Birchip P-12 School
A Mindful School

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Campbell Street
BIRCHIP 3483

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Web: http://www.birchip.vic.edu.au

School Council members: Wendy Watts, Angela Liston, David Smith, Louise Lee, Cameron Flowers, Kevin Reid, Margaret O’Keefe, Leigh Hogan, Cathy Bales, Andrew Sayle, John Richmond, Russell Christie, Eileen Smith, Merrilyn Kelly

Forthcoming Events

October
Monday 19th  Yr 6-7 Transition Meeting 7pm
Thursday 22nd  Yr 12 Valedictory Dinner
Friday 23rd  Birchip Hospital Flower Show
Monday 26th  Local presentation of Fairfax “Fair Deal” performance
Monday 26th →  Year 12 Swot Vac
Thursday 29th
Thursday 29th  Transition Day 1 for Grade 6 → Year 7
           Fairfax “Fair Deal” performance in Swan Hill
Friday 30th  Transition Day 2 for Grade 6 → Year 7
           VCE English Exam

November
Tuesday 3rd  Melbourne Cup Day Holiday
Thursday 5th  Transition Day 3 for Grade 6 → Year 7
Monday 9th →  Grade 5 Camp to Lake Cullulleraine
Thursday 12th
Tuesday 10th  Physical Resources Meeting
Thursday 19th  School Council Meeting
           Kanga Cricket - Donald
Monday 23rd →  Year 11 examinations
Friday 27th
Monday 23rd  Primary Swimming Program commences
Friday 27th
Monday 30th →  Year 11 curriculum planning meetings
Friday 4th Dec
Monday 30th →  Year 9 & 11 examinations
Friday 4th Dec

December
Monday 7th  Grade 6 Celebration Dinner
Tuesday 8th  One up Day: Kinder → Prep, Grade 6 →
           Year 7, Year 11 → Year 12
           Physical Resources Meeting
Thursday 10th  School Council Meeting
Friday 11th  Primary Swimming Program Finishes
Monday 14th  VCE results published
Tuesday 15th  Presentation Night

Working Bee

We had an amazing turn out to our targeted working bee on Wednesday 14th October 2009. Many thanks to David Smith who led the team of parents to clean up many areas around the school. Whilst there is still a little more to do, much of the big stuff is removed and the school surrounds are certainly looking much better.

Thank you to James Boyle, Christian Hogan, John Bales, Andrew Lee, Leigh Hogan, Darren Gould and John Taranto who supplied and operated trucks and front-end loaders. Thank you also to Rob Bennett, Chris Lee, Leon Hogan, Doug Bennett, Peter Doran, Danny Lowry, Robbie Phelan, James Phelan, Chris Cook, Peter Walder, Tim Walder, Chris Rickard, Peter James and Rodney Bennett for their work during the morning.

The Fairfax Festival is a festival of theatre for regional secondary schools held annually in memory of George Fairfax and has been happening for over 10 years in Victoria’s far north. It involves students and teachers from regional Victoria creating original theatre works for performance at a Gala Night in Swan Hill at the end of October. This year, the event will coincide with the Go North Arts Festival and is set to be an occasion not to be missed!
The festival is a time for students to come together and show each other the creativity they are capable of achieving. It’s also an opportunity for the students to see how their peers go about making theatre; what ideas and skills they have; and to share these things with each other in a way that is just as exciting for the audience as it is for the participants. The Fairfax Festival is a rare opportunity for students in Victoria to unleash their imaginations in an exciting and rewarding way!

Our school is participating in the 2009 Fairfax Festival. Under the leadership of the Miss Elisha Johnson (who is doing an amazing job), they have been hard at work for many months developing their performance piece which will be presented on 29th October 2009 at the Fairfax Festival Gala, from 7:00 p.m. at the Swan Hill Town Hall.

Tickets can be purchased at the Swan Hill Region Information Centre, by calling 5036 2444 or replying to this email. Single tickets are $10.00 and for school groups tickets are just $7.50.

