Forthcoming Events

October
Monday 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       Transition Day #4 (One Up Day)
Wednesday 19th    Parents and Friends Club Meeting
Wednesday 26th    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
Wednesday 17th    Student reports distributed
Thursday 18th     Last day for students
Friday 19th       Pupil Free Day

Farewell and good luck to our Year 12 students

Today we say good luck to our Year 12 students who formally finish classes to concentrate on studying for their forthcoming exams. The first exam (English) is next Friday 31st October 2008.

I encourage the Year 12 students to make the most of next week to study and prepare for their examinations. School teachers will be available for assistance.

Valedictory Dinner

As in previous years, last night’s Valedictory Dinner was another one to remember. I and everyone else present were so incredibly proud of our Year 12 students. The VCE Year 12 class presented themselves in a mature and polished way. Students speeches were professional, positive, some filled with emotion and happiness whilst at the same time acknowledging the contributions of their parents, staff and the wider community.

The meal, prepared by Trish Lehmann and the Parents’ Club was another example of excellence. Thanks to the many parents who donated and prepared food and worked in the kitchen. Thanks also to the 7 to Year 10 students who professionally served hors d’oeuvres and the meal; another excellent job.

Miss Eleisha Heyden presented an audiovisual display featuring each student and the group as a whole. We thank Miss Heyden and Mrs Kaye Haslam for the many hours spent scanning, editing and compiling this
audiovisual masterpiece for all present to enjoy.

Many thanks to Mr Christie, Miss Heyden and Year 12 students for their organization and presentation of the evening.

This morning our year 12 students feasted on a gourmet breakfast cooked for them by Mr Christie and Mr Whelan. Following the breakfast, the year 12 students entertained our staff and students at whole school assembly. Again the school community was incredibly proud of our young people as they performed, danced and dressed up for us.

Many congratulations to our year 12 students and all the very best for the coming examinations and the future.

**Important final class dates for senior students**

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

- **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.*
STAFF STUDENT NETBALL GRUDGE MATCH

Just in case some students, parents and others within the school community don’t know, the staff of course were victors in the inaugural staff-student netball grudge match. A photograph of the winning staff netball team is below.

INFORMATION EVENINGS

- Thanks to Mr Tyler and other staff for organizing an excellent year 7 transition information evening last Monday. Our school will welcome twenty students in year 7 in 2009.
- Thanks to Mr Christie and Mrs Barb Smith who organized and ran very informative sessions for 2009 VCE / VET / VCAL / ASBA students last Tuesday.

YEAR 6 CELEBRATION DINNER

The Year 6 Celebration Dinner will be held on Monday 8th December 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre. Please keep this night free on the calendar.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION EXCURSION

Following an awesome time spent hiking in the Grampians the second and final excursion is fast approaching. The Torquay experience involving cycling, surfing and swimming will be held on Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th November 2008. Thanks to Mr Marchesi and Miss Langley for their organization and guidance of our Middle Years Outdoor Education students.

2008 HOSPITAL FLOWER SHOW

On Friday 17th October 2008, primary students and their teachers attended the Hospital Flower Show, where they were excited to see a colourful display of their art, computer graphics, cooking, floral arrangements, and craft.

Many won prizes for their items, and these will be presented next week, by members of the Ladies’ Hospital Auxiliary.

The Flower Show attracted a record number of cookery items this year from primary students and the standard was extremely high. Over 450 items were displayed by the students in several categories.

The judges were high in their praise of the variety and creativity displayed in the art and craft, and computer generated pictures and cards.

Many parents attended and helped swell the crowd, also adding to the proceeds for the Hospital.

A special thank you to Mrs Amanda Reid and Mrs Janine Paley for their help in dismantling the display after the Show and also to Mr Roger Lehmann for bringing the larger items back to the School.

Thank you to all the Primary Staff for encouraging the children in their efforts to provide work of
such high quality and for help in creating such an interesting display. Comments from members of the crowd present, were very positive and made the long day and big effort very worthwhile. Many thanks to Mrs Maureen Donnellon for her overall organization and co-ordination of the day.

**TROPHY WINNERS FOR SCHOOL ART, CRAFT and COMPUTERS**


There were many other prize winners in the flowers, cooking and craft sections who also received trophies or cards for their work on show day.

