### Forthcoming Events

#### August
- **Friday 29th**: Junior SRC Disco for Primary students
- **Tuesday 2nd**: 7 – 11 Drug & Alcohol Talk #3
- **Wednesday 3rd**: VCE Parent & Student Information Night
- **Friday 5th**: P6 Athletics Sports – Donald
- **Monday 8th**: P6 Cultural Performance – ‘It’s a mad World’ Yr 9 ADVANCE - First Aid Training
- **Tuesday 9th**: Secondary Interschool Athletics Sports - Rainbow
- **Thursday 11th**: VCE Revision Lectures
- **Monday 15th**: Parent/Teacher Interviews 4 - 7pm
- **Tuesday 16th**: 7-12 Personal Safety Talk Culinary Challenge Grand Final
- **Tuesday 16th →** Grade 4 & 5 Camp to Wesley Point - Lake Eppalock
- **Friday 19th**: Term 3 ends at 2.30pm
- **Monday 22nd →** Driver Education Year 10, 11 & 12 students
- **Tuesday 23rd**: Term 4 commences

#### September
- **Monday 6th**: Term 4 commences
- **Tuesday 7th →** Grade 3 Echuca Camp
- **Thursday 9th**: Kinder → Prep Transition Meeting
- **Wednesday 15th**: Keys Please
- **Friday 17th**: Hospital Flower Show
- **Tuesday 21st**: Year 6 Environmental Festival Charlton
- **Thursday 23rd**: VCE Valedictory Dinner
- **Monday 27th**: VCE Swat Vac commences Pupil Free Day
- **Tuesday 28th**: Questacon - Year Prep - 8

### October
- **Monday 6th**: Term 4 commences
- **Tuesday 7th →** Grade 3 Echuca Camp
- **Thursday 9th**: Kinder → Prep Transition Meeting
- **Wednesday 15th**: Keys Please
- **Friday 17th**: Hospital Flower Show
- **Tuesday 21st**: Year 6 Environmental Festival Charlton
- **Thursday 23rd**: VCE Valedictory Dinner
- **Monday 27th**: VCE Swat Vac commences Pupil Free Day
- **Tuesday 28th**: Questacon - Year Prep - 8

### Drug and Alcohol program

Thank you to the ninety parents who attend on Wednesday evening to hear two excellent speakers. It was indeed very pleasing to see so many parents prepared to listen, learn and discuss the issues and as a parent community respond accordingly to the issue of drugs and alcohol.
2009 Alpine School –
Information Evening
Four interested, current year 8 students and their parents attended Monday evening’s meeting to hear Mr Marchesi talk and present information about Alpine School. Our students are able to apply for Dinner Plain campus in term 2, 2009 and Glenormiston campus in Term 3, 2009.

Dates to remember:
Wednesday 17th September
Community Learning project agreed upon by Year 8 students
Monday 6th October
Individual student submissions to school
Friday 10th October
Successful students notified of their selection to Birchip’s Alpine School team.
Monday 20th October
Alpine School team submit regional application.

Radiance Program –
For Students in Years 9, 10 and 11
On Monday, Tina Nikolovski, facilitated the Radiance program with 180 students in Years 9, 10 and 11 from Birchip, Boort, Donald & Wedderburn schools. The Radiance program is designed to give students a real look at what is expected of them during interviews for work. This included personal presentation, interviewing skills and even tips on their personal emails and voicemail messages. The students learned many important lessons which will help them achieve their goals for work placements. Tina gave students valuable information which will assist them in their endeavours in obtaining ‘that job’. Thank you to Trish Lehmann and the Parents’ Club who did an excellent job in catering for the crowd.

Thank you to Sue Hill from the North Central LLEN for her organization and funding of the day and to Kate Clarke (Work Co) for her attendance and sponsorship of the activity.

Tina encourage students to contact her should they wish to obtain any advice in becoming job ready. She can be contacted by eMail: contact@radiancebytina.com.au

Parent Teacher Evening
The Parent Teacher Evening is scheduled for Monday 15th September 2008 from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the school’s stadium. This will involve three (3) sessions:

- Session One: 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Session Two: 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Session Three: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Senior SRC will provide tea, coffee, water, biscuits, etc., to staff and parents during the evening.

Letters will be sent home to parents in early Term 2 indicating the session times for your family.

We request families to let us know what session time/s best suits them.

Please complete the form below and return to the school before next Wednesday 3rd September 2008 so that we can adequately plan and schedule your parent teacher session time.