The Fairfax Festival is a wonderful opportunity for students of Birchip P-12 School to discover just what is available to them if they choose a career in the Arts and to instill a sense of self confidence within them.

Nicholas Bales, Evelyn Reid, Emily Noonan, Emily Smith & Karleigh Weir are performing ‘Fair Swap’ in the 2009 Fairfax Festival Gala Performance on Thursday 29th October at 7:00 p.m. at the Swan Hill Town Hall.

Book your tickets
Bookings can be made through the Swan Hill Region Information Centre on 5036 2444.

On Monday 26th October 2009 we will be celebrating our Fairfax entry with a casual day and BBQ.

Come dress to school as if you are going to the ‘fair’ (Gold Coin Donation)
Vegetable and pumpkin soup will be available for purchase on this day at a cost of $2.00.

‘Fairswap’ Performance 1.30pm in the stadium
Parents and friends are warmly welcome to attend our assembly.

Year 6 → 7 Transition Program Dates to keep in mind

Monday 19th October 2009
Transition meeting at Birchip P - 12 School (for students and parents)

DAY ONE: Friday 30th October 2009
Day 1 of Program at Birchip P - 12 School (Primary)

DAY TWO: Thursday 5th November 2009
Day 2 of Program at Birchip P - 12 School (Secondary)

DAY THREE: Friday 6th November 2009
Day 3 of Program at Birchip P - 12 School (Secondary)

DAY FOUR: Tuesday 8th December 2009
Official DET Orientation Day - Birchip P-12 School "One - Up Day"

Student Attendance for Term 4, 2009
The following attendance rules are stipulated by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

All students are required to attend and fully participate in school activities throughout Term 4. This includes participation in elective programs.

- Year 11 students are expected to be at school until Friday 27th November 2009 and then must attend compulsory course planning meetings during Mon 30th November 2009 – Fri 4th December 2009. Times for these meetings will be communicated by Mr Christie and Mrs Barb Smith.

- Year 10 students are required to be at school until Friday 4th December 2009.

- Students up to and including Year 9 are required to attend school until the end of the school year on Friday, 18th December 2009.

- Reports to all students will be distributed on Thursday 17th December 2009.

Please contact Mr Richmond at the school should you wish further clarification of these dates.

If your child needs to be medicated at school, the medication and a completed “medication request form” needs to be handed in at the office.
UNDOOKAI - the Japanese Sports Day

It was a great day for primary students.

Undookai was held on Thursday 15th October 2009. Primary students had two colour teams, AKA (red) and SHIRO (white), and competed with each other with many and varied activities. There were cheering teams in each colour and the performance was fantastic. Congratulations to the team SHIRO won by 1 point!!

Thanks to Emika and Ms Nakamura for their excellent organization and efforts.

Maths is Marvellous –
You can count on it!

Shape I Spy!

E Play I Spy but have a shape as the clue. E.g. –“I Shay a rectangle!” Players suggest possible items that are rectangular in shape until the chosen item is found. Possible solutions: - window, door, book, place mat, newspaper, front of a drawer etc.

Head Lice

Several head lice cases have been reported.

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.

Chances for Children Raffle

Chances for Children is a local organisation which assists students to fulfil their dreams. It does this by financially assisting students who couldn’t, without financial help, afford to leave the area to study. Chances has assisted some Birchip P-12 School Year 12 students who have shown talent by paying part of their boarding costs when they go to university. This is a worthwhile voluntary organisation which puts its efforts into helping our youth succeed.

To this end, each child in primary and secondary has been given a small raffle book of 4 tickets to sell to support Chances for Children. Each ticket is one dollar. Could you try your best to sell them and return them by Friday 24th October 2009. The raffle will be drawn at the Fairfax Performance in the stadium on Monday 26th October 2009. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile performance.
The children were intrigued by relics and stories.

At Lake Boga Planetarium & Observatory we were fascinated with images of nebulae - the birthplace of stars.