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**Questacon to visit this Tuesday**

Questacon is a science circus who visit larger regional centres with many ‘hands on’ science activities. They will be at the Horsham Town Hall on Tuesday 28th October from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. We are extremely lucky to have the opportunity for them to visit our school on this day to present a ‘show’ to Prep to year 8 students. Woomelang and Culgoa Schools will be joining us. Prep to grade 4 will participate in a show for an hour from 10:00 a.m. and years 5 to 8 from 11:30 a.m.

For those considering attending the exhibit of ‘hands on activities’ in Horsham, your students will be admitted free of charge because they participated in the show at school.

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**News from Alpine School:**

Emily Noonan, Kirsten Geason and Hayden Collins are thoroughly enjoying their third week at Alpine School in Dinner Plain. The three students have been getting on well with students from the eight other schools participating at Alpine School including Rainbow, Hopetoun, Dromana, Cheltenham, Berwick, Daylesford, Sebastopol and Frankston. This week, students have undertaken a variety of activities, including white water rafting, off-road cycling, navigational activities around the camp area and Bridge Building. They have also successfully completed their first aid and safe food handling exams. Next week, they set off on a 14 km expedition for around. Days and nights have been jam packed with leadership skills and fun educational activities! Emily, Kirsten and Hayden have experienced white water rafting down the Mitta Mitta River which flows into Dartmouth Dam and eventually makes its way to the Murray. Emily reported that luckily there were no medical emergencies but there were many embarrassing falls and spills. Mr Russell Shem has contacted the school to inform us that Emily, Kirsten and Hayden are settling in well.

Our students would always welcome news from home via eMail.

Emily - emilyn@alpineschool.vic.edu.au
Kirsten - kirsteng@alpineschool.vic.edu.au
Hayden - haydenc@alpineschool.vic.edu.au

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Donald Agricultural and Pastoral Society Show

On Saturday 11th October 2008, primary students were able to travel to Donald with their families to see a large display of their art work on display at the Annual Donald Show. This is the first time that Birchip students have been invited to participate, and as Birchip no longer has an Agricultural Show, it made going to Donald more exciting as we weren’t quite sure where the art would be.

As well as the art display, a colouring competition was also held and all primary students participated. These entries were also displayed and made a bright and interesting addition to the Show. Even better, was the chance to win prizes. Winners’ names were displayed in The Buloke Times and are as follows:

Kinder-Prep  Rosie Hogan 1, Alana Woods 2, Jonty Randall 3.
Grade 1/2 Neril Garcia 1, Jesse Kemp 2, Bethany Emonson 3.
Grade 3/4 Leslee Cooper 1, Georgia Lee 2, Luana Baird 3.
Grade 5/6 Darci Tierney 1, Ty Buteux 2, Claudia Lee 3.

On Friday while we were at the Flower Show in Birchip, Mr James Goldsmith kindly returned all entries and display items, as well as a box of beautiful prizes, provided by the Show committee.

A very big thankyou to Mrs Kerryn Voigt, Show President and Mrs Nicole Nunn Show Secretary who contacted Mrs Donnellon several weeks ago to invite our children to participate in the Show and to the sponsors for providing such magnificent trophies. Again, many thanks to Mrs Maureen Donnellon for her willingness to be involved and her co-ordination and efforts involved in arranging Birchip’s display at the show.

Take a Break Holiday Program 2009 - At “Portland Bay Lodge,” Portland

The Take a Break Holiday camps program is an initiative of Uniting Church Camping and Wimmera Uniting Care. All food and accommodation is provided at no cost to the participants. The camps are held in school holiday periods with up to sixteen families/couples attending each camp. The holiday makers all come from drought affected communities, some are farmers or are working on farms, some are townies, some are business owners, some are retired farmers, some just need a break to rekindle their spirits.

The camps are not only for those in critical financial situations, they are for families and couples living in a drought affected communities who need a break and are hesitant to do so because of financial constraints. The Uniting Church recognises the value of spending time together as a family and wants to encourage families and couples to take time to maintain their family relationships. Life in rural Victoria during recent years has been very stressful for many, and this holiday program is an opportunity for families and couples in rural communities to “Take a Break”. The dates for the holidays are:

Arrive Wednesday 14th January 2009  Depart Sunday 18th January 2009
Arrive Monday 19th January 2009  Depart Friday 23rd January 2009

Application process:

- Applications will be received up to November 14th
- All applicants will be notified of the result of their application by November 25th

For further information about “Take a Break” call Norval on 53564241. If you need any further information or help with the application please contact Mrs Eileen Smith at the school.

