## Forthcoming Events

### September
- **Friday 23rd**: Day of Celebration & Opening of New Refurbished Facilities
- **Last day of term three – 2.30 p.m. finish**

### October
- **Sunday 2nd**: Trip to France & Belgium
- **Tuesday 18th**: First day of term four
- **Monday 17th**: Loddon Mallee Regional Athletics in Bendigo
- **Year 6-7 Transition meeting at 7pm**
- **Thursday 13th**: Loddon Mallee Regional Athletics in Bendigo
- **Monday 17th**: Parents’ Club Meeting at 7.30pm
- **Year 7&8 Super 8s Cricket Clinic**
- **Wednesday 19th**: Year 9&10 Super 8s Cricket Clinic - Horsham
- **Monday 24th**: Year 6→7 Transition meeting at 7pm
- **Thursday 27th**: Year 9&10 Super 8s Cricket Clinic - Horsham

### November
- **Tuesday 1st**: Melbourne Cup Day Holiday
- **Thursday 3rd**: VCE English Examination
- **Friday 4th**: VCE Biology & Further Maths 1 exam
- **Monday 7th**: VCE Further Maths 2 & Psychology Exams
- **Tuesday 8th**: VCE Maths Methods 1 & H&HD Exams
- **Wednesday 9th**: VCE D&T, Maths Methods 2 & Aust. History Exams
- **Year 7&8 Super 8s Cricket - Horsham**
- **Thursday 10th**: VCE Specialist Maths 1 Exam
- **Friday 11th**: VCE Ag & Hort, Specialist Maths 2 & Accounting Exams
- **Monday 14th**: VCE Chemistry & Physical Education Exams
- **Tuesday 15th**: VCE Studio Arts & Physics Exams
- **Wednesday 16th**: VCE Certificate II (Hospitality) Exam
- **Thursday 17th**: VCE IT Software Development Exam
- **Friday 18th**: VCE Business Management Exam
- **Monday 21st**: VCE Certificate II (Engineering) Exam
- **Monday 21st → Year 11 Examinations**
- **Friday 25th**: Summer Sport for Year 7→9
- **Thursday 24th**: QuickSmart Celebration Dinner

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### Grade 3 & 4 Bendigo Camp

On Wednesday 14th September 2011 a group of thirty year 3 and 4 students boarded a bus bound for Bendigo. Students visited the Chinese Golden Dragon Museum, where they were given a guided tour learning about Chinese traditions, culture, and Chinese history in Australia. In the evening students bowled at Dragon City Lanes. The highest score achieved was by Jonny Randall with 112. On day two students visited the Central Deborah Goldmines, taking part in an underground tour, and panning for gold. These activities coincided with the integrated unit students have been working hard on all term. After a quick lunch, students arrived at the Bendigo Discovery Centre. All children worked diligently on their “Slowmation” project that Mrs Michelle Lee had been coordinating in science. After the projects were completed, students had the chance to try out the Vertical Slide. Some students had a great time, and rode the slide numerous times, while others were just happy to watch. The evening was a time to wind down with students enjoying a movie snuggled up in their pyjamas, under their blankets. On Friday, students swam at the Eaglehawk YMCA, before having lunch at Victoria Hill. Then the long bus ride home. Thank you to Mrs Michelle Lee, Marcia Mallia and Miss Jessica Arnott for all their planning.
organization for the camp and for ensuring the children had a great time and enjoyed many rich and exciting experiences.

**Grade 5 Camp to Melbourne**

Last week 17 grade 5 students ventured to Melbourne for a three day camp. They were expected to be at the Birchip VLine stop at 6.30am on Wednesday and did not disappoint. After bags were packed, red caps donned and goodbyes said everyone boarded the bus to Bendigo. At Bendigo we transferred to the Melbourne train and for many these were the first trip on either service. For the duration of the trip we used public transport as it was felt important to expose students to this experience and help educate them about the benefits of public transport and how to do this safely.

