Forthcoming Events

**August**

Monday 31st  
Literacy & Numeracy Week commences

**September**

Wednesday 2nd  
OAC Ministries

Wednesday 3rd  
 Fathers’ Day Stall

Friday 4th  
Primary Athletics Sports - Donald  
Year 9 & 10 Textiles excursion Melbourne

Monday 7th  
Parent Teacher Evening - 4-7pm

Tuesday 8th  
Secondary Interschool Athletics - Rainbow  
Primary Performance - ‘Tony Bones’  
Physical Resources Meeting

Wednesday 9th  
Yr 9 & 10 VET Taster Day - Horsham  
Year 11 – 12 Transition Meeting - 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 17th  
School Council  
Front garden makeover - JT, volunteers & horticulture students

Friday 18th  
Last Day Term 3 - 2.30pm finish

**October**

Monday 5th  
First Day Term 4

Tuesday 6th  
Physical Resources Meeting  
Primary Zone Athletics - Horsham

Wednesday 7th → Grade 3 & 4 Camp to Pental Island

Friday 9th

Thursday 8th  
Parents’ Club Meeting at O’Donnell’s Tea Rooms  
Northern Zone Athletics - Bendigo

Thursday 15th  
School Council

Monday 19th  
Yr 6-7 Transition Meeting 7pm

Thursday 22nd  
Yr 12 Valedictory Dinner

Friday 23rd  
Last Day Year 12 students  
Birchip Hospital Flower Show

Monday 26th → Year 12 Swot Vac

Thursday 29th

**November**

Tuesday 3rd  
Melbourne Cup Day Holiday

Thursday 5th  
Transition Day 3 for Grade 6 → Year 7

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Parent teacher interviews for this semester are on Monday 7th September 2009 from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the stadium. Mr Cameron Whelan will send a letter home this week identifying the time slot allotted for each family. Please keep this evening free so that you can have meaningful discussion with your son’s and daughter’s teachers.

**Year 11 → 12 Transition Meeting – Wednesday 9th September 2009 at 7:30 p.m.**

Mr Christie will conduct a student and parent information evening for current year 11 students transitioning to year 12 in 2010 on Wednesday 9th September 2009 at 7:30 p.m. All students and parents are encouraged to attend to discuss the various options available to students.

Today Friday 28th August 2009 is Daffodil Day. We are encouraging students, on this day, to wear some yellow and to donate a gold coin in an effort to raise funds in the fight against cancer. There is also a range of merchandise which can be purchased from the front office - bears ($5.00), enamel pins ($3.00), wristbands ($2.00) and pens ($1).
Building progress
The new library automatic opening door was installed on Tuesday – very flash! Dave Valentine will remove the garden in between the library and administrative wings this weekend and crushed rock laid as a temporary measure while other building projects are completed. We now await the new carpet, painting and new circulation counter during the school holidays.
The Library will be closed to all library users from Friday 18th September 2009 until Monday 5th October 2009.

New Sports Tops
Thanks to the Parents’ Club for their generosity in purchasing the new secondary sports tops. School Councillor and Parents’ Club Representative Cathy Bales is pictured below with students proudly wearing our new sports tops.