Parent Teacher Evening – Monday 15th September 2008 – Preferred session time reply slip

Name: …………………………………………………………………………………………………

Preferred Session Time:

- Session One: 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. □
- Session Two: 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. □
- Session Three: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. □

Please complete and return to the school before next Wednesday 3rd September 2008.
MIPS TIPS

Subject selection coming up?

Thinking of going to TAFE or University? If you don’t already know about the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) site – now is a good time to find out. There is a section called ‘future applicants’ – which includes a section for current year 10 students to help them decide on subjects.

The VTAC site really does have a wealth of information, including links to most of the TAFEs, Universities and other education providers. The site explains all aspects of applying, how the ENTER is worked out and much, much more – worth a look!

www.vtac.edu.au

If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to ask your Careers Teacher or MIPs Coordinator.

VCE units 3 and 4 Parent information evening

Year 12 students are currently undertaking course selections through VTAC (The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre). With this in mind an information session will be held at the school on Wednesday the 3rd of September starting at 7.30pm.

The evening will discuss issues such as

- ENTER calculations
- Scaling
- Tertiary selection
- SEAS (Special Entry Assistance Scheme)
- ‘What ifs’
- Accommodation options
- Applying for work
- Applying for courses not in the VTAC guide
- Applying interstate
- Scholarships
- Recommendations for the remainder of the year

Hopefully a person from Centerlink will be in attendance to discuss what help there is for students who are leaving school to enter employment, further education or training.

Hope to see you there

Russell Christie
Later Years Coordinator

Year 4 & 5 Camp

The year 4 & 5 camp to Bendigo will take place from Tuesday 16th – Thursday 18th September 2008. Students will be accompanied by Mrs Sandra Naughton, Mr Chris Colbert and Mrs Merrilyn Kelly. The cost of the camp is $170.00 but due generosity of external charitable agencies, who have subsidised 40% of the camp, the actual cost to students will be approximately $100.00.

Consent and medical forms and an itinerary have been sent home TODAY

Parent Opinion Survey

Thank you to those parents who have completed and returned their Parent Opinion Survey. If you have yet to complete your survey, we ask that do so as soon as possible. Completed parent opinion surveys are then sent directly to Melbourne, and the school will be notified of the results in due course.

School Photographs

School photographs were taken on Tuesday 26th August 2008. The photograph proofs are already at the school ready for names to be added. David Torrington from Master School Portraits was impressed with the friendliness and co-operation of our students. Photograph packages will be available during week one of term four.

P-6 Disco

Friday 29th October
5pm – 7pm
Gallery

Theme: Super Heroes or Sports

Admission $2.00 in theme
$3.00 out of theme

Available: Pythons 70c
Primas $1.00
Water $1.00
Smarties $1.00
Book Fair Update

Fuel Your Mind

The book fair is winding up. It has been another great year. Thanks to your support the library has earned over $750.00 worth of books as commission. I hope that everyone found something that they will enjoy. The daily prizes offered this year seem to be a big hit so we will be sure to include those in the future. Daily prize winners include: Bethany Emonson, Lachlan Randall, Lea Gould, Mason Bland, Jack Lee and Ada Bourke. Cheryl Kemp was the Grand Prize winner. Cheryl was able to purchase 5 books with the $40.00 book voucher she won. Thank you again! It is because of your continued support that the Birchip Library is able to provide so many wonderful books to our students, staff and community!

Shake Rattle and READ!

The first official meeting of Shake Rattle and READ was held on Thursday in the library. It was a great morning with 15 mothers and 20 babies/children participating. Mums and babies both enjoyed singing songs, learning rhymes and reading stories. Many mums took the opportunity to become library members and borrow some fabulous books to share with their babies. Shake Rattle and Read will be a regular program in the library happening every fortnight. (school holidays excepted) Please mark your calendar the next session of Shake Rattle and READ will be on Thursday 18th September 2008 at 10:00 a.m. I hope to see you there!

Fathers’ Day Stall

The Parents’ Club, Fathers’ Day Stall will be held on
Thursday 4th September 2008 during period 4 & 5 in the Staff recreation Room.
Gifts to the value of $5 can be purchased

Homework Questions

due 5th September 2008

1. What is a more common name for a somnambulist?
2. Which city was painted by Canaletto?
3. In which war was the Victoria Cross first awarded?
4. The Suez Canal connects the Red Sea to which other sea?
5. Out of his six wives, how many did Henry VIII have beheaded?
6. St Stephen’s Day is better known as which day?
7. In music what does crescendo mean?
8. Which extinct bird was last sighted on Mauritius?
9. In which decade was Tiger Woods born?
10. Mount Parnassus is in which country?