Throughout the three days we travelled from our base at Melbourne Discovery, which is near Queen Victoria Market, to a variety of attractions and activities. We walked, caught trams and trains and always proudly wore our Birchip P-12 School hats which attracted much interest. It was a trip of firsts for some of us as well as a chance for others to revisit places that they had previously enjoyed.

After arriving at Southern Cross Station and meeting Phil to deposit our luggage we headed to the Flagstaff Gardens for lunch. We then walked to our accommodation at Hotel Discovery. After students were allocated their key cards, which they guarded carefully as no one wanted to have to pay the $5
fine for losing their card, and locating our rooms we had a talk about Metlink travel and safety. We then headed off to Melbourne Aquarium for an Underwater Zoo Tour with Mel. Everyone was mesmerised by the wonderful array of animals. The giant sting rays, sharks, sea dragons and penguins were among the favourites. Throughout the journey around the aquarium the students asked questions and displayed a real interest in the animals before them. We were even fortunate to see a male sea horse with eggs.

Then we headed to Bourke Street Mall and looked at the Royal Arcade, with the Gog and Magog statues and Union Lane, which has commissioned street art along its walls, before heading back to Discovery for tea, a night walk and games.

After breakfast Thursday we headed to the Queen Victoria Market for a look and shop. A trip to the market isn’t complete without a doughnut so as we left the market to catch our tram we were all happily munching on hot jam doughnuts.

Once we had disembarked, at Elizabeth Street, we strolled under the Flinders Street Underpass and across the Sandridge Bridge, with the Travelling Sculptures and migration history along it, before making our way to Eureka Skydeck 88. A kind gentleman informed us about the free Big Ms they were handing out at the foot of the bridge which we happily accepted.

Once inside the Skydeck tower we watched a video about the tower before travelling to the 88th floor (in 38 seconds) to enjoy the views. Everyone eagerly pointed out sights that they recognised in Melbourne’s landscape. The view had to be seen to be believed and the WOW that students exclaimed as they exited the lift caused a few other patrons to stop and look.

After the ear popping trip back down to the ground floor we headed to Southbank to catch a ferry to Scienceworks. The trip along the Yarra River gave us all chance to see Melbourne from a different perspective.

Once we disembarked we headed in to investigate the House Secrets, Sportworks and Human Mind
Everyone enjoyed the many hands on activities and our time passed quickly. Our journey back on the ferry was made more exciting by the high tide which made navigating the many low bridges a challenge for the driver. We were uncertain where we would disembark as the captain was concerned the boat would not make it under the final few bridges but once he successfully navigated us through, with not much room to spare, everyone cheered.

Following our dramatic journey we visited the Shrine of Remembrance then headed to Federation Square. While at Federation Square we saw the Tape Australia Sculpture, which is a sculpture made from 25km of packing tape suspended between supports. Luckily for us one of the RMIT design students, that had been working on it, was still there doing repairs and so he was able to tell us about its construction. Most were keen to go inside it but it was closed for the day so that became a plan for Friday, if possible. We then headed to Pepperonis Pizza restaurant for tea.

Our last activity for the day was to revisit Eureka Tower. We all enjoyed the views from the 88th floor during the afternoon but the night time scene is so much more spectacular. Many students judged this to be the highlight of the trip. After a very long but enjoyable day we headed home very weary and ready for bed.

Once we had stored our bags Friday morning we walked to Melbourne Central to catch a train to go to the Museum. Before visiting the Melbourne Museum we spent time in the Carlton Gardens and marvelled at the majestic Exhibition Building. We spent two hours exploring the many galleries at the museum and easily could have spent more time. Once again the many hands on activities and interactive displays were a great hit.

From here we caught a tram to Parliament Station, where the children experienced the longest escalator and deepest underground station platform in the southern hemisphere. We caught a train that travelled around the loop before arriving at Flinders Street Station. Everyone had been given money to buy their lunch at the food court in Flinders Street Station and a wide variety of meals resulted.

