Forthcoming Events

October

Tuesday 21st
Year 6 Environmental Festival Charlton
VCE/VET/VACL Information Evening for Year 9 & 10 students
VCE Unit Selection Information Evening for Year 11 students

Thursday 23rd
VCE Valedictory Dinner

Mon 27th
VCE Swat Vac commences
Pupil Free Day

Tuesday 28th
Questacon - Year Prep – 8

Thursday 30th
Transition Day #1
Prep extended stay & Grade 1&2 sleepover

Friday 31st
Transition Day #2
VCE English Exam

November

Tuesday 4th
Melbourne Cup Holiday

Thursday 6th
Transition Day #3

Tuesday 11th
Physical Resources Meeting – 7pm
Finance ‘Budget’ Meeting – 8pm

Monday 17th
Primary swimming program commences
Kool Skools CD launch in Charlton

Monday 17th →
Year 11 exams

Friday 21st
Year 9/10 Food excursion

Friday 28th
Primary Report Writing Day – no school for Primary Students
Last day for Year 11 students

December

Tuesday 2nd
Secondary report writing day – no school for Secondary Students

Friday 5th
Last day for Year 10 students with employment

Monday 8th
Grade 6 Celebration Dinner
Year 9 Driver Education

Tuesday 9th
Transition Day #4 (One Up Day)

Wednesday 10th
Summer Showcase – End of Year Christmas celebration

Thursday 11th
School Council Meeting

Monday 15th
VCE results published
Activities week commences

Tuesday 16th
Presentation Night

Congratulations

Brianna

Congratulations to Brianna Smith (our school captain) on gaining a chef’s apprenticeship at ‘Rockpool Bar & Grill’, Crown Complex, Southbank, Melbourne. ‘Rockpool Bar & Grill’ is one of the most prestigious restaurants in Melbourne and a real coup for Brianna to gain training and experience working alongside world famous chef Neil Perry.

School Photographs

All school photographs have been distributed to students. Special group photographs are available at $15.00 for a 25cm x 20cm photograph. Please call at the office to view these and make your order. Orders need to be made by Friday 24th October 2008.
**Year 12 Students — One Week Left**

Only one week left to go for our Year 12 students. Many staff and students have taken the opportunity of Revision Lectures, extra classes and of course many practice exams.

The first VCE exam (English) starts on Friday 31st October 2008 - Not far away.

Next Thursday, the school will honour our Year 12 students with a Valedictory Dinner at the Birchip Leisure Centre. We continue to wish our final year students well as they prepare for their exams.

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**Important final class dates for senior students**

The following provides a list of completion dates for senior students.

- **Thursday 23rd October 2008**
  - Year 12 Valedictory Dinner

- **Friday 24th October 2008**
  - Last day of formal classes for 12 students

- **Monday 27th October 2008**
  - Swat Vac commences for year 12 students

- **Friday 31st October 2008**
  - VCE exams commence with English exam

- **Friday 14th November 2008**
  - Last day of formal classes for 11 students

- **Mon 17th – Fri 21st November**
  - Year 11 exam week

- **Mon 24th – Fri 28th November**
  - Year 11 compulsory course planning meetings

- **Friday 5th December 2008**
  - Last day of formal classes for 10 students with employment

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

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**Information Evening for 2009 VCE / VET / VCAL / ASBA students**

Mr Christie and Mrs Barb Smith will be organizing and running an Information Evening for students beginning VCE (i.e., present year 9 & 10 students) next year. Information presented will involve VCE, VCAL, VET and Australian School Based Apprenticeships (ASBA). The evening will be held in the Mathematics Rooms on Tuesday 21st October and commence at 7:30 p.m.

This meeting will be followed by a meeting of current year 11 students and their parents regarding subject selection for year 12 in 2009.

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This meeting will be held in the staff recreation room.

We encourage all students and parents to take the opportunity to come to these information evenings to ensure appropriate courses are identified and discussed ready for 2009.

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**2009 Prep Meeting**

Thanks to Mrs Merrilyn Kelly for organizing and running a highly successful meeting for parents of 2009 Prep students last Tuesday 14th October 2008. There was a pleasing roll up of parents who were able to hear and discuss the various issues in relation to starting school. We anticipate to have 15 new prep students in 2009.

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**Year 7 Transition Meeting**

Next Monday 20th October 2008, Mr Tyler will welcome present Grade 6 students from Nullawil, Beulah, Culgoa and Birchip to the Year 7 Transition Meeting. We will welcome 21 Year 7 students next year - a very healthy class size. The meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m.

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**‘Keys Please’**

An information session for Year 10s and 11s was held on Wednesday 15th October 2008. The session covered the new process for obtaining your full driver’s licence including the documentation of hours of driving and the three stage P-plate system. Although small in number those present found the information delivered by Mr Murray Robertson most valuable. Many thanks to Miss Digby for her planning and organization of the evening.