Not all fun & games. The children built a mallee root fence and cut wood for a house at Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement.

Only 2 days, 4 hours and 45 minutes...
“The blacksmiths was amazing” (Spencer).
“Making nails was the best” (Lea).

“Mrs Emonson pulled the steam whistle and made it stick and it was funny” (James).

“Sleeping in a cabin was... “cool” (Jack), “totally uncool” (Gus), “fun” (Zac).

“I didn’t know that people used to climb up trees to get honey.” (Tom).

“The art gallery was incredible”

There was some monkeying around, but definitely no criminal

Highlights: “the sound and light show” (Sophie), “feeding the birds” (James), “the flying boat museum” (Zac), “the playgrounds” (Lea).

On the way home we went by Sonre Farm and a

“Care and supervision by Mrs Taylor, Mrs Weir and Mrs Clarke – thankyou!”

“The camp was good fun, brilliant” (Ben H.).

“I had never heard of students having to balance books on their heads before” (Elise).
Grade Five and Six Homework Questions – due Friday 23rd October 2009
1. The largest of the Egyptian pyramids was built for which Pharaoh?
2. By what name is a female whale called?
3. In which city was the early police force called the Bow Street Runners located?
4. On which continent is Queen Maud Land?
5. In which country did the smorgasbord originate?
6. Brangus cattle are a cross between which two breeds?
7. To which famous Englishman was Anne Hathaway married in 1582?
8. What are bowyangs?
9. On the shores of which sea is Venezuela located?
10. To which family of animals does the ibex belong?

Answers to last week’s homework questions which were due Friday 16th October 2009
1. In which European city is the La Scala opera house? Milan
2. An amethyst is a variety of which mineral? Quartz
3. What is the penultimate letter of the Greek alphabet? Psi
5. Name Burma’s chief river. Irrawaddy
6. In Greek legend the monster called the echidne was half woman and half what? Serpent
7. What is the chemical symbol for potassium? K
8. What kind of food is komijne kaas? Cheese
9. Who did Harold Holt succeed as Australian prime minister? Menzies
10. Name the first three signs of the Zodiac. Aries, Taurus, Gemini.

Northern Zone Athletics
The Secondary Northern Zone athletics was very successful for the Birchip P-12 School last Thursday 8th October 2009.
A team of 19 students travelled to Bendigo, last Thursday, to compete in 27 events.
Although we did not have anyone come first in their event we did manage a place (2nd or 3rd) in 13 events which is a terrific achievement for a school of our size competing against schools from northern Victoria including Mildura, Swan Hill, Echuca, Bendigo and Kyneton.
Most students achieved personal bests even in the cold windy conditions and were pleased with their performances.

Placegetters
2nds
Courtney Gleeson 100m and 200m
Riley Doran 100m
Laura Lee Javelin
Shane Barker Discus
Tim Walder Discus and Shot Put
Kate Watts 200m
Jamie Lovett 400m

3rds
Brenten Delaney High Jump
Jamie Lovett Long Jump
Kate Watts 100m
Bridgette Hogan 800m

Thank you to all of the parents and friends who were able to assist with transport.
Your support on the day was certainly appreciated.
Many thanks to Andrew Sayle for his organization leading up to the event and his encouragement on the day.

Progressive Shopping Evening
Friday 6th November
Commencing from BCG at 6pm
Tickets $12.00
(includes supper, drinks, a special mystery gift and a great night out!)
Dress in Christmas Theme for the chance to win a prize.
Fantastic door prizes to be won
For Information and Tickets contact Veronica Hogan 5492 2208
This School Year for 2009 is in its final phase with the year 12 students preparing for their end of year exams and all classes coming to a close for the primary and secondary schooling. The Birchip P12 School conducts a Valedictory Dinner for these students, their parents, teachers and School Councillors. The Birchip P12 Parents’ Club would appreciate your help in putting this dinner together.

