Forthcoming Events

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
Friday 13th Year 9/10 Adaptations Science class to Naracoorte Caves
Thursday 19th School Council Meeting
Kanga Cricket - Donald
Thursday 19th → Flight excursion to Melbourne Airport and Hobart
Friday 20th
Monday 23rd → Year 11 examinations
Friday 27th
Monday 23rd Primary Swimming Program commences
Friday 27th Last day for year 11 students
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
Thursday 17th Student reports distributed from 3:15pm
Friday 18th Last official day of school for 2009

January
Wednesday 27th → Staff return for 3 day professional development
Friday 29th

February
Monday 1st Students return
Thursday 4th Prep students commence school

Good Luck and best wishes to our Year 12 students

I trust our year 12 students have been studying hard in readiness for their examinations. Exams commence tomorrow with the English exam.

Congratulations to our Fairfax Festival entrants

Five of our students took part in the Fairfax Festival on Thursday evening in the Swan Hill town hall. Nick Bales, Karleigh Weir, Emily Noonan, Evelyn Reid and Emily Smith and their teacher, Miss Elisha Johnston have been working towards creating a lively performance.

The Fairfax Festival involves students creating original theatre works within parameters. Each performance must include a chair, diamonds and a hero and the production must not exceed ten minutes.

During the planning process, the class was assisted in refining their ideas by members of the Fairfax Festival production team.

Many thanks to Elisha Johnson for her continued excellent efforts in supporting drama within our curriculum and developing this passion with our students.
Mathematics, Science and English Competitions

This year many of our students participated in the three national competitions in Mathematics, Science and English. The results were extremely pleasing. Forty six certificates of credit were gained along with seven distinctions while Jessica Bidstrup gained a high distinction in English. Thank you to Mrs Debra Emonson for her co-ordination of the three competitions at our school.

Australian Maths, English and Science credit and distinction award winners

Top row: Hayden Collins, Ethan Cooper, Conor Hogan, Darcie Cooper, Stephanie McClelland, Emma Hogan, Laura Lee, Ronald Turner, Jordan Galway.
Second row: Ashlee Tierney, Elise Bales, Georgia Lee, Dammy Owa, Jessamy Bennett, Sophie Hogan, Joseph Reid, Hayley Hogan.
Third row: Brittany Hogan, Claudia Lee, Leslee Cooper, Tori Hogan, Sophie Reid, Lea Gould, Mason Bland, Tom Hogan, Laura Phelan, Bethany Emonson, Tahlia Noonan
Front row: James Paley, Jessica Bidstrup, Nakita Turner, Madeline Paley

Year 6 → 7 Transition Program
Dates to keep in mind

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"

Pedestrian Traffic From Campbell Street Trade Training Land

As of Monday 2nd November 2009 the gravel walking track will be closed to students and the public due to building commencing on the Trade Training Centre. Could all pedestrians please use the footpath on the outside of the block. Any question phone Cameron Whelan.

Year 7 English

Reminder to forward $15 text book payment to office please
Bushfire Season

Our school recently undertook an extensive bushfire safety audit required by the DEECD, to assess our own safety and the safety of all people at the location in the event of a bushfire. The DEECD has acknowledged that school closures will again occur during this summer period, and there is a very detailed criteria which may determine whether or not your school will be required to close. Birchip P-12 School has been rated in the “low risk” category, which ultimately means that school closures for us on days of extreme weather conditions are unlikely, however, the potential of a school closure does remain possible. I would like to remind parents that a school closure is a department directive, not a decision made by me or any other member of the school community. Whilst it is highly unlikely that a school closure will affect us this summer, we must remain aware that the possibility does still exist.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Recommended Action</th>
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<tr>
<td>CODE RED (Catastrophic)</td>
<td>If you live in a bushfire prone area the safest option is to leave the night before, or early in the morning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EXTREME</td>
<td>The safest option is to leave early in the day if you live in a bushfire prone area and your Bushfire Survival Plan is to leave. Only stay if your home is well prepared, well constructed and you can actively defend it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEVERE</td>
<td>The safest option is to leave early in the day if you live in a bushfire prone area and your Bushfire Survival Plan is to leave. Only stay if your home is well prepared and you can actively defend it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>VERY HIGH</td>
<td>If you live in a bushfire prone area and your Bushfire Survival Plan is to leave, the safest option is to leave at the beginning of a day.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>Check your Bushfire Survival Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW–MODERATE</td>
<td>Check your Bushfire Survival Plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Madagascar

In general, Miss Eleisha Heyden & Miss Elisha Johnson will conduct rehearsals each Tuesday from 2:35 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. and lunchtimes on Wednesday and Thursdays.

Tuesday 1st December 2009
All primary students to the hall during their allotted music lessons

Tuesday 8th December 2009
Full dress rehearsal from 10:00 a.m.

Thursday 10th December
Matinee Performance at 1:30 p.m.

Friday 11th December 2009
Evening performance commencing at 8:00 p.m.