LITERACY & NUMERACY WEEK
MONDAY 31ST AUGUST 2009 – FRIDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Prep Reach for the stars: What’s in a name? Activity to continue during the week.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Close date for Newsletter Literacy Quiz</td>
<td>Recess: Pizza Snack for all students in school Results of Newsletter Literacy Quiz announced.</td>
<td>P-6 Athletic Sports (Donald)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Year 7/8 Reach for the stars: What’s in a name? (CB, SM, GM)</td>
<td>Year 9 and 1/2 and Prep Reading Activities (SH, JW, MK)</td>
<td>P-3 and 7/8 Maths games in primary gallery (SM, CB, GW, MK, GW, CT)</td>
<td>Year 10 and year 1/2 and year 3 Reading activities (JW, CT, SH)</td>
<td>Year 9/10 Maths Quiz (RC, JR)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Year 5/6 and 9/10 Measure, Cut and Angles (GW and CW)</td>
<td>Year 8 and 4/5 Literacy Board games (SH, JWr)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Year 7 English Film activity (ES)</td>
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2009 Japanese Junior Speech Contest
On Sunday 23rd August, Brodie Connelly, Bethany Emonson, Brittany Hogan and Courtney Sayle competed in the Japanese Junior Speech Contest in Melbourne. There were many students learning Japanese from other government and private schools in Victoria. Brodie spoke about his likes and the girls spoke and sang Japanese songs. All our participants performed extremely well and speeches were absolutely fantastic. We had a very good experience with using Japanese speaking skills. Congratulations to Brodie, Bethany, Brittany and Courtney. It was a great effort.

Welcome Takanori Murakami
Takanori is our new Japanese assistant from Hokkaido Island. He has studied Business Management at university in Tokyo. Yakanori will stay in Birchip for four weeks until the end of Term 3.

Grade Five and Six Homework Questions – due Friday 4th September 2009
1. In which century did Napoleon Bonaparte become emperor of the French?
2. In Scotland what is a kirk?
3. The letters in the television channel SBS stand for what?
4. What country do Komodo dragons come from?
5. In 1909 Robert Edwin Peary became the first person to do what?
6. What kind of creatures are noctules?
7. Does a surfboard rider called a goofyfoot, surf with their right or left foot as his lead foot?
8. What did Captain Cook name Hawaii when he discovered it in 1778?
9. What do apterous creatures lack?
10. In what year did Siam’s name become Thailand?

Answers to last week’s homework questions which were due Friday 28th August 2009
1. What fell on the Sahara Desert on February 18, 1979? Snow
2. How many great pyramids are there at Giza? 3
3. Name the three big Bs of classical music. Beethoven, Brahms, Bach
4. What bird might end up in a squab pie? Pigeon
5. Is basalt an igneous, sedimentary or metamorphic rock? Igneous
6. What organ produces insulin? Pancreas
7. Who won eleven Australian women’s singles tennis titles? Margaret Court
8. What ocean surrounds Yap on a map? Pacific Ocean
9. Where does the Beatles’ long and winding road lead? To your door
10. What’s the transparent tissue that covers the iris and pupil of an eye called? Cornea

Maths is Marvellous – You can count on it!
Target games: All target games should be played several times for 4 players to see the strategies involved. In each case there are significant numbers that determine the result.

7 Up
Clear a calculator so that it reads 0. Taking turns, each player adds 1 or 2 on the calculator. The winner is the first to reach 7. Going over seven loses. Play again with the other person starting.

Hearing Tests
Sue Ward from Wimmera Hearing Society will visit our school and test the hearing ability of all Year 7 & 8 students on Friday 11th September 2009. Permission slips will be sent home for year 7 & 8 students. Sue will also test any other students we have concerns about. If you as a parent are concerned about your son/daughter and wish to check your child’s hearing, please contact Mrs Eileen Smith at the school office.

Head Lice
Head lice are appearing still.
Please check heads; carefully in sunlight if possible. If detected, as soon as they are treated, your child may attend school. Heads must be treated again in exactly seven days. Please advise the school if lice or nits (eggs) have been detected so that we are aware of the severity of the problem. Mrs Kelly is very happy to assist with any enquiries.
Book Fair Update
The Annual Birchip Library Book Fair is a fabulous opportunity for the school and community to access good quality books for sale. It is also a fundraiser for the Library. It has been another successful Book Fair this year raising over $800.00 to purchase books for the Library. Mrs Coatsworth and Mrs Litt will be very busy getting all of those free books ready for the shelves. Hopefully they will be ready for the unveiling of our “new” Library in Term 4.
The daily prize draws have been anxiously awaited each morning in the Gallery. Winners include:
Katie Bennett, Cloe Robinson, Talei Brooks, Courtney Sayle; Jake Hogan, Nariel Garcia, Lucas McInerney and Janine Paley.
The grand prize of $30.00 worth of Book Fair books of their choice was won by Ashlee Tierney.
Thank you to everyone who bought a book and supported the Library!
Special thanks to Mrs Nikki Coatsworth for her excellent organization of the book fair.