Once we had eaten we were all keen to revisit the Tape Australia sculpture and to see if we could get a turn inside. We were fortunate to only have a small number before us, so everyone quickly took off any jewellery and their shoes and waited in line. Due to our age every student had to have an adult in the sculpture with them and there was a limit of two students and three minutes at a time so Trevor, Brooke and Mrs Emonson took turns to wait in the sculpture, after they had moved around it, so the students could take turns to go around twice. We had to climb in and out of the sculpture via a ladder but it was an unique experience.

Our last activity before heading home was a visit to the Ian Potter Gallery to view the Indigenous Art Display. Following our cultural engagement we caught some of a street performers act in Federation Square before heading to Flinders Street Station to begin our return journey.
After reaching Southern Cross Station and collecting our luggage we headed to platform 6A to await our train to Maryborough. On arrival at Maryborough we ate our packed lunch, which we had saved for tea, and waited for the Donald bus. The bus journey passed quickly for some who slept but was long for others. Twenty weary bodies were very pleased when Bales bus arrive at Donald to take us the final leg of our journey, the only part not taken on public transport. We talked and sang our way to Birchip and everyone was very pleased to see a sea of familiar faces to greet us.

It was a very exhausting but exhilarating trip that offered something for everyone and gave the students a chance to try new experiences. All students are to be congratulated on the way they conducted themselves throughout the three days. During our trip we received many positive comments about our students’ behaviour while travelling and during tours.

Thanks to Brooke Morris and Trevor Emonson for giving up their time to accompany us it was greatly appreciated.

**Australian English Competition**

On Tuesday 2nd August 2011, students from years 3→11 sat the University of New South Wales Annual English Competition. Each year students from years 3 to 12 are invited to participate in these competitions and it is great to see the willingness of so many of our students test their skills and challenge themselves. Ten students were awarded a credit, three students a distinction and one student a high distinction certificate. A high distinction places the student in the top 1% in their year level. The successful students were:

**Credit Awards:**
- Year 3  Jonty Randall
- Year 4  Boyce Knight
- Year 5  Bethany Emonson, Darcy Sheahan
- Year 7  Maddison McCredden, Sam Owa
- Year 9  Hayley Hogan, Molly Hogan, Darci Tierney
- Year 10  Brylie Emonson

**Distinction Awards:**
- Year 6  Jessica Bidstrup
- Year 10  Jessamy Bennett
- Year 11  Claire Boyle

**High Distinction:**
- Yr 7  Georgia Lee

Congratulations to all students who took part in this competition.
Congratulations and Best Wishes
Jessica & Aaron

Congratulations and best wishes to Miss Jessica Arnott and her fiancé Mr Aaron Boyd who will be married at Brim this Saturday.

Gnurad Gundidj – Community Learning Presentation Day

Yesterday, Trish Lehmann and I had the good fortune to visit Gnurad Gundidj for Community Learning Presentation Day. Despite the long drive down and back, the day was a fantastic celebration of nine weeks work and leadership growth for our six year nine students. Marnie Lehmann, Diane Wineera, Aaron Riggall, Connor Buteux, Cooper Benfield and Ronald Turner presented their CLP to Trish Lehmann and me following their act which identified their CLP. For their CLP, the students would like to focus on our school community stadium and upgrade various features including the gymnasium, stadium entrance, soccer goals and basketball rings along with investigating the possibility of cooling the space.

All schools made presentations to their school representatives. They were all amazingly imaginative and well considered.

Along with the CLP presentations, various individual students provided additional acts to entertain students and guests. We were suitably impressed with Diane Wineera when she sang in front of over 100 people and then watched Cooper Benfield contort his body, arms and legs into various near impossible arrangements. I trust they will share these same talents with our school community at school assembly next term.

The six year nine students complete their nine week Gnurad Gundidj experience this Saturday 24 September 2011. We look forward to welcoming them back into our school community next term.

The Birchip P-12 School thanks very much the staff of the Gnurad Gundidj Campus for their leadership, care and attention in teaching and mentoring our six year nine students during term three. Mr Michael Fitzgerald (or Fitzy as he is affectionately known) hopes to visit Birchip in the near future and catch up again with our six students.