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**Congratulations Riley Doran**

The Birchip P-12 School and The Birchip Cricket Club would like to congratulate Riley on his selection in the U14 Western Waves Squad for the U14 Commonwealth Bank State Championships. This region includes the entire western region of Victoria from Hopetoun through to Warrnambool.

Riley will play some trial matches next month before the final team is selected to play in the State Championships in January 2009.

During the training, Riley also smashed the long hit record (formally held by Brenten Delaney) with a hit of 61m
Japan Trip 2008 Report

After two years of planning since our last Japan trip, we finally took off from Melbourne on Sunday 22nd September; just after the NCFL Grand Final Day.

Our first few days in Tokyo were very busy. A couple of hours after landing we were off to visit the Edo-Tokyo Museum. At the museum we were guided around displays that showed the history of the Tokyo area over the last 400 years. Afterwards we went to the impressive National Sports Stadium built especially for sumo, where we were able to enjoy Day 9 of the Autumn Sumo Tournament.

Next was a big shopping day in Shinjuku, Shibuya and Harajuku. Mr Ko Kojima, a previous assistant (Term 3, 2008) at Birchip, came and spent a day with us. We had a Disneyland day and visited the Imperial Palace too. Two previous assistants, Miss Rikako Iwasaki (Term 2, 2008) and Miss Maina Izaiku (2006) met with us - it was good to catch up.

We stayed in Yokohama with our host families for 9 nights. It was fantastic to stay in the homes of our Japanese host families. The houses were all two story and had cool electronic toilets and comfortable futons. The food and drinks were very interesting and we tried them all. Obento lunch that our host mum made for us was fantastic!! All families looked after us very well. On the weekend, our host families took us to the various local places and we enjoyed the day out. We enjoyed spending all the time with our host families and we thank them very much for their generosity.

We visited 3 schools in Yokohama including Kibogaoka High School, Minami-Kibogaoka Junior High School and Kibogaoka Primary School.

Kibogaoka High School was our host school. We went to school with our host students. We participated in classes and club activities such as tennis, archery, basketball, kendo, badminton and baseball, which were all very enjoyable. Students in Kibogaoka High School were very nice and friendly. They like school very much because of their club activities which they undertake with passion nearly every day. Kibogaoka students were also very smart. They study hard for their university entrance examinations. They welcomed us with the School Choir Festival, and also, on the last day at school, they had a farewell party for us. We made very good friendships with students in Kibogaoka.

The excursion to the Port of Yokohama was very interesting. We took a short boat cruise and participated in a workshop at Yokohama Glass which was a shop that has the oldest glass making history in Yokohama. We all made a beautiful glass ball as our original souvenir. In the evening we went to watch baseball at Yokohama Stadium. The game was thrilling and went to an extra 10th innings. Some bought uniforms of the Yokohama Bay Stars. At one time, we were on the huge screen in the stadium and so we got the stadium photo as our special souvenir. Michael was very lucky to catch a ball from the field; unlike cricket he didn’t have to throw it back! We all really enjoyed the baseball game.

After 9 nights stay in Yokohama, we moved to Hiroshima by Shinkansen Bullet Train.

In Hiroshima, we visited the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Park. We have learnt much about the dropping of the atomic bomb in Hiroshima. It was sad but also very good to know about the real history. On the next day, we went to a small island called Miyajima Island. The scenery in Miyajima was absolutely beautiful. We cooked momij-manju cakes which were very yummy. That night, back in Hiroshima, we went to a famous Okonomiyaki pancake restaurant for dinner and then a karaoke studio to sing songs for 2 hours which was very enjoyable.

In Kyoto, Japan’s most historical city, another previous assistant, Miss Mika Yoshikawa (Term 3, 2008) was with us. We visited many temples and shrines in Kyoto and we enjoyed a closer look at Japan’s traditions. We went to Nara to see the giant Buddha too. The activities we participated in included making a nenju bracelet and traditional lucky charm pouch called omamori. They were very traditional, original and very special. At night in Kyoto, we went to a sushi train restaurant. Shota ate 12 dishes, Nick ate 9 dishes and Mikaela ate 8 - all were full of sushi in the tummy.

We finally said goodbye to Japan and boarded our plane to Brisbane and then a connecting flight to Melbourne. Nick watched heaps of movies on the plane. It was a very good feeling to come home and see our Australian families at Melbourne Airport. Even when our luggage stayed a bit longer in Brisbane than we did, everything was okay in the end. We enjoyed every moment of the trip.

The three weeks of our Japan Trip were fully enjoyable and memorable. It was a valuable visit that extended our knowledge about Japan and Japanese language and culture. It was also fantastic to meet new people and
make new friendships. We have returned to school with lots of fantastic memories, souvenirs and great feelings.