**Wednesday 21st October 2009**
4 - 6pm Birchip Community Leisure Centre
Preparing and setting up
Trish Lehmann, Emma Bennett, Helen Casey, Annette Bennett, Rachel Lovett, Tracey Bennett.

**Thursday 22nd October 2009**
Black and White from 6pm
Jenny Hogan, Pam McKelvie, Sam Kemp, Noeline Hogan, Heather Hogan, Ros McClelland, Jackie Tierney.

If this doesn’t suit please ring me on 5085 4204 or 0417 357 850.

Many Thanks - Trish Lehmann

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**Children’s Week Major Events**

There are more than 150 free events statewide during Children’s Week 2009 including two major family fun days hosted by the Victorian State Government.

**Melbourne Zoo Family Fun Day and Children’s Week Launch**
Sunday 25 October 2009, 10.00am – 3.00pm
- Come and see the Wonderful World of Mr Men and Little Miss live on stage, plus join in a sing-along with Blinky Bill. Free activities include face painting, musical instrument making, circus skills workshops and much more!
- Entry is free for children 15 years and under.

**Melbourne Museum Family Fun Day and Launch of Children365**
Sunday 1 November 2009, 10.00am – 5.00pm
- Free activities include kite and puppet making workshops, children’s book author appearances, sports and games, arts and crafts and much more!
- Entry is free for concession and children 16 years and under. See the Children’s Week website for information on free adult admission to this event.

**Critical Dates**
- Children’s Week will take place from 24 October – 1 November 2009.
- To find free events in your local area visit the Children’s Week website: [www.education.vic.gov.au/childrensweek](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/childrensweek)

For enquiries or to obtain a hard copy calendar of events please contact the Children’s Week Coordinator on 9637 3880 or email childrens.week@edumail.vic.gov.au

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**Birchip-Watchem Netball Club Catering**

BWNC will be catering for the **BCG Women’s Expo on Wednesday October 28th.** (less than two weeks away). Catering lists were sent home from school yesterday, Thursday 15th October 2009 with a representative from each family involved. Please check with your children if you didn't receive one. One will also be sent via eMail.

We are catering to raise funds for our courts upgrade taking place over summer. Families from all junior and senior grades have been rostered on. We thank you in anticipation for supporting this function as all netballers will benefit from our new courts for many years to come.

Any queries or concerns, please contact Michelle Lee on 54 922 758.

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**Pianos— to give away!**

The school has three pianos to give away to any family who would like to come and take them home with them.

Please contact John Richmond on 0417 106 033 if you are interested in any of these.
Friends of East Wimmera Health Services-Birchip Campus

FLOWER SHOW
Birchip Public Hall
Friday, October 23, 2009

Entries for Sections 1 to 5 will be taken up till 9 a.m. on Show Day, or at the Hall on Thursday afternoon.

The judge may award a second prize instead of a first, or may withhold a prize altogether if exhibits are not of sufficient merit.

Turn over for schedule

- Cakes, Produce, Sweets, Lucky Stalls
- Sausage Sizzle for children at the hall at 12.15 p.m. ($1.00)
- Admittance by Donation
- Luncheon from 11.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. ($10.00)
- Afternoon Tea ($3.00)
- Fashion Parade by Just you Casuals at 1.30 p.m.
- Stalls, except Exhibition stalls open at 1 p.m.
- Exhibits not to be removed until 3 p.m.
- Grand Aggregate for Sections 1, 2, 4, and 5, trophy donated by Mrs. Kay Hogan
- All care but no responsibility taken by the committee.

Community displays

Mrs. Kay Hogan, President  54 922313
Mrs. Katie Bales, Secretary  54 922267
Section 1

**Champion Rose.** Trophy donated by Mrs. Edna Watson
1. Three Separate Blooms of Roses. One variety.
2. Best Container of Roses, own foliage
3. Red Rose.
5. Pink Rose.
6. Rose, any other colour.
7. 3 Roses three stages-Bud to Bloom
8. Container of Roses, one variety
10. Yellow Rose.
11. Best Stem of Flower or Flowers
13. Container of Pelargoniums
14. Container of Native Flowers from Shrub or Tree
15. Best Vase of Unscheduled Flowers
17. Vase of Flowering Shrub.
18. Container of Sweet Peas, in one bottle
Four varieties One Stem Each.
19. Best Collection of Marguerites or Daisy.
20. One Stem of Iris.