Secondary Interschool Athletics - Tuesday 8th September 2009
The interschool team to compete against Rainbow and Hopetoun is currently being finalised.
Unfortunately students can only compete in a maximum of 6 individual events which has caused us to do some reshuffling of competitors.
Information will be distributed next week to students who will be representing our school.
As in previous years the school will be providing a bus to transport students, however parents and friends are also encouraged to assist with transport and support their children on the day.

Fathers’ Day Stall
The Parents’ Club will be conducting a Fathers’ Day stall on Thursday 3rd September 2009. Gifts to the value of $5.00 will be available for purchase. All primary and secondary students will have the opportunity to purchase a gift should they wish to do so.

Birchip Watchem Hockey Club
Underage & women’s vote count & presentation day.
Sunday 13th September commencing at 12:30 p.m. at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre
All players a dessert please
There will also be a $5.00 charge
Players, families, supporters & sponsors welcome

Birchip Watchem Junior Football Club
Breakup and Vote Count
Monday 14th September
Birchip Leisure Centre
Start at 6.30pm
$5.00 per head for meal.

Computer Technician
Mr Thomas Walker, the school’s computer technician will continue to visit Birchip weekly every Friday.
Thomas will work on school computers and peripherals from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. each Friday.
From 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Thomas will be available to people within the Birchip community who wish to utilize his IT skills. Thomas will work from the Birchip P-12 School and charges $60.00 per hour.

Austswim Course
An Austswim course will be held at Swan Hill on the 14th, 15th & 22nd November 2009.
Upon completion of the course, successful candidates are qualified to teach swimming.
For those requiring points towards reaccreditation, a professional development component will be conducted on both morning and afternoon on Sunday 15th November 2009.
Those wishing to do the course are asked to contact Brian Safe, phone 50 324 357.
Applications are to be in by 4th November 2009.
Literacy Improvement

The school is working towards developing a whole school literacy program and teachers have been involved in developing their skills in the area of reading and writing across the curriculum. On Monday, staff attended a two hour workshop with Joan Stewart, from Ballarat University on how to form questions that encourage students to think more deeply about what they read. Of course, to understand the process, teachers had to practise reading and formulating questions. Teachers were instructed to demonstrate clearly to students the thinking processes they used to make sense of what they had read. The session also involved reading from a variety of picture books that made commentary about important world issues that covered topics such as; intolerance, death, war, global warming and being positive.

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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Counting 1,2,3,4,5 &amp; 10’s. Count backwards by 1s from any number between 20 &amp; 100</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>A Perfect World notes</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Year 8 Theory book</td>
<td>3rd Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Study for test</td>
<td>2nd Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Food Science</td>
<td>Smith/Meehan</td>
<td>Supper snack food assignment</td>
<td>4th Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Text response part B</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Balance of payments questions</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Lab report</td>
<td>4th Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>General Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Finish exercise 5F</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Chapter 15 reviews questions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Study for SAC</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>Exercise 17.10</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Bus Management</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>Homework sheet</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Prepare for SAC</td>
<td>3rd Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Hicks/Smith</td>
<td>Organise character, plot, them for novels</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Further Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Finish test questions, start studying for exams</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!
Ten students in Years 9 and 10 are studying the development of aircraft over the years. Not only are students learning the history of air travel but they are also learning by making models. In particular, the students are constructing models of the planes the Wright brothers used in the early 1900s to test aerodynamics. The Wright brothers’ first plane in 1900 was more a kite than a plane. Its wingspan was only 17ft across with an area of 165 square feet and weighed 50lbs. The plane itself was quite primitive as the pilot had to lie down and control the machine by using a foot pedal. In 1903 Orville and Wilbur Wright included a 12.5 horsepower four-cylinder motor into their invention - this is very much the same as the type of motor used in a modern lawn mower! It’s amazing that the contraption got off the ground as the motor and propellers were attached to the body by bike chains. The craft now weighed 750lbs and was 40ft in length. It’s obvious from the enthusiasm in the class that the students are really interested in what they are learning.