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.
2010 Japanese Tour Information Night

The 2010 Japanese Tour Information Night will be held on Wednesday 4th November 2009. Students and parents who are interested in this proposed, even if you only considering, are warmly invited to attend this information night.

Staff Recreation Room on Wednesday 4th November, 2010 at 7.30 pm

Agenda:
1. Purpose of the trip
2. Sister school
3. Cost
4. Pre-tour schedule
5. Post tour
6. Questions

Maths is Marvellous – You can count on it!

Play Dough (measurement)
- 2 cups plain flour
- 1 cup salt
- 4 tablespoons Cream of Tartar
- 2 tablespoons cooking oil
- 2 cups water
- Food colouring

Mix all dry ingredients in a saucepan then add the water and oil. Stir over medium heat for 3 – 5 minutes or until mixture congeals. (Adult to do this) Enjoy playing with play dough. Store in an air tight container.

Like to play for the Waves

Western Waves Under 14, Under 16 & Under 18 trials for this season.

Girls wanting to try out are to attend Horsham - Coghlan Park on 18th November 2009 from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

For more information please contact Regional Manager Stephen Field 0417 342 332 or Vince Aston 0401 640 399 or email sfield@cricketvictoria.com.au

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 8s then give it a go.
Grade Five and Six Homework Questions –
due Friday 6th November 2009

1. In cricket how far in front of the stumps is the popping crease?
2. What does a surveyor measure with a theodolite?
3. If a myriad of fans arrived for a football match, how many would there be?
4. When written in words, what is the only vowel not used in the numbers from 1 – 10?
5. So up to what number, in word form, must you count before the missing vowel is finally used?
6. What were the Christian names of the Indian leader, Mahatma Gandhi?
7. In poetry writing what are quatrains?
8. Basically, what is added to iron to make stainless steel?
9. Name the three continents that the Tropic of Capricorn passes through?
10. Australian Edwin Flack contested three running events at the 1896 Olympics. What were they?

Answers to last week’s homework questions
which were due Friday 30th October 2009

1. What is an ingle? Fireplace or open fire
2. Who sang the title song in the 1967 movie To Sir with Love? Lulu
3. What colour are Welsh Springer spaniels? Brown and white
4. In which country is the Bay of Pigs? Cuba
5. What are vivariums? a place where live animals are kept under natural conditions for study
6. In which sport was Ty Cobb one of the all time greats? Baseball
7. What are seisms more commonly called? Earthquakes
8. In children, croup is inflammation of what? The voice box (larynx) and windpipe (trachea)
9. Cassia bark yields an inferior kind of which spice? Cinnamon
10. With which of the arts would you associate Australian Norma Redpath? Sculpting

Year 7 Spelling Words

1 Peaceful 2 Memories 3 Soldiers 4 Innocence 5 Miracle 6 Desertion 7 Cowardice 8 Morale 9 Despicable 10 Colonel

Super 8s Cricket

To encourage greater participation in sport, sports coordinator, Mr Andrew Sayle entered Year 9 and 10 students into the boys and girls Super 8 cricket competition that was staged in Horsham. Both teams were really enthusiastic and held practise sessions at lunch time, prior to the event. Super 8 Cricket is a specifically modified game where everyone is guaranteed a bat and a bowl with plenty of high scores and action in the field. Both teams did very well achieving plenty of success and displaying good cricket skills.

It was the first time many of the girls had played competitive cricket and they adapted well to the modified rules easily and won all their three matches. However, they lost the championship on a count back. The boys enjoyed the day and won two of their three matches but this was not enough to secure them a placing.

Girls

Game 1: 151 defeated Goroke 139
Game 2: 140 defeated St Brigid’s
Game 3: 152 defeated Dimboola 91
Grand Final: 111 lost to Kaniva 145

Boys

Game 1: 133 lost to Warracknabeal 155
Game 2: 168 defeated St Arnaud 93
Game 3: 135 defeated Hopetoun 81

Thank you to Trevor Emonson for managing and umpiring the girls’ games. Thank you to Andrew Sayle for his management and organization of Birchip’s entries.

The Year 7 and 8 students will have the opportunity to play super 8s, again in Horsham later in November.

Birchip Junior Cricket

Results from game 1 (Indoor Cricket Game)
Ponting 54 defeated Johnson 33

Ponitng
Royce Bennett & Riley Sayle 22 runs. Jack Lee & James Paley 22 runs
Jackson Sayle 5 wickets and Elise Bales 4 wickets

Johnson
Brenten Delaney & Joseph Reid 30 runs. Brenten Delaney 3 wickets

Tomorrow, Saturday 31st October 2009
The second day of a two day game (school oval).
Johnson versus Clarke
Clarke requires 99 runs to defeat Johnson
Umpires: Leon Hogan & Chris Hogan Please be ready to play by 8:45 a.m.

Results of this game will appear in next week’s newsletter.
WORLD TEACHERS DAY 2009

The UNESCO-declared World Teachers’ Day was celebrated today, Friday 30th October 2009. The day was established to draw attention to the important role of teachers in building a better future for the world’s children. The day is celebrated in over 100 countries. It is our chance to say ‘thank you’ to teachers and show them how much they are valued.

