Forthcoming Events

**November**
- Monday 9th evening: VCE, VCAL, VET, ASBA Information for current year 10 students
- Monday 9th → Thursday 12th: Grade 5 Camp to Lake Cullulleraine
- Tuesday 10th: Physical Resources Meeting
- Friday 13th: Year 9/10 Adaptations Science class to Naracoorte Caves
- Thursday 19th: School Council Meeting
- Thursday 19th → Flight excursion to Melbourne Airport and Hobart
- Monday 23rd → Friday 27th: Year 11 examinations
- Monday 23rd: Primary Swimming Program commences
- Friday 27th: Last day for year 11 students
- Monday 30th → Friday 4th Dec: Year 11 curriculum planning meetings
- Monday 30th → Friday 4th Dec: Year 9 & 11 examinations

**December**
- Monday 7th: Grade 6 Celebration Dinner
- Tuesday 8th: One up Day: Kinder → Prep, Grade 6 → Year 7, Year 11 → Year 12
- 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: Students return

**February**
- Monday 1st: Prep students commence school

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**English Online Interviews**
The English Online Interviews have been completed by Mrs Kelly, Mrs Welton and Mrs Taylor for all children in years Prep – Two. Thank you to Mrs Kelly, Mrs Welton and Mrs Taylor for the extra workload this has caused. This will provide valuable data to teachers to inform their planning for the future in the areas of reading, writing and Speaking & Listening.

**Life is constantly changing:**
This week the fence around the school has been dismantled, ready for a bright and cheerful new fence to take its place in the coming week. Room 9, which is the room at the north-western end of the original school building, is being ripped apart, ready for a complete refurbishment. The building of the new trade centre is in full swing on the block adjacent to the school and will be functioning for the start of the 2010 school year.

At the rear end of the Technology Wing, a refrigerated water tap has been installed enabling students to always have cold water available. Our Library is almost complete – new computers will complete the upgrade.

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**Grade 5 Camp to Lake Cullulleraine - Monday 9th – Thursday 12th November 2009**
The Grade students and Mrs Emonson and Mr Richmond will depart for Lake Cullulleraine this Monday for the annual Grade 5 school camp. A report on the camp will appear in next week’s newsletter.
**Madagascar**

Students in the primary and secondary sections of the school are really excited and rehearsing in earnest for the production of Madagascar. Producer, Eleisha Heyden is busy adjusting the script, sewing costumes, assisting students learning their lines and organising the numerous details that all go towards making a high quality production.

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.

We are looking for a huge (70cm+) toy in the family of marine life. E.g., alligator, fish, shark.

Please contact Miss Johnson or Miss Heyden at the school if you can assist.

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**P – 6 Swimming Program – Helpers Wanted**

The P – 6 Swimming Program will commence on Monday, 23rd November 2009, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Swimming will be held on Mondays and some Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays each week until 11th December 2009. If you are able to help, on all or some of these days, please see Greg or Janine Welton as soon as possible. Please note that due to safety issues, preschool children are not permitted to attend with parent helpers.

Janine Welton
P-6 Swimming Coordinator
AUSTSWIM Teacher

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During the week performers in ‘Fair Swap’ were awarded the: **Commitment & Development Award**

*For embracing a combination of performance techniques, development of performance energy and dynamic, imaginative and resourceful ideas, and outstanding commitment to the Festival process.*

The director of the Fairfax Festival will visit the school next week to deliver our prize.

Congratulations to Miss Elisha Johnson, Nicholas Bales, Emily Noonan, Emily Smith, Karleigh Weir and Evelyn Reid

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**Preps learn about the life cycle of frogs:**

Earlier in the year, Mrs Kelly’s class learned first-hand how chickens break out of their shells and develop and now in springtime the youngsters are learning how tadpoles develop into fully formed frogs.
Introduction of the Victorian Student Number

Our school is working with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to allocate a Victorian Student Number (VSN) to each student at the school.

You will see the VSN appear on student report cards, enrolment confirmations, and exit confirmations.

If you want to know more about the VSN please see http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/vsn/overview.htm

The brochure below will provide some information on the VSN.

What is the Victorian Student Number (VSN)?

The VSN is a student identification number that will be assigned by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to all students in government and non-government schools, and students in Vocational Education and Training Institutions. The number, which is unique to each student, will be used as a key identifier on a student’s school records, and will remain with the student throughout his or her education, until reaching the age of 25. The VSN is nine digits long, randomly assigned, and tied to identifying information about the student (name, gender, date of birth).

Why is the VSN being introduced?

The introduction of the VSN will provide the capability to accurately detect patterns of student movement through, and departure from, the Victorian education and training system. It will greatly improve the collection and analysis of timely and accurate data about education in Victoria.

Why do students need to have a VSN?

In a large and diverse education system such as Victoria’s, a standard, centrally assigned student number is the best way to identify individual students. Using a reference number to collect and store data helps avoid the errors and confusion when names are misspelled, changed, or mistaken for other similar names.

Most Australian states either have already or are intending to introduce a student number, and the practice is common in many other countries, including New Zealand and Canada.

Where will the VSN appear?

The VSN will appear:
- on common student communications, such as enrolment confirmations and report cards, and
- on applications made by the student for enrolment in new schools or institutions.

Why does the Government need information on students?

The Department collects information to track improvements made to the education system, to identify areas that require further improvement, and to analyse trends and identify future needs. The VSN will simply improve the accuracy, reliability and completeness of