Forthcoming Events

**September**
- **Friday 5th**: P6 Athletics Sports – Donald
- **Monday 8th**: P6 Cultural Performance - ‘It’s a mad World’
- **Tuesday 9th**: Yr 9 ADVANCE - First Aid Training
- **Thursday 11th**: Secondary Interschool Athletics Sports - Rainbow
- **Monday 15th**: Parent/Teacher Interviews 4 - 7pm
- **Tuesday 16th**: 7-12 Personal Safety Talk
- **Tuesday 16th →**: Culinary Challenge Grand Final
- **Thursday 18th**: Grade 4 & 5 Camp to Wesley Point - Lake
- **Friday 19th**: Eppalock
- **Monday 22nd →**: Term 3 ends at 2.30pm
- **Tuesday 23rd →**: Driver Education Year 10, 11 & 12 students

**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
- **Tuesday 28th**: Pupil Free Day

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 next week indicating the session times for your family. If you are unable to attend the parent teacher evening, I would appreciate you making contact so that interim reports can be collected and an alternative time made if needed.

**MIPS TIPS – Are you interested in Health and Community Service Careers?**

A great website to investigate, which is simple to use and easy to navigate, is the Health and Community Services Careers site. It has information for all year levels and parents. The site includes a career quiz, an A to Z listing of careers – with over 100 jobs listed, and short video clips of interviews with people in those jobs. Under each job listing there is a job description, personal attributes required, pathways, links to jobs forecast and earnings, and links to the courses available. The site has much more information, including scholarship information and links.

Visit: [www.hcscareers.vic.edu.au](http://www.hcscareers.vic.edu.au) Should you have any questions please contact your Careers Teacher or Lizzie Wilde - MIPS Coordinator.
As part of the Literacy and Numeracy Week activities, the Year 4& 5 class participated in the ‘National Reach for the Stars’ activity.

In mathematics, students initially designed efficient methods of organising data to be collected, then collected results as they threw 5, 20 and 50 cent coins at a regular target from distances of 1, 1.5 and 2 metres. They then graphed and compared their results. Following this, they repeated the activity with an irregular target and compared these results. Students then developed strategies for calculating the area of an A4 page if measured with 20cent coins and determined what its value would be. This was then extended to the area of our classroom (rounded to the nearest half a square metre) and value. The final task was to evaluate the activity as a money making activity at a fete, exploring amounts you need to charge and amount of prize money to determine whether or not it would be a viable activity.

As ability to sequence events and work on tenses has been a literacy focus in recent weeks, students then wrote a recount of the activity with emphasis on a variety of time words such as during, before, following etc and concentrated on maintaining past tense.
Japanese Junior Speech Contest 2008

On Sunday 31st August, Tom Hogan from Grade 3 went to the Japanese Junior Speech Contest in Melbourne. There were many Japanese students from other government and private schools in Victoria. Tom performed extremely well and his speech was absolutely fantastic. Tom had a very good experience with using his speaking skills. Congratulations to Tom for his special award. It was a great effort.

Ms Keiko Nakamura

National History Challenge

Ethan Cooper and Emily Smith have entered a project into the national history challenge. This years theme is: Australia meets the world.

Ethan Cooper researched the Aboriginal inventor David Unaipon. David used the principles of boomerang flight to anticipate the helicopter.

Emily Smith researched the 1983 America’s cup. Australia II beat America's liberty after a 132 year winning streak.

Their projects will be judged by a judging panel of three. State winners will receive $200 cash. National winners receive $200 cash and travel to Canberra to attend the National Presentation Ceremony in Mural Hall, Parliament House in order to accept this prize. The National History Challenge covers travel, meals, accommodation and incidental costs, to, from, and whilst in Canberra.

Mika Yoshikawa

Thank you to Branden, Jenny and Ross Atkinson for hosting Mika. She will stay with Graeme, Cathy, Nick, Brady, Sam & Ben Milne Family this weekend for a farm experience. Many thanks to the Atkinson and Milne families for their hospitality.

Parent Opinion Survey

Thank you to those parents who have completed and returned their Parent Opinion Survey. These responses have been sent to Melbourne, and the school will be notified of the results in due course.

Primary Sports update

Best of luck to the primary students tomorrow at the Interschool Athletics Sports in Donald. The sports will commence at 9:45 a.m. at the Donald Football Ovals – Main oval & Jeffcott oval.

Upon arrival, children should assemble in their particular age group. Please bring along your score cards. Students should be in Birchip sports uniform – red bottoms and white tops and appropriate footwear. Don’t forget hat and sunscreen.

If the sports are cancelled due poor weather, the Donald Primary School will decide by 8:15 a.m. John Richmond will be at the school 54 922 287 or 54 922 553 to clarify the situation. Thank you to Mr Welton for his excellent organization of our school team.

Secondary Interschool Athletics

These interschool athletics sports will be held on Tuesday next week (9th September 2008).

The first round of field events will commence at 9:30 a.m. with the last event scheduled to finish at 2:30 p.m. The sports often run late and we encourage all students to stay for the presentation of championship medals and the aggregate trophy.