Students studying the flight unit have a full and varied curriculum. Not only do they make interesting constructions and learn about the basics of flying but they have listened to some interesting talks from people in the field of aeronautics. On Thursday, ex-Birchip P-12 School student, Alistair Smith, spoke to the group about his experiences since joining the Air Force as an Officer Cadet pilot.

Alistair informed the group that it had taken a lot of persistence to achieve his goal and that it wasn’t until he got on his front foot and ensured he made himself known that he was given entry. He remarked that this is also the case in every part of the aeronautical industry as it is a very competitive.

To have the best chance of becoming a pilot, Alistair informed the group that they should do year 12 and do well in Mathematics, Physics and English. He related that since being recruited, he had been on a steep learning curve and had enjoyed developing his leadership skills. Listening and learning quickly is an important part of pilot training and because it costs approximately $70,000 an hour to have a Hornet in the air, the Force cannot afford to have pilots who take too long to learn skills.

Alistair stated that although student pilots worked hard, the Air Force offered an interesting and varied career path to both males and females.
The North Central Interschool Primary Athletics Sports will be held at Donald on Friday 4\textsuperscript{th} September 2009.

**Commencing 9.45 a.m.**
**Friday September 4\textsuperscript{th}**

Donald Football Ovals – Main Oval (Years 9-12)
Jeffcott Oval (Years 5-8)

On Friday September 4\textsuperscript{th} the North Central District Athletics Sports will be held at Donald. The sports will involve all children from Prep through to Grade Six. Children are required to be at Donald by 9.45 a.m. ready for a 10.00 a.m. start.

Upon arrival children will assemble in their particular age group. Cards will be sent home prior to the sports. These need to be brought along on the day.

Parents are asked to make their own travel arrangements to transport their children to Donald. If anyone is having difficulty arranging transport, contact Greg Welton, who may be able to organise a ride. Similarly if you can take someone, please let us know.

Donald Primary School members will decide by 8.15am on Friday if the sports are to be cancelled owing to poor weather. Therefore if you are unsure on Friday morning because of ordinary conditions you may phone John Richmond at school on 54922287 or 54922553 to clarify the situation.

**LIST OF REQUIREMENTS**
- Birchip sports uniform - red bottoms (skirt or shorts), and plain white top (polo or t-shirt)
- Sun hats and sunscreen
- Footwear must be worn
- Lunch and drinks. Some snacks and light refreshments will be available.

The day is a standardised sports format where every student takes part in each event and is awarded a 3, 2, or 1 score depending on the standard they achieve. Children will compete in age groups taken at 31-12-09.

5, 6, 7 & 8 year old students participate in sprint, shot put, long jump, hurdles, vortex throw and discus.

9, 10, 11 & 12 year old students participate in sprint, shot put, long distance, long jump, hurdles, vortex throw and discus. Zone selections for 10, 11 & 12 year olds in 100m sprint, 200 m, 800 m, hurdles and relays will be made on performances during the day.

Please note the outline of the day’s program below – Students required for relays and zone events will be advised early next week.