It was again a wonderful trip and I would like to say thank you for this opportunity and a huge thankyou for your support.

Thanks a lot! Keiko Nakamura, Branden Atkinson, Nick Bales, Mikaela Christie, Hayden Collins, Darcie Cooper, Michael Mattschoss, Matt Marchesi, Travis & Kristy Knights

I would like to take this opportunity to thank very much the incredible organization of Ms Keiko Nakamura in planning and organizing the trip. Ms Nakamura, Mr Marchesi and Mr Knights gave up their holidays to take our students on a trip of a lifetime. Our students at Birchip are indeed fortunate to have so many opportunities presented to them. At school council last night a motion was passed to thank our three willing teachers; Ms Nakamura, Mr Marchesi and Mr Knights for their efforts, leadership and care of our students.
Japan 2008

Ms Nakamura
Mr Marchesi
Mr Knights
Mrs Knights
Shota Nakamura
Michael Mattschoss
Darcie Cooper
Mikaela Christie
Nicholas Bales
Hayden Collins
Branden Atkinson
Female only Cricket Clinic with Mel Jones
(Australia & Victoria Spirit representative)

Horsham College nets / gymnasium
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Wednesday 22nd October
Register with Gary Davidson, Female Cricket Development Officer on 0439 031 007

Drink bottles for PASE

Students are reminded that they need to bring a drink bottle to each PASE session. The weather is heating up and it is very important to keep the body hydrated. Most students are generally very good, but there are still some students who often forget. Could parents also remind their child about the importance of regularly replacing lost fluid especially in warmer months.

It is a good habit to bring a drink bottle every day to school with preferably water in it.
Michelle Lee (PASE teacher)

Regional Primary Schools' Sports in Bendigo

Following two first placings for Marnie Lehmann in Shot Put and Triple Jump and a second placing for Georgia Lee in Triple Jump at the zone sports in Warracknabeal last week, both girls represented the Wimmera Zone at the Regional Primary Schools' Sports in Bendigo last Monday 13th October 2008. Both students performed extremely well and were up against some very good competition with over 20 competitors in each event. Marnie came fourth in Shot Put and fifth in Triple Jump with a personal best jump of 8.50 metres. Georgia came fourth in Triple Jump. It was a great experience and achievement for both girls. Well done.

ROCK EISTEDDFOD DVD

Our Rock Eisteddfod journey is available on DVD. The DVD includes footage and photos of rehearsals and our adventure to Melbourne. Our heat and grand final performance is also included.
Cost: $10.00 - A great Christmas gift for the family.
Thank you to Kaye Haslam who spent many hours bringing the DVD together.

Our Rock Eisteddfod performance will be broadcast on Foxtel and Austar on the Ovation channel. Monday 13th October 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

NET, SET, GO STARS!

Georgia Lee is one of two lucky winners of the San Remo Pasta Net, Set, Go competition to play a modified netball game at half time of the Australia Vs New Zealand Netball Test Match at Hisense Arena in Melbourne on Sunday 26th October 2008. Georgia also gets to take 10 friends to play with her, all of whom are students at Birchip P-12 School. For netball enthusiasts or just for an opportunity to watch snippets of our local stars playing in front of thousands of people the game is televised live on Channel 10 on Sunday 26th October 2008. Check the local TV guide for more info.

Fit Kids

Over the next four weeks, the primary students will have the opportunity to participate in Aerobics on either a Tuesday or Thursday in the Gallery. Tuesday (Prep→Two) and Thursday (3→6) for approximately 20 minutes. Bring along appropriate footwear and a drink. It will be fun!
Mrs Lee

Birchip P12 School Parents’ Club Catering Committee
Valedictory Dinner - Thursday 23rd October 2008

Workers to be at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre
12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.
Wendy watts, Veronica Ryan, Jan Barbetti, Trish Lehmann, Rosalie Gould
6:00 p.m. – onwards - please wear black and white
Pam McKelvie, Carmel Rumbold, Louise Lee, Laura Lee, Bev Forrester, Emma Forrester, Simone Donnellon, Demi Donnellon, Bernadette Hogan, Bridgette Hogan, Jenny Hogan, Ros McClelland, Rhonda Bell
If you have any problems please contact Trisha Lehmann or Rhonda Bell
Homework Questions
Week 2 Term 4 - Due 24th October 2008
1. The St Lawrence River flows from which Canadian Lake?
2. In which city would you find Ginza, and what activities is it well known for?
3. If you barter something, what are you doing?
4. The Greek God of the Sea was Poseidon, who was the Roman God of the Sea?
5. Approximately how many hairs does a person with a full head of hair have on their head?
6. What is a labyrinth?
7. How many medals did Australia win in the Olympic Games in Beijing?
8. How many medals did Australia win at the Paralympic Games in Beijing?
9. For approximately how long does a baby wombat remain in its mother’s pouch?
10. In unprotected areas, what are the main enemies of quokkas?