Answers to last week’s questions:
1. Who was the first president of Zimbabwe? Canaan Banana
2. Which stretch of water separates Alaska from the Russian mainland? Bering Strait
3. How many letters are in the Greek alphabet? 24
4. Who was the lead singer of The Boomtown Rats? Bob Geldof
5. What is Jimmy Choo most famous for? Shoes
6. Helen Sharman was the first woman to go where? Space
7. What color is saffron? Yellow
8. What is a Blenheim orange? An apple
9. The largest known diamond is the … Cullinan
10. Where did canasta originate? Uruguay

Primary Interschool Sports - Donald

The Primary Athletics Sports will be held at Donald on Friday 5th September 2008. Events commence at 10:00 a.m.

Thank you to those parent helpers who volunteered to assist with organization and the running of events on the day.

VCE SAC
next week

Ag & Hort
Psychology
**Rock Eisteddfod**

We would like to thank everybody who has offered assistance either financially or in various other ways to ensure our success with the Rock Eisteddfod. Initially, Birchip P-12 School was allocated a 7:00 a.m. time slot for rehearsal followed by a grand final performance at 10:45 p.m. Following Miss Johnson’s appeals to the Rock Eisteddfod event manager, Croydon Secondary College kindly agreed to swap their rehearsal with Birchip. **The cost of the activity for students involved is $25.00.** Again, many thanks to Tyson Piping and Construction for their very generous donation which will cover the accommodation component of the Rock Eisteddfod.

The schedule is as follows:

**Thursday 11th September**

- 09:00 a.m. Depart Birchip
- 01:00 p.m. Arrive at Miami Hotel, Melbourne, en route to Hisense Arena
- 02:50 p.m. Full dress rehearsal on stage
- 07:00 p.m. Performances begin
- 10:50 p.m. Grand Final performance
- 01:00 a.m. Arrive back at Miami Hotel

**Friday 12th September**

- 07:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 09:00 a.m. Depart Miami Hotel to return to Birchip
- 01:00 p.m. Arrive Birchip P-12 School

There has been an overwhelming support from the community to assist us in our grand final adventure.

**Arrival & departure**

Parents are requested to **drive along Fraser Street** to the school to **drop off** and **pick up** their children.

In the morning when dropping off, park momentarily at the entrance to the administration building while children get out of the car.

When picking up, park along the bike shed or around and under the tree so children can walk across to you.

Please **DO NOT** enter from Campbell Street (Sunraysia Highway).

**Students are also requested to use the appropriate pedestrian crossing sections as shown in the map below when moving to and from cars.**

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**Figure:** Birchip P-12 School Arrival & Departure Procedures Map.
Literacy and Numeracy Week  
1st – 5th September, 2008

Activities throughout the week include:
Reach for the Stars Numeracy Activity – Primary and Secondary Classes
Years 7-10: English (ES &ML) Focus on: Technology and Literacy

1. Prize for best SMS Story
2. Prize for best 1 minute film using digital recorder or phone camera.

Year 7: English Digital anti smoking activity
Year 9: Computers Brochures promoting Birchip launched during the week.

Specifically Timetabled activities:

Monday 1st September
Lunchtime: Year 12 read to junior students in the library.

Tuesday 2nd September
Period 3: Integrated Mathematics activities P-3 with Years 9/10
          Everyday Maths class compass activity with Years 5/6
Period 4: Integrated Mathematics activities
          Years 4-6 with Years 8/9
Periods 3 &4: Year 9 Food and Year 5 (MK) prepare healthy sandwich lunch.
Lunchtime: Healthy Sandwich.

Wednesday 3rd September
Period 6: Year 8 Technology students reading with P/1 students.
Period 7: Year 3 and Everyday Maths class reading together.

Thursday 4th September
Casual Day- Wear a number or word, or both.
Period 3: Years P/1 reading to and from Years 5 and 6.
Lunchtime: P-12 Poetry Slam
Mid Period 6 and Period 7 P – 6 Book Quiz

Friday 5th September
All day P-6 Athletic sports at Donald
Lunchtime: Film
Period 6 Reach for the Stars Year 9

PARENTS’ CLUB NEWS

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 17 September 2008

Guest Speakers: Simone Christie and Marc Cox.
     Supper provided.