**Best Exhibit** Trophy donated by Mrs. Frances Brooks

23. Artificial Arrangement
24. Look, No Flowers.
26. Arrangement of Sunsets Colours.
27. Modern Arrangement using three Flowers.

28. Miniature Arrangement, to be no More than 15cm.
29. Best Arrangement of Flowers ‘As you like it’
30. Miniature Cactus Garden, Maximum Size 30cm Diameter or Length
31. Mixed Garden of Succulents, Max. Size 30cm Diameter or Length

**Best Exhibit** trophy donated by Mrs. H. Rickard

Aggregate Trophy donated by Birchip Pharmacy.

Section 2

All entries to become the property of The Committee
1. Sponge Sandwich, iced, 4 eggs only.
2. Chocolate Sponge, iced only.
4. Best Fruit and Nut Loaf.
5. Six Pieces of Cooked Slice.
7. Six Biscuits, one variety, uniced

**Flower Show Schedule**
8. Six Plain Scones.
10. Chocolate Cake, iced.

**Best Exhibit** Trophy donated by Doyle's JGA Supermarket.
12. Lemon Butter.
14. Jar of Jam, any variety.
15. Jar of Pickles or Chutney.
17. Dozen Eggs.
18. Collection of Herbs
19. Four Lemons.
20. Four Oranges.

Aggregate Trophy donated by Mrs. Dorothy Jolly.

Section 3

**ALL CHILDREN’S ENTRIES MUST BE UNAIDED**

1. Four Plain Scones, trophy donated by Mrs Estelle McCullum
2. Four Small Cakes, uniced, trophy donated by Mrs. Edna Watson
3. Four pieces of Uncooked Slice trophy donated by Mrs. Bet Cooper
4. Four Biscuits, one variety (packet mix may be used) trophy donated by Mrs. Janette Quick
5. Pre-School Collage, Trophy donated by Mrs. Mary McDougall
6. Prep. Decorated Marie Biscuit
7. Prep. Colourful decorated moneybox
8. Y/2/3 3D Owl
9. Y/1/2 Colourful collage watering can picture
10. Y/2/3 Shrinky dinks
11. Y/2/3 Egyptian Face Masks
12. Y/4/5 Puppets on Paper
13. Y/4/5 Creative Candle holders
14. Y/5/6 Botanical Art
15. Y/5/6 Pastel Colour Blending
16. Prep. Computer Generated picture
17. Y/2/3 Computer Graphics
18. Y/2/3 Vase of Flowers using Auto-shapes
19. Y/4/5 Create an Animal using Auto-shapes
20. Y/5/6 A “Wanted” Poster

Section 3, 5 to 20 will be made at school as part of school work price 1st and 2nd Prize cards only. All other entries made at Home - winners receive a trophy

21. Needlecraft (e.g. knitting, crochet, Cross or long stitch) small in size. Trophy donated by Mrs. Valerine Lee
22. Unscheduled Craft (small in size) No Lego

25. Flower Arrangement Year 5 & 6 Trophy donated by Mrs. D. Reid.
26. Small article of craft showing Beading (May be jewellery) Jewellery to be mounted on to Cardboard, no larger than A4 Trophy donated by Mrs. M. Donnelion

**ALL ABOVE ENTRIES MUST BE UNAIDED WORK ONLY BY STUDENT**

**Secondary School**

27. An article of craft showing Beading. (May be jewellery) Mounted on Cardboard, no larger than A4 Trophy donated by Mrs. M. Donnelion
28. Six pieces of Uncooked slice.
29. Six Biscuits, one variety.
31. Machine Sewn Garment
32. Plain Cake (may be packet)