Transport will be provided by bus or staff car (or alternatively arranged through private transport).

Students will not be back at school in time for the buses. Consequently private arrangements will be required for bus travellers to get home from school.

It is anticipated that transport will return to school at approximately 4:14 p.m.

Transport notes should have been returned by TODAY. (Thursday)

School sports uniform must be worn by all competitors - RED SHIRT with appropriate shorts. The school does have a limited supply of red polo t-shirts for students to share if they do not have their own.

Hopefully a program will be available for parents and students in events at the end of school on Monday.

Mr Sayle & Miss Langley (Sports Co-ordinators)

VCE SAC - next week

Chemistry
Ag & Hort.
Legal Studies
Business Management
**Homework Questions – due 12th September 2008**

**This week’s questions**
1. What is perjury?
2. The disease anaemia is caused by a lack of what?
3. Which instrument did Franz Liszt play?
4. How many carats make pure gold?
5. In darts, what is the lowest score from three different trebles?
6. Ermine is the fur from which animal?
7. Which war started with the capture of Fort Sumter?
8. What did Charles van Depoele invent?
9. In which country is the Matterhorn?
10. Which Open was Jack Nicklaus’s first win?

**Answers to last week’s questions**
1. What is a more common name for a somnambulist? Sleepwalker
2. Which city was painted by Canaletto? Venice
3. In which war was the Victoria Cross first awarded? Crimean
4. The Suez Canal connects the Red Sea to which other sea? Mediterranean
5. Out of his six wives, how many did Henry VIII have beheaded? Two
6. St Stephen’s Day is better known as which day? Boxing Day
7. In music what does crescendo mean? To get louder and louder
8. Which extinct bird was last sighted on Mauritius? Dodo
9. In which decade was Tiger Woods born? 1970’s
10. Mount Parnassus is in which country? Greece

**Rock Eisteddfod**
The proposed schedule is as follows:

**Thursday 11th September**
09:00 a.m. Depart Birchip
01:00 p.m. Arrive at 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

If students are not travelling to or from Melbourne on the bus a note needs to be given to Miss Johnson BEFORE we leave.

Many thanks to Robert, Sue & Gareth Cozens of Mallee Steel for their very generous donation to the school to assist covering expenses as our students perform at the Rock Eisteddfod grand final in Melbourne next week.

**Stitchums Craft Group - Attention all crafties**

Please note the following dates for your diary.

**10th September 2008**
Next Stitchums meeting at Uniting Church Hall – BYO activity

**8th October 2008**
Stitchums meeting

**12th November 2008**
Stitchums meeting & Christmas breakup

Contact: Ros McCallum on 50 772218

**Watchem Craft Market & Car Boot Sale**

Sunday 9th November 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
**Arrival & departure**

Arrival to & departure from School

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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**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/1</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Work on sounds, words, reading, shapes, counting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Tape Advertisements</td>
<td>8th Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Spelling List 23, Learn Tables – Test, General Knowledge Questions</td>
<td>12th Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Bloom’s Assignment</td>
<td>5th Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Get Up To Date, props for films</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Prepare for films</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Crime &amp; Punish.</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Bicycle Thief creative</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>12th Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Complete ERA</td>
<td>10th Sept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Prepare for Lake in Woods SAC</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!
Birchip Archery Club
Meeting Wednesday 10th September 2008,
6.30pm At the Shamrock
To discuss the future of archery in Birchip & to
elect a committee
Enquiries to Bob Darby ph 5492 2898 or BB &
LC ph 5492 2735

Found
Black Fluffy Cat
Big golden eyes and a black collar. Contact
Patricia Connelly 5492 2504

Birchip Watchem Football Club Inc.
A0036443Y
ABN: 98 339 539 645
P.O. Box 34
BIRCHIP 3483

President: Danny Lowry 03 5492 2221
Secretary: Gavan O'Donnell 03 5492 2437
Treasurers: Gareth Webb 0428 870 510
John Richmond 0417 106 033

BIRCHIP WATCHEM FOOTBALL CLUB CATERING ROSTER
BIRCHIP CROPPING GROUP FIELD DAY
THURSDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2008
PETER & BRENDA DORAN’S FARM
CURYO, 30KM ON THE SUNRAYSIA HIGHWAY FROM BIRCHIP

This is a major fundraiser for us and we would appreciate it if everyone could do their duty and provide food as
requested, or please try and find a replacement. Contact Sharee Dobson if this is not possible.

Food is to be left at the Birchip P-12 School by 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. please. Please name any containers so they can
be returned.