**Year 9-12 PROGRAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.20</td>
<td>Zone competitors report for 800 m</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>Zone 800 metre races start</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Standardised sports P-6 start – event 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.25</td>
<td>Event 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>Event 3</td>
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<td>11.15</td>
<td>Event 4</td>
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<td>11.40</td>
<td>Event 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.05</td>
<td>Lunch Break and Zone 200m</td>
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<td>12.35</td>
<td>Event 6</td>
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<td>1.00</td>
<td>Event 7</td>
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<td>1.25</td>
<td>Event 8</td>
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<td>2.00</td>
<td>Zone Relays</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>Presentation of certificates for scores of 21.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
YEAR 5 – 8 PROGRAM
9.50  Assemble at Jeffcott Oval in male and female age groups
10.00  Standardised sports P-6 start – Event 1
10.20  Event 2
10.35  Event 3
10.50  Drink and snack break 20 minutes
11.10  Event 4
11.25  Event 5
11.40  Event 6 - Tally Cards - hand in perfect scores
12.00  Lunch
12.45  Relays
1.45  End Relays, clean up
2.00  Assemble at main oval
2.30  Presentation of certificates for scores of 18

We are still seeking helpers to assist with the running of events on the day. Please contact me asap if you can help.
The backup day if the sports are postponed is Wednesday September 9.

Courses at the Birchip Business and Learning Centre

Food Handlers Course
Wednesday 9th September 2009, 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. $80.00 per person.

First Aid Course
Monday 12th & Tuesday 13th October 2009 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. $175.00 per person

Boat licenses]
Sunday 13th September 7-9pm $85 plus $20 if a PWC license is required

Minimum age 12 years (for a restricted license)
Bookings are essential!
Birchip Business and Learning Centre
Telephone: 54 922 735
Facsimile: 54 922 863
eMail: birchipblc@bigpond.com
Web: www.birchip.vic.au

Birchip Cricket Club Annual Meeting
Tuesday 1st September 2009 at 8:00 p.m. in the Birchip Leisure Centre

NETBALL SCORING VERSUS DONALD

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Lyn Boyle</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>Eleisha Heyden</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Simone Donnellon</td>
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<tr>
<td>JA</td>
<td>Fiona Best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JB</td>
<td>Ros McClelland</td>
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<td>U13</td>
<td>Sam Kemp</td>
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</tbody>
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Birchip Watchem Football Club - Junior Roster for Saturday 29th August 2009

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turner Family</td>
<td>Boyle Family</td>
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<td>Brusnahan Family</td>
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<td>Riley Doran</td>
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<td>Hughes Family</td>
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<td>U16 Under 16</td>
<td>Boundary Umpires</td>
<td>Reserves</td>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>Reserves</td>
<td>Seniors</td>
<td>Reserves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Brusnahan</td>
<td>Matthew Rickard</td>
<td>Hugh O’Keefe</td>
<td>Joe O’Donnell</td>
<td>Seamus Lowry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Riley Sayle</td>
<td>Riley Doran</td>
<td>Tim Walder</td>
<td>James Paley</td>
<td>Mark Trollope</td>
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BCG Main Field Day

‘From Surviving to Thriving’

Thursday 10 September 2009

At Chris and Janice Kelly’s property
3km south of Woomelang (on Sunraysia Hwy).
Come and learn about the new IVM-tolerant barley; the latest in ryegrass and
brome grass control, crown rot management and much, much more!

BCG members: Free Entry  General Public: $30
Breakfast available on site from 8.30am  Trial tours begin at 9.30am (sharp)

Community members from Birchip & district
are invited to the official launch of

My Blood’s Country
The spirit of Birchips

The Birchips District and Learning Centre presents
My Blood’s Country, a coffee table book which
brings to life the spirit of the people of Birchip and the
surrounding district. Based on interviews with local people,
particularly the elderly, it captures the world of Birchip as it
was in the recent past and as it is today. The text explores
the words and feelings of those interviewed, while the many
photographs bring to life the faces of the people and the
landscape of the district. The book explores the very
teaching in which the people of Birchip live and breathe as
world their blood country.

Anne McGeehan and Glenda Richardson live and work in
the Birchip area. Anne has recently retired from teaching
and Glenda runs her own farm. They offer this book as
recognition of the special spirit of Birchip.