**Best Exhibit** Trophy donated by Mrs. K. Bales.

Secondary Students – Make, Bake Grow (rules as per below)
- Make (something small)
- Bake - Cooking
- Grow – Flower, fruit, vegetable

Trophy donated by E. McCullum

Make, Bake and Grow
Each item is valued up to 10 points. Overall Score 30 points, (all three items must be exhibited.)
- Make (Sewing, Craft, etc.)
- Bake - Cooking
- Grow – Flower, Fruit, Vegetable

Trophy donated by Pauline & Roger Brogg

Section 5

1. Counted Cross Stitch.
2. Cushion.
5. Covered Coathanger.
6. Knitted Patterned Beanie 5 or 8 ply
7. Tapestry.
8. Any Article of Stretch Sewing.
10. Article of Patchwork (Appliqué Allowed) under one metre
11. Three Articles of One Person’s work
13. Unscheduled Craft
14. Christmas Article
15. Home Made Decorated Shopping Bag

**Best Exhibit** Trophy donated by MoMallee Crafts and Gifts

Aggregate Trophy donated by Just you Casuals.
BIRCHIP HOSPITAL FLOWER SHOW

The Primary children are walking down to the Birchip Hospital Flower show on Friday 23rd October 2009 at the Public Hall. Children will arrive for lunch at 12:15 p.m. and will return by 12:45 p.m. The children will view the displays, flowers, competitions and may buy lunch. Sausages $1, cordial, ice creams and other treats are available for purchase. Children will also be able to see lots of their art, craft and computer work which will be on display. Work completed at school will be returned to school for display after the show, but other entries such as flowers and cooking will need to be collected from the hall after 3:00 p.m. Parents are invited to come along for lunch to view the exhibits and support our local Hospital.
Junior Cricket
Information and teams were handed out today.
Competition begins tomorrow 17th October 2009 -
Indoor Game
Johnson Vs Ponting
(A Sayle) Umpire
Be at stadium by 8.30am

Watchem Market
8th November 2009
9am - 1pm
Watchem Hall
Featuring: Boomerang throwing, over
20 stall holders, Nintendo, face painting
and jumping Castle
All enquiries or to book a site contact Tammie
Tait 5399 2228

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>Think about what makes 10?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>General Knowledge questions, list words, tables</td>
<td>22nd. Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>Star Award finished</td>
<td>20th Oct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Read up to p61 in Private Peaceful by Monday</td>
<td>19th Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Bring 2 magazines for Monday please</td>
<td>19th Oct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Design a front cover</td>
<td>19th Oct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Egypt activities, begin topic 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Prac writ up</td>
<td>20th Oct.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Writing task</td>
<td>21st Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Writing task</td>
<td>20th Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Flight</td>
<td>Mr Whelan</td>
<td>Navigation assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Essay - draft copy</td>
<td>19th Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Writing task</td>
<td>20th Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Persuasive speeches</td>
<td>19th Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Energy System Research</td>
<td>23rd Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Student Manual 4.1 (part A only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Learn quotes</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Re-read Inheritance</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Miss Meehan</td>
<td>Prac exam / revision</td>
<td>20th Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Do practise exams, study quotes</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!
Year 7 students are studying Michael Morpugo’s novel ‘Private Peaceful’ which is set at the start of World War 1 in England. Before reading the novel, students pooled their knowledge and revealed that they did in fact know a lot about the period and the war in general. While the students may not have studied the war period formally, they realised they knew quite a deal about the era from watching films, documentaries, seeing pictures and reading.

Students displayed prior knowledge of vocabulary such as: Hun, Nazis and allies. They showed understanding of trench warfare, poverty, unemployment. They also came to empathise with how terrible schooling was for some children.

The Year 7 students were given the choice of reading independently or being read to and they chose to read on their own. However, when reading quietly, they asked questions to clarify their thoughts.