Birchip P-12 School Parents’ Club thanks the following parents - Russell Bell, Tony Lehmann, Heather Fletcher, Jackie Tierney and Cathy Bales for the great job they did providing lunch for everyone at the Radiance program held at the Leisure Centre on Monday 25th August. It was a great effort and greatly appreciated.

Our next lot of fundraising is the Principals’ meeting to be held at the school on Thursday 11th September.
We require three medium sized casseroles from the following parents:
Belinda Randall (pork)
Mandy Braine (lamb)
Sharlene Connelly (chicken)

Any problems please don’t hesitate to contact Trish Lehmann on 5085 4204 or 0417 357 850

BWFC Junior Vote Count & Presentation night

Friday 29th August, 6:30 p.m. at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre
Families are asked to supply a salad please.
Players, families & supporters welcome
There will be a small charge for the Football break-up to cover meal costs

Birchip Watchem Netball Club

Spicks ‘n’ Specks
60’s & 70’s Theme

Tomorrow night at the Hall
Be there at 8pm if you don’t want to miss the panel

Netballers please remember your catering and roster duties

Thanks
**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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<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Spelling List 22, tables</td>
<td>4th Sept</td>
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<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Food Advertisements</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Food Advertisements</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Work on Bloom’s taxonomy assignment draft</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Theory book</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Flight</td>
<td>Mr Whelan</td>
<td>Who was David Unaipon</td>
<td>2nd Sept</td>
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<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Media Assignment</td>
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<td>9/10</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Self determination activities</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Prepare for SAC</td>
<td>1st Sept</td>
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All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

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**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

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**Victorian Golf Foundation**

in conjunction with
WIMMERA DISTRICT GOLF ASSOCIATION AND
HORSHAM GOLF CLUB

Presents The Horsham Junior Tournament
and WDGA Junior Classic
at Horsham on 14th September 2008
To commence at 10am - 18 holes stroke
To commence at 10.30am - 12 holes
Callaway.

For all players under 21 as at above date.
Entry Fee $6 and $3.50
Afternoon Tea Provided.

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**AWB GRAINFLOW - BIRCHIP GRAIN CENTRE HARVEST CASUALS**

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.

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**BIRCHIP ARCHERY CLUB**

HAVE YOU TRIED ARCHERY?

**GET ALONG TO THE 'COME AND TRY DAY'**
ON SUN 31ST AUGUST 2008
SOUTH WEST CORNER OF TCHUM LAKE SOUTH
10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
BBQ LUNCH
(SMALL CHARGE APPLIES)

For more information, contact Bob Darby on 5492 2898
or call at the Birchip Business and Learning Centre
Prep- Year 12 Healthy Sandwich Lunch

On **Tuesday 2nd September**, we will be having a Healthy Sandwich lunch day. It will be offered to all students and staff. A wide variety of fillings will be offered, and students make their own selection. Costs will be subsidized by the Health Budget.

Please note, only a sandwich is supplied. Children should still bring a recess snack, drink etc.

Some Year 5 students, assisted by the Year 9/10 Food class, will prepare the fillings and serve, as part of the Star Program.

Please return the order form, together with payment, no later than Monday 1st September, to enable time for catering.

Merrilyn Kelly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>No of Roast Chicken and salad sandwiches @ $2 each</th>
<th>No of normal sandwiches @ $1 each</th>
<th>Payment enclosed</th>
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Payment must accompany order.
Mrs Nikki Coatsworth models reading activities to parents and their children.

**HABITS OF MIND**

**Shake, Rattle & Read**

**Gathering Data through all the Senses**

The first session of Shake Rattle and READ was a terrific example of gathering data through all the senses. The program aims to support language development in children ages 0 – 5.

Mums and babies gathered data about language by singing songs, performing action rhymes & finger plays as well as interacting with two stories.

Children were encouraged to look at the animal in the story and find a matching soft toy animal to place on the story apron. They were able to interact with the story by imitating the noises of the animals.

Mrs Nikki Coatsworth models reading activities to parents and their children.
FACT SHEET 4

FACT OR MYTH?

This fact sheet addresses some of the common myths and misconceptions held by parents and teenagers about alcohol...

Fact or myth?
'It's cool to drink.'
'People will think I'm a loser if I don't have a drink.'
'It's all part of growing up.'