Scholarships – ‘Carry On’ Grant

‘Carry On’ will assist children in years 7-12 to pay for their educational expenses for 2009.

To qualify you must be:
1. A former or serving member of the military forces who have recognised service in war or on Peace Keeping duties.
2. A former or serving member of the military who have been injured and whose need or distress has been caused directly by such service.
3. Spouse, widow, widower and dependent children of the above.

If you think you fit any of these categories, please contact Mrs Eileen Smith at the school.

VET Orientation Day - Horsham

All students considering to commence a VET course in 2009 must attend the VET Orientation Day. This day is on Wednesday 29th October 2008 and takes place at the RTO’s premises in Horsham from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. No VET bus will run as we encourage parents to attend with their sons and daughters. VET is quite a commitment for families and it is important for parents to be involved in the decision. Please contact Mrs Barb Smith if you have any queries.
MIPS TIPS – Assistance for life after school!

Once exams are over and you can focus on your next steps, remember that there is still a network of support to help you as you create your own life journey:

www.year12whatnext.gov.au or www.myfuture.edu.au

Further Study: Familiarize yourself with the services offered by each institution – there are heaps! Or go to www.goingtouni.gov.au

Scholarships: Google, Google, Google! There are so many different and obscure ones (such as a Coca-Cola scholarship for enrolled Agricultural Students who are involved with their local Agriculture and Pastoral Society – quick join up!)

Refer to recent careers and schools newsletters for sites or go to www.myfuture.edu.au look under awards and scholarships

Looking for work or an apprenticeship: Update your resume and register with one or more of the ‘employment’ agencies. Also remember that MANY jobs are NOT advertised – so utilize your personal networks. Think about doing a ‘pre-apprenticeship’ course.


North Central Local Learning & Employment network and Local Community Partnership (NCLLEN/LCP). We can continue to offer career assistance (including resume help) after you finish school; email us on llen5@bigpond.com phone 5491 1144. or search us on www.careeradviceaustralia.gov.au

…..and that’s just for starters!!

Lizzie Wilde – MIPS advisor

Homework Questions

Due 31st October 2008

1 What is the name of the famous botanist who travelled on board the ‘Endeavour’ with Captain James Cook?
2 Who invented Lego?
3 What is the approximate length of a viperfish?
4 ‘Rimfire’ won the 1948 Melbourne Cup. Who was his jockey, and where did he live at the time of winning?
5 Name the two smallest countries in the world and give their areas in kilometres.
6 What is the largest gland in the human body?
7 If you abscond from somewhere, what do you do?
8 Who killed Julius Caesar?
9 What name is given to a female donkey?
10 When Sir Donald Bradman went out to bat in his final cricket innings at The Oval, England in 1948, what was his Test batting average, and how many runs did he need to make, to have an average of 100?

Answers to last week:

1 The St Lawrence River flows from Lake Ontario.
2 If you went to Ginza you would be in Tokyo, Japan and you might be shopping, eating or drinking in a restaurant or coffee house, visiting an art gallery, night club or other entertainment.
3 If you barter, you buy and sell using goods instead of money.
4 The Roman God of the Sea was Neptune.
5 Humans have approximately 100,000-150,000 hairs on their head.
6 A labyrinth is a maze.
7 Australia won 46 medals at the Beijing Olympics.
8 Australia won a total of 79 medals at the Paralympic Games in Beijing.
9 Wombat young leave the pouch after 7-10 months.
10 The main enemies of quokkas are feral cats and dingoes.

@. Nully Dung

Presents Wheat Bags full of High Quality Sheep Manure $5 delivered Contact Patrick On 54935214 A VCAL Project
Advance Disco

Last Friday the Year 9 Advance students aided by the Junior SRC, Miss Digby, Mr Knights and Mrs Kelly ran a P - 6 disco to raise money for the non-profit organisation Oxfam. The night was a great overall success; all the kids had fun. The activities we ran included the limbo, piñatas, a dance competition and best dressed. Thanks must go to everyone who helped, and to everyone for coming and having fun.
Birchip Junior Cricket
The Birchip Junior Cricket season commenced last weekend with Chappell playing Border. Chappell batted and posted a score of 70. The game continues this week when Border will try to beat this score to win.