Diane Wineera, Connor Buteux, Marnie Lehmann, Aaron Riggall, Ronald Turner and Cooper Benfield with their CLP team leader Mr Michael Fitzgerald at Gnurad Gundidj.
Eat those Cars!

On Tuesday, the Prep/One class busily created, iced and decorated car shaped cakes. This was an exciting finale to the integrated Transport Unit which they have explored for the past term. Students followed directions, looked at elements of procedural text, sequenced events and had FUN!
Students, parents, family and community members are cordially invited to attend our day of celebration on Friday 23 September 2011.

The day will commence at 11:30 a.m. with the opening of the new and refurbished facilities. At 12:00 noon students will entertain you with a variety of musical and dancing items. At 1:00 p.m. a BBQ and salad luncheon will be available to all students, parents and community members. There will be NO CHARGE for the luncheon.

Please come and join in the celebration!

This Spring Showcase will be a day of celebration where students will be able to display their work and talents to parents and the school community. During this showcase, students will perform their Rock Eisteddfod routine, students will perform various theatre studies performances, primary students will perform various musical items and music students will perform their items.

There will be a huge display of student work on display throughout all rooms of the school.

Of course it will also be an opportunity for the school community to view our new learning spaces and fantastic new facilities. These include at least ten projects to the value of $2,225,708.

11:00 a.m. Dignitaries arrive and tour new facilities
Mr John Forrest, MHR, Member for Mallee
Mr Peter Walsh, MLA, Member for Swan Hill
Cr Leo Telfeson, Mayor, Buloke Shire Council
Cr Gail Sharp, Councillor, Buloke Shire Council
Mrs Wendy Watts, Chairperson, Birchip P-12 School, School, Council
Mrs Jenny Hogan, President, Birchip P-12 School, Parents’ Club.

11:30 a.m. Official Opening of New Facilities – School Stadium

12:00 noon Entertainment including:
Birchip P-12 School entry 2011 Rock Eisteddfod
MYs and VCE Theatre Studies performances
Various Musical Items

01:00 p.m. Community Luncheon
A BBQ and salad luncheon will be available to all students, parents and community members.

There will be NO CHARGE for the luncheon.

02:30 p.m. School concludes for term three and buses depart.

Thank You Birchip P-12 School

I am so very happy I chose to spend 13 weeks of my university placement in such a lovely town that welcomed me, teaching years 7 and 8 Art and IT, 9/10 Art and 11/12 Studio Arts. I had some wonderful mentor teachers in Catherine McKenzie, Andrew Sayle and John Richmond, who watched over me and developed my skills as a teacher. It was wonderful to attend parent teacher interviews and meet the parents of the students I was teaching, and attend many social functions within the town.

I will miss all the staff, students and friends I have made here and I can only hope to find a community as nice as Birchip to live in next year. Thank-you for having me 😊

Emma-Lee Still
North Central District Golf Day
Last Friday October 16th, Emily Smith and Hayley Hogan travelled to Boort to participate in the North Central District Golf Day. Students played 18 holes in beautiful weather at the Boort Golf Course. Competition was of a very high level. Emily and Hayley both played very well and enjoyed their round of golf, but unfortunately were no match for the winners on this day. A big thanks goes to Mrs Heather Hogan for driving both students on this day.

PRIMARY ATHLETIC REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Friday 21 October 2011 at Ballarat
Khiana Brooks, Andrew Phelan, Bill Lee, Caitlin Bidstrup, Courtney Sayle, Olivia Rickard, Joseph Reid, Ben Milne and Jesse Kemp now get the opportunity to compete at the next stage in the Regional Athletics Carnival to be held in Ballarat on Friday 21st October 2011. Good luck to these students. Parents are encouraged to work together to organize travel to and from. Please contact Mr Welton with your suggested travelling arrangements when decided.

Ice Cream Containers
The Hospitality Department is looking for 2 and 4 litre ice cream containers. If you can assist could you contact Mrs Barb Smith or just send them to the school office please.