SOUP 5 LITRES VEGETABLE
Wendy Buteux   Jacinta Frew

3 DOZ COLD SAVOURIES
Keiko Nakamura   Cathy Milne   Gill Sands   Bev Koops   Kerry Walder   Julie Lowry
Angela Liston   Chris Richmond   Joan Glen   Jenny (G) Noonan   Michelle Lee   Jo Lee
Val Connelly   Judy Bowen   Robyn Ferrier   Sharon Foot   Lyn Boyle

1 PKT CLUB SANDWICHES
Colene Delaney   Margaret O'Keefe   Noeline Hogan   Heather Hogan   Cathy Young   Bev Ryan
Heather Fletcher   Simone Christie   Jan Trollope

1 PKT MIXED SANDWICHES UNCUT (PREFERABLY SOME MEAT INCLUDED)
Kelli-Ann Sheahan   Sue Cozens   Cathy Bales   Jenny Goldsmith   Pam McKelvie
Angela O'Donnell   Danine Brody   Bern Smith   Helen Blencowe   Bern Hogan
Anne Blencowe   Di Thompson

WORKERS: 7.30AM TO COOK BBQ BREAKFAST ON SITE
Lincoln Lehmann   Roger Lehmann   Daniel Coffey   Christian Hogan   James Rickard   Gareth Webb
Peter Noonan   Jenny (P) Noonan   Cathy Young

WORKERS: 9.00 AM ONWARDS AT SITE SELLING FOOD
Sharee Dobson   Gail Sharp   Jackie Cartwright   Kelly Jeffs   Fiona Sayle   Carly Sharp

Anyone else able to volunteer to help would be greatly appreciated, as you can see we are short of workers due to Rock
Eisteddfod Final in Melbourne on same day. Thankyou
Habits of Mind: Wetlands

Education officer, Paula Robinson, and Waterwatch Officer, Rachael Slorach, from the Mallee Catchment Management Authority visited year seven and eight students this week. Throughout term three, both year levels have been working on themes based around climate change. Paula and Rachael brought to us their knowledge on wetlands in our local.

Students were involved in a range of activities throughout the session. They identified wetlands (or what was once a wetland) on an aerial map of Birchip and compared it to wetland maps of the area in 1788. They also identified the reasons for wetlands and distinguished between different types of wetlands. To conclude the session students played a board game called “run of the river”.

David Casey

Applying past knowledge to new situations
“I knew who to play the game because I followed the direction of the river, because the platypus was facing that way I decided the move in that direction”.

Stephanie Martin

Responding with wonderment and awe
“The water discs made the game exciting. I wanted to collect as many as possible”.

Megan Naylor

Listening with empathy and understanding
“There were two more rivers in this area that I didn’t know about”.

Brenten Delaney

Questioning and posing problems
“Any chance that the pipeline will deliver water to Tchum Lake?”
FACT SHEET 5

MEDICATIONS AND ALCOHOL: A DANGEROUS MIX

This fact sheet provides an overview of the effects of alcohol when taking medication, and how parents can assist their teenagers to minimise the potential harms…

Did you know?

› By the age of 12 over 90% of students have used analgesics (pain relievers) and 15% have used minor tranquillisers (anti-anxiety and insomnia medication).
› By 14 years of age, 90% of Australian teenagers have tried a full glass of alcohol. By the time these teenagers turn 17 years of age many drink alcohol regularly or occasionally.
› Drinking at a young age carries a range of health and other risks. What many young people don’t realise is that it can be dangerous, even life-threatening, to drink alcohol when they are taking medication.
› Medications to treat asthma, eczema, hayfever and other allergic conditions
› Insulin and other medications for diabetes
› Benzodiazepines (minor tranquillisers) for anxiety, stress and other conditions
› Anti-depressants to treat depression, anxiety disorders and eating disorders such as anorexia or bulimia.
› Medications to treat specific conditions, such as epilepsy
› Stimulant medication to treat attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

What problems can be caused by mixing alcohol and medication?

› Alcohol can interfere with and reduce the effectiveness of medicines, including prescribed, over-the-counter and complementary (alternative) medicines.
› With certain medications, alcohol can cause problems such as nausea, stomach cramps and vomiting.
› A single alcoholic drink with some medications can cause drowsiness or dizziness, which can be particularly dangerous for travel, especially when crossing roads on foot or by bicycle. It may be difficult to concentrate on school or other work.
› Some medications increase the intoxicating effects of alcohol.
› Drinking alcohol with more than one kind of medication means there is a greater risk of increasing the effects of alcohol and/or decreasing the effectiveness of the medication.

What kinds of medication are they taking?

The kinds of medications they are taking depends on the young person's age and condition. Some of the medications prescribed for young people include:
› Analgesics (painkillers)
› Cold and flu medications
› Influenza, booster and other vaccinations
› Antibiotics for infections

How many young people are taking medication?

It's difficult to know exactly how many young people are taking medication at any particular time. However, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, in 2004–05 children are represented across a range of medical conditions:
› Forty-one percent of children aged under 15 years had a long-term health condition.
› Boys (44%) were more likely than girls (38%) to have a long-term health condition.
› Mental health, behavioural and emotional problems were reported for 7% of children overall.
› One in eight children aged under 15 years (12%) were reported as having asthma as a long-term health condition.
› The impact of diabetes on children's health is often severe, both during childhood and later in life.

Which medications interact with alcohol?

› Alcohol is a depressant drug, which means that it depresses (slows down) the central nervous system. Messages between the brain and the body are slowed down by alcohol, so a person's reaction time, coordination and concentration can be affected. That's alcohol on its own—taken with medication, its effects can be increased or worsened, even when drinking at low levels.