At the recent Valedictory Dinner, we heard 19 students reflect on the contribution of their teachers over the past 13 years of their school life. As parents we have the opportunity to have the greatest teaching role in our children’s lives. After us, teachers spend the most time with our children and have a great opportunity to impact their lives, both through what they teach and by who they are.

So today, on behalf of all parents at this school I would like to thank all our teachers for the many hours they spend with our children. Our school is fortunate to have teachers who know our children in the classroom, and often in the community. Many contribute outside the classroom as well as inside. Many spend hours far above the call of duty to enhance our children’s educational experience. We appreciate and value the work they do, and have entrusted them with our most valued possessions … our children.

Wendy Watts
Birchip P-12 School, School Council President

“Teach the children so that it will not be necessary to teach the adults.” Abraham Lincoln

What the teacher is, is more important than what he teaches.” Soren Kierkegaard

“The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called truth.” Dan Rather

Teachers who inspire know that teaching is like cultivating a garden, and those who would have nothing to do with thorns must never attempt to gather flowers. -- Author Unknown

“Education’s purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.” Malcolm Forbes

Teaching kids to count is fine, but teaching them what counts is best.-- Bob Talbert

“I like a teacher who gives you something to take home to think about besides homework.”
Lilly Tomlin

“Without teacher appreciation there can’t be any student progress.” Theresa Grimm


Being a great teacher is very challenging and rewarding work. You have in your hands the power to influence and mould a student's mind. You have within you the capacity to instil in the child a love for learning, to keep an open mind and to keep questioning. You have the ability to promote confidence, stir thinking and awaken dreams…
## Homework!

<table>
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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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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Count by tens - starting at any number</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 4/5        | Class   | Emonson/Weir  | Homework questions  
Homework during the week, timetable, reading                             | 6th Nov.       |
| 5/6        | Class   | Mr Welton     | General Knowledge questions, tables & list words  
Star Award - completed by mid November.  
Oral presentation  
Australia in the 80’s                             | 6th Nov.  
18th Nov.  
25th Nov. |
| 7          | English | Mrs Smith     | Private Peaceful - First set of questions good copy  
and spelling                                                            | 6th Nov.       |
| 7          | General Studies | Tyler/Johnson | Egyptian Studies                                                          | 5th Nov.       |
| 7          | Maths   | Miss Meehan   | Ex 7.3                                                                  | 2nd Nov.       |
| 8          | English | Miss Hicks    | Green Angel                                                              | 4th Nov.       |
| 8          | Geography | Mr Delaney    | Fiji task                                                               | 3rd Nov.       |
| 8          | Science | Miss Meehan   | Study for test                                                            | 4th Nov.       |
| 9          | English | Miss Hicks    | Writing folio                                                            |                |
| 9/10       | Chem/Physics | Miss Barclay | Bring a box                                                              |                |
| 10         | Food/Science | Meehan/Smith | Work on project                                                          | ongoing        |
| 11         | Economics | Mr Delaney    | Child Slavery                                                            | 2nd Nov.       |

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

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**BIRCHIP PLAYGROUP**

**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

*Could all tickets be finalized by Wednesday 4th November please*
I had the privilege of attending the BCG “Adapting to Change” forum on Wednesday evening. The keynote speaker after dinner was Li Cunxin. Under Chairman Mao’s regime in communist China, Li was chosen by Madame Mao’s cultural advisors to become a student at the Beijing Dance Academy. He was ten years old. Li became one of the best male dancers in the world.

Li walked us through the story of his life. The following are some extracts of Li’s talk that I feel reflect how his Habits of Mind contributed to his success.

Li was born in 1961 into utter poverty. It made him very stubborn and he dared to dream.

“I worked hard to achieve my far away dreams”

“Life changing moments don’t come with bells and whistles”

“For the first couple of years I hated ballet”

“Then I got a new teacher who imparted passion. He tried to find out what made me tick. He provided encouragement, nurturing and challenges”

“I trained six days a week from dawn to dusk”

“Mainly the daily grind required dedication, hard work and passion”

“Over the next seven years I worked my way from the worst to the top”

“One success leads to others”

“If you want to continue being successful – outside challenges will knock you down. What do you do? You have no choice. Dig deep, find your passion, don’t lose your vision, courage or dream.”

Li encouraged us to –

“Make our life as successful, exciting and fulfilled as we can possibly make it”

“Write the story of our lives, be the author of our page and then begin to live our page.”

The audience responded with wonderment and awe!!

HABITS OF MIND

Li Cunxin

Thinking Interdependently

Thinking about your Thinking

Applying Past Knowledge

Thinking & Communicating with Clarity & Precision

Continuous Learning

Creating, Imagining & Innovating

Gathering Data through all the Senses

Questioning & Posing Problems

Finding Humour

Thinking Flexibly

Responsive with Wonderment & Awe

Managing Impulsivity

Persistence

Listening with Empathy & Understanding

Taking Responsible Risks