Birchip Watchem Hockey Club - Break Up / Presentation Night
Tuesday 27th September 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
Birchip Community Leisure Centre
Junior families a sweet (not chocolate ripple cake)
Senior families a salad (not potato or tossed)

All Ages Twilight Mixed Netball - Nullawil Netball Club
When: Monday nights - 6:30 p.m. onwards
Where: Nullawil Netball Courts
Cost: $2.00 per player
Starts: 10 October, 2011 (approx. 6 weeks)
Registration by: 3 October 2011
For Registration Forms and General Enquiries contact Rebecca James at rebecca_anne38@hotmail.com

Junior Golf Wind Up
Friday 23 September 2011 at 2:45 p.m.
A Four Ball Event with an adult partner
Followed by a BBQ and Presentation of Championship Trophies
Any enquiries to Beryl Fietz 54 922 636

Invitation to attend the School Holiday Kids Club for 3 days
Monday 26th, Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th September 2011
2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.
at Uniting Church Hall, Duncan Street, Birchip
With John and Ros Patterson form Adelaide. Games, puppets, stories, songs, crafts and snacks.
Everybody Welcome – No charge

GRAND FINAL CELEBRATION NIGHT
Everyone is invited to join with grand final players to attend a celebration dinner at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre on Saturday 24 September 2011 commencing at 6:30 p.m. No charge for grand final team members. There will be a reasonable charge to cover costs for others. Families, supporters and grandparents welcome to help celebrate our junior netballers great season.

Senior Cricket
Birchip Cricket club is only entering one B Grade team in the WMCA this season.
Birchip Cricket Club senior training will start September 29th 5:00pm at the cricket nets George Cartwright oval.
We need players – young or old.

Junior Cricket
An important letter was sent home this week asking parents and players to consider the possibility of joining Hopetoun, Beulah Brim Warracknabeal and Minyip in their junior cricket Comp.
If your son or daughter plays or is thinking about playing junior cricket, it is important that you respond to the information in the letter.
For more information please contact Andrew Sayle 0429922395 sayle.andrew.g@edumail.vic.gov.au

Wanted
Glass jars with lids. Please hand into school office or see Ashleigh Baird or Kellie James. Donations will be much appreciated. The jars will be used for jam making.
Homework!

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<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Homework</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Castaway</td>
<td>Ms Tellbach</td>
<td>Complete distillation practical report</td>
<td>Monday after holidays</td>
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<td>Complete evolution poster</td>
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All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

Sea Lake Youth Group

Presents

“GRAFFITI FREEZA Event”

Saturday 24 September 2011

12 - 18 years of age event

Featuring

Acts: Daylight Hours (Melb cover band)

Sounds Disco

Venue: Sea Lake Community Centre

Complex Rd Sea Lake

Time: 8:00pm - 12:00am

Cost: $15.00 per person

Strictly no alcohol, drugs or tobacco and no pass outs

Event is fully supervised with security

Anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated and will be reported to police

Permission forms & timetables available from all Buloke Shire Council offices or by contacting Youth Development Officer Julie Saylor on 0429867997 or email jsaylor@buloke.vic.gov.au

Free transport is available but places are limited
Students are invited to enter the Habits of Mind ICT competition. Guidelines are listed below, with the competition being split into two divisions; Lower School (Prep to 4) and Middle School (5 to 10). Prizes to the value of $100.00 will be available to each section.

**Lower School:**
Students may create an ICT generated piece which may encompass one or all of the Habits of Mind.
Students may create a power point with no more than 4 slides or a poster to portray the Habits.
The competition may be entered as an individual or as a group with no more than 4 team members per group.

**Middle School:**
Students may create an ICT generated piece which may encompass one or all of the Habits of Mind.
Students may create a power point with no more than 4 slides, or a movie no longer than 2 minutes.
The competition may be entered as an individual or as a group with no more than 4 team members per group.

The competition closes on Friday 25th November 2011, with all entries being submitted to the office by this date. Movies should be burnt to a disk, power points, and posters may be handed in using a USB or emailed to: arnott.jessica.1@edumail.vic.gov.au
Winners will be notified 2 weeks after the closing date.