Answers to Term 4, Week 1 questions
1. Many Native Americans live on land set aside for them by the U.S. government, called a Reservation
2. You would find the Parthenon in Greece.
3. The South American desert considered the driest desert on Earth is the Atacama Desert
4. The Big Cheese is in Bodalla, NSW
5. Jim Bancks created the much-loved Australian cartoon character, Ginger Meggs
6. The cane toad was introduced into Queensland in 1935 to try to control the cane beetle which attacked sugar cane crops.
7. The first Australian-born Governor-General was Sir Isaac Isaacs
8. The country which is the largest producer of natural rubber in the world is Malaysia
9. The famous words ‘Veni Vidi Vici’ were spoken by Julius Caesar, and mean: ‘I came, I saw, I conquered’.
10. Isaac M. Singer invented the first commercially successful sewing machine.

It’s Disco Time
(Run by Advance group and Junior S.R.C)

PRIMARY HALLOWEEN DISCO
When: Friday 17th October 2008
Where: Birchip tennis pavilion
Time: 5pm-7pm
Theme: Halloween
Entry: $3 in theme $4 out of theme.

Food and refreshments will be available for purchase on the night.

Photographs available - $3.00 each

Music and games!
See you there!
Teacher & year 9 student supervision

Birchip Playgroup Progressive Shopping Night

Birchip Playgroup - Progressive Shopping Night will be held on Friday 7th November 2008 beginning at the Birchip Cropping Group, with registration and complimentary drink between 6:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Shopping to start at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $12.00 and include supper, drinks and a mystery gift. All enquiries to Belinda Randall on 50 854235.

Nully Dung

Presents large sacks of high quality sheep manure

$5.00 delivered
Contact Patrick Ryan - 54935214
This is a VCAL project
KIDS CRICKET

The Birchip Cricket Club will again be conducting its Kids Cricket program for primary school aged children.

This program is generally available for children from prep to grade 3 or 4.

The sessions will be run by Mark Bowen with the assistance of other cricketers from the Birchip Cricket Club and begin next Thursday 23rd October 2008.

They will take place from 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Thursday nights at the George Cartwright Oval.

Cost will be $10.00 per child.

Any parents available to assist with activities or supervision will be greatly appreciated.

FUNNET & NETTA BOOKS

Does anyone have Funnet or Netta books at home that belong to the Birchip Watchem Netball Club. If so please return to Heather Hogan ASAP.

JUNIOR CRICKET

Junior cricket begins this Saturday morning 18th October 2008.

Notes were sent home regarding teams, rules and the draw.

This week’s game is: Border vs Chappell

Please note this is a two day game and will conclude next Saturday

Umpires for this game: J.Boyle & L.Hogan

(Gear will be delivered to ground this week)

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

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>Learn days of the week &amp; months. Practise counting backwards.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>General Knowledge questions, spelling list 26, Tables</td>
<td>24th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>‘Don’t call me Ishmael’, spelling 1st page</td>
<td>24th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Maths Mate, angles &amp; Polygons assignment</td>
<td>20th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Ancient Egypt research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Asian Pacific country profile</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>To the beat of the drum</td>
<td>24th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Bring a plastic bottle, and answer how much waste do you produce over one day?</td>
<td>20th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Outdoor Ed.</td>
<td>Mr Marchesi</td>
<td>Final preparation for overnight hike</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Crime &amp; Punish.</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Lamb to the Slaughter assignment</td>
<td>24th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Effects of globalisation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Further Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Notes book together</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Revise, revise, revise</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

HELP NEEDED

St Arnaud Dance Studio are in Desperate need to loan garments from the 60’s - day dresses, mens suits, dance dresses, skirts, petticoats etc….anything for our production of HAIRSPRAY. For information please contact Linda Grigg 0412 015 710
Come along and join us on Friday evening. Supper is supplied by the Parents’ Club and the VCAL students are cooking light snacks during the weekend.

There are over 300 paintings and photographs to view. You can be guaranteed that there is something for everyone.

This fundraiser allows us to purchase the latest books so please come along to support us.
Habits of Mind

Miss Heyden’s students are currently building a sculpture called “Tuesday”.

The students are applying many habit of mind to complete this project. They are creating, imagining and innovating ways to use their skills, thinking interdependently as they work together on the project, striving for accuracy with cutting and measuring and taking responsible risks while using the tools and equipment. The rest of the school community are thinking flexibly during the building stage and look forward to responding with wonderment and awe at its completion.