Friday 28th August, 6-7.30pm Birchip
Community Leisure Centre
Official launch at 7pm by John Tulloh
A direct descendant of one of Birchips early
pioneer families
Music by Kara Kara string quartet, hors
d’oeuvres provided
& drinks available at bar prices
Books available for sale on the night $49 per
copy (includes GST)
Cash or Cheques made payable to BB & LC (no credit
card facility)
Media Release: The Hon Julia Gillard MP,  
Minister for Education,  
Employment & Workplace Relations

Changes to Youth Allowance to assist gap year students

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, today announced that following discussions at the Student Roundtable in Canberra, students who have taken a gap year and must move to attend university will be entitled claim independent status for Youth Allowance under the existing system until 30 June 2010.

Ms Gillard met with students from across Australia earlier this week to hear their concerns over changes to the Youth Allowance system designed to make assistance available to more students.

Despite more than 100,000 students being better off as a result of the changes to the parental income test and almost 150,000 students benefiting from new scholarships, some students who had chosen to take a gap year in 2009 would have been disadvantaged during the transition between the two systems.

The changes announced today will mean students who left school in 2008, have taken a gap year this year and who must leave home to attend university will be entitled to apply for independent status under the existing system.

This change will mean that students will not be caught up in the transition between the old and new systems.

To pay for the change, the alterations to the amount a student can earn before affecting their youth allowance will be deferred by 18 months. Students are currently able to earn $236 a fortnight before their Youth Allowance payment is affected. This will now rise to $400 a fortnight on 1 July 2012.

Under the proposed Youth Allowance arrangements all students who receive the allowance will be entitled to new Student Start Up Scholarships worth $2254 per year.

Students who have to move to study may be eligible to receive $4000 in their first year and $1000 each subsequent year in a new Relocation Scholarship scheme. This means that these students will receive $6,254 in the first year of study and $3,254 in subsequent years in scholarships alone.

Parents with two students living away from home will also be able to earn up to $140,729 a year before benefits are cut off under the new system, instead of less than $80,000 a year under the existing arrangements.

These parental income test changes mean that many students will no longer have to claim independence from their families and be forced to take a gap year to be eligible for youth allowance. Studies show that of students who take a gap year, around 30 per cent do not subsequently take up their university offer.

The changes to Youth Allowance were recommended in the Bradley Review into Higher Education as a way to have the allowance better support those who need it most.

Under the former Government, participation in regional universities fell and almost 1 in 5 students receiving independent Youth Allowance and living at home had a family income above $150,000 a year. Three percent came from families who earned above $300,000.

Under the changes 68,000 students who would have been excluded previously will now receive Youth Allowance, and 35,000 will get higher payments as parental income tests are lowered, the age of independence is lowered and more thousands scholarships are offered.

26 August, 2009
Literacy Quiz with Prizes

Below is a set of puzzles which contains a word or a phrase in a sort of code. Look carefully at the arrangement, size and position of each group of mixed up letters and symbols. 6 prizes will be given to the best 6 entries that are returned to the office by Wednesday 2nd August 2009.

Name:  

Solutions:  
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HABITS OF MIND

Year 7 Textiles students are very busy creating products. Some are making cushions and others are making laundry bag inserts for the frames they made in wood earlier this year. During a discussion on how they have improved at some of the habits of mind the following responses were made.

Aaron Riggall – “I think I have improved at Thinking Interdependently. I have tried to find stuff, answer questions myself and ask other people for help.”

Connor Buteux – “I have improved at Thinking Flexibly by changing things when needed. I tried different designs and changed what I was doing.”

Kellie James – “I think I have improved at Persisting because when I don’t know what to do I have asked for help, tried different ways of doing things and accepted advice.”

Jasinta Yarde – “I think I have improved at Creating, Imagining and Innovating because I think through what it’s (my design) going to look like and how I can improve it.”

Jordan Galway – “I think I have improved at Taking Responsible Risks. I have used my past knowledge to get my stitches on track.”