Highlights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birchip</th>
<th>Border</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luke Lovett 38 retired</td>
<td>David Casey - 2/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Hogan 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Umpires this weekend
Leon Hogan and James Boyle

Reminders
Junior cricket training: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the George Cartwright Oval.
Kids Cricket: for Primary aged kids Prep - Gr 3 or 4
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the George Cartwright Oval.
The program will run for 7 - 8 weeks and cost $10:00

Birchip Community Leisure Centre Missing Kitchen Items
If you have items to be returned please do so ASAP. There are some pots missing which will now need to be replaced at a cost. Please leave items at kitchen door if the building is closed. There are quite a number of un-named plates and bowls in the kitchen.

Birchip Archery Club
Next shoot: Sunday 26th October 2008 at 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the south end of Tchum Lake. Lunch and refreshments available at a small cost. Everyone welcome. For further information contact Bob Darby on 5492 2898 or Wendy Buteux on 0429 798 866.

Birchip Squash
Squash finals are on next week
Semi Finals are on Monday 27th October 2008 at 6:00 p.m. and the grand-final is on Wednesday.

Birchip Quarter Horse Club
Invites you to the:
Melbourne Cup Eve Virtual Races
Monday November 3rd at Birchip Leisure Centre
Doors open at 7pm – Race 1 at 8pm
2008 Members - Free
Others - $15

Includes a spit roast meal, Drinks at bar prices, Fashions on the Field with four sections: Best Hat, Stallion of the Night, Filly of the Night (u30) and Mare of the Night (30+), and fun novelty racing competitions throughout the evening including Melbourne Cup Sweeps & Virtual Races on the big screen. Lots of fun to be had & prizes to win!

Bookings are required for catering purposes by Friday October 31st
See Margaret O’Keefe at Birchip Cropping Group or Email: margaret@bcg.org.au or Phone: 5492 2787

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.

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
Pro Skater
Sid Tapia
Warracknabeal
Skate Park
3pm
Saturday 25th October
All Welcome
For more information please ring Nicole
James 5399 0503

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.
## 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 words, sounds, days, weeks, counting forwards and backwards</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Taylor</td>
<td>Practise spelling words 100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>List 26 Spelling test, tables General Knowledge questions</td>
<td>30th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Finish Egypt assignment</td>
<td>31 Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Maths Mate</td>
<td>27th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Miss Heyden</td>
<td>Bollard design assignment</td>
<td>29th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Work on Ishmael assignment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Hockey questions</td>
<td>28th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>To the beat of the drum assignment</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Mask assignment</td>
<td>30th Oct</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Outdoor Ed.</td>
<td>Mr Marchesi</td>
<td>Grampians assignment</td>
<td>27th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Crime &amp; Punish</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Violence in people essay</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Types of experiences</td>
<td>30th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Multinational company study</td>
<td>27th Oct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Food habits assignment</td>
<td>29th Oct</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!**

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**Like to play for the Waves**

Loads of fun

**Western Waves Under 14, Under 16 & U18 trials for this season. Girls wanting to try out are to attend one of the listed trials. For more information please contact Regional Manager Stephen Field on 0417343331 or email sfield@cricketvictoria.com.au**

- November 7: Pedrina Park Hamilton 4-5.30pm.
- November 10: Henty Pk Portland 4-5.30pm.
- November 11: Reid Oval Warrnambool 4-5.30pm.
- November 12: Horsham Junior College 4-5.30pm.
- November 14: Horsham Junior College 5-7 pm.
- November 15: Pedrina Park Hamilton 5-7 pm.

Many girls are surprised at how well they do when trying out for the Waves. You don't need to have played cricket before.

If you like Super 8’s then give it a go.
Advance
Halloween Disco Pictures

Name: ......................................................... Grade: .......

Thumbnail images of the photos can be seen in the Gallery. To order photos please write the name of the photographs you want in the spaces provided:

One sheet of three photographs will cost $3.

Please attach money to sheet and return to office by Friday 31st October.

Thank you for supporting our project, supporting Oxfam.
Habits of Mind
Working Interdependently and Persisting.

Today, students from Years 5 and 6 journeyed to Charlton to participate in the Central Murray Environment Festival, presented by the Central Murray Regional Waste Management Group.

Prior to this event students were required to work interdependently to produce a large mural depicting an aspect of the environment. Our students decided on wetlands, and as a team, brainstormed to produce ideas for the mural. They used only one period of class time and then gave up their lunchtimes to work on the project, persisting until it was completed.

The result is pictured below, with the proud artists.