Answer: Myth
You don't have to drink to be cool or to be an adult. In fact it is safer if you don't.
Young people who establish heavy and excessive drinking patterns in adolescence are more likely to continue drinking at these levels as adults. This increases their risk of suffering from the long-term health consequences such as cirrhosis, cancer and other harms (see www.druginfo.adf.org.au for more information).

Fact or myth?
'Everyone drinks on a special occasion.'
'I have to have a drink to celebrate.'
'You can't have a good time without alcohol.'

Answer: Myth
In fact, many Australians don't drink, or rarely drink alcohol. In 2005 approximately 20% of Australians didn't drink alcohol and another 13.5% had an alcoholic drink on a less-than-weekly basis.
Many people choose to celebrate significant events with healthy food and drinks. A multitude of non-alcoholic drink options are available, including fruit juices, soft drinks, tea and coffee. Making fruit-based 'mocktails' can be a fun way to explore non-alcoholic options and to create your own drinks for special occasions. The costs will also be significantly lower than serving alcoholic drinks.
Another option is to consider serving only low-alcohol content beverages.

Fact or myth?
'You're the only parent who won't let me drink.'
'I'm the only teenager who isn't allowed to have a drink.'
'Everyone drinks.'

Answer: Myth
Not all teenagers drink alcohol.
In 2005, a survey of Australian secondary school students found that 52% of all students aged 12-17 were non-drinkers, while 23% were occasional drinkers and 19% said they were party drinkers.
While experimenting with alcohol is often considered ‘normal’ during adolescence, this doesn't mean that it is safe, nor does it mean that parents have to accept teenage drinking. For tips on communicating with your teenager about alcohol, see Fact sheet 7: Teenage drinking: parents’ communication style can make a difference.
Research has shown that alcohol can be particularly harmful during adolescence, especially in relation to brain development. For more information see Fact sheet 1: Alcohol and adolescent development.

Fact or myth?
'I could be cut there taking (illegal) drugs but instead I am only drinking alcohol.'
'As least he/she isn't out there taking drugs, they're only having a drink.'

Answer: Myth
Alcohol is a drug and causes more harm to Victorians than all illegal drugs, including ecstasy and ice.
In the five-year period 2001 to 2005, there were 2670 alcohol-related assaults on young people (aged 0-17 years) in Victoria and 5152 alcohol-related hospital admissions.
Fact or myth?

‘It’s cheaper to get drunk on an empty stomach.’
‘If you don’t eat, you get drunk quicker and it’s cheaper.’

Answer: Fact

You will get drunk quicker on an empty stomach.
The cost depends on the type of drink you purchase.
Some young people avoid eating so they can have a ‘fat tummy’ when they go out.
Alcohol is absorbed directly into the bloodstream through the stomach and the small intestine. Food in the stomach slows down the rate at which alcohol is absorbed.

Fact or myth?

‘Drinking milk (or yoghurt) before having alcohol lines your stomach so you don’t get drunk or throw up.’
‘Eating certain types of food like plain white bread while you drink helps to soak up the alcohol so you can drink more.’

Answer: Myth

All alcohol consumed will reach the bloodstream, regardless of how much food the person eats or what else he/she drinks.

Fact or myth?

‘It’s okay for me to drink heaps tonight because I haven’t had a drink all week.’
‘I can drink my weekly ‘quota’ of alcohol in one night.’

Answer: Myth

‘Saving up drinks for a binge can be harmful.’
Binge drinking means drinking heavily over a short period of time, drinking continuously over a number of days or weeks, or drinking to get drunk. For young people, the short-term risks of binge drinking include alcohol poisoning, getting drunk, getting into fights, having accidents, having unwanted sex, or doing something they regret the next day.

Fact or myth?

‘Having cornflakes with beer (instead of milk) is a good cure for a hangover.’

Answer: Myth

This is a version of the myth about the ‘hair of the dog’ being good for a hangover.

Fact or myth?

‘Having more alcohol to ‘tune’ a hangover may help for a while because the person’s body stops processing the previous night’s alcohol, to digest the new alcohol. However, all alcohol in a person’s body has to be processed sooner or later.

Symptoms of a hangover include nausea, headache and hunger. The person feels like this because alcohol has a dehydrating effect. He/she would be better off drinking lots of water.

Depending on how much the person has drunk, a hangover can last for 24 hours.

For information about how alcohol is absorbed into the body and how it leaves the body, see www.druginfo.adf.org.au.