Alcohol and other drugs may not be a big issue for younger teenagers but trends in teenage parties do change over time. As the parent of a teenager having a party, you are legally considered the host of the party. You are responsible for providing information to parents.
of other teenagers attending your party, particularly if alcohol is involved. Other parents may object to their children attending if alcohol will be consumed or available. They may want to be reassured that the party will be properly supervised.

- Allowing teenage guests to bring their own alcohol to your party means you may have less control over what they do with it. Even though you have not supplied it yourself, if you are aware that teenagers are consuming alcohol, you could be legally liable if a problem arises during or even after the party.

- As the host you have a duty of care to all of your guests. This means that you will need to do all that you reasonably can to provide a safe environment, protect your guests (young people as well as adults), and help them avoid trouble. With this in mind, ensure that you are firm, clear and consistent in applying your party rules to all guests while they are on your premises.

Emergency care

- It's a good idea to have a plan for emergencies and to have someone available at the party who is able to provide emergency first aid.

- Someone who is vomiting will often ask to be left alone. However, it is important that someone stays with them in case they choke or pass out. Choking on vomit can cause death so it is important that the person is put in the recovery position if they are unwell and incapacitated.

Recovery position

An unconscious person should be gently moved into the recovery position so their tongue cannot fall back and prevent breathing.

- Don’t hesitate to call an ambulance (tel 000 or 112 if out of range/phone credit) if you think one is needed. Remember that ambulance officers are not required to call the police to overdoes or drug incidents. However, they will need to make contact with the teenager’s parents if the young person needs to be taken to hospital.

- Make sure you pass on this information to your teenager and their guests, so they know what to do if an emergency arises.

Further information/Where to get help

- Victoria Police runs a helpful program called 'Partysafe' (www.police.vic.gov.au/content.asp?document_id=9566), which provides information, advice and general tips for people attending or hosting a party at a private residence. Once you register your party with your local police station you’ll receive a Partysafe kit with lots of helpful information. If you register your party well in advance, they may be able to organise for a patrol car to drive by on the night, to check for any trouble with gatecrashers.

- Your community legal service, council or shire office may also be able to tell you about local laws, for example, regarding acceptable noise levels.

- As the parent of a minor, you have a right to all the information needed to decide whether or not to allow your child to attend a party. Here are some things to consider:
  - Written invitations tend to mean that the party is for invited guests only. The RSVP also provides an opportunity to speak with parents who are hosting the party.
  - Find out how many people will be at the party, and if indeed attendance is by invitation only, whether there will be any food served, whether alcohol will be provided or allowed and what time the party will finish.
  - Drop off your teenager at the party and arrange to pick her or him up at a certain time.
  - Get the name and phone number of a responsible adult who will be present at the house where the party is being held. Don’t hesitate to call him or her if you would like more information or are concerned about anything to do with the party.

- The Australian Drug Foundation has published a helpful booklet on Hosting Teenage Parties. To obtain a copy, or for more information, see www.druginfo.adf.org.au, or call 1300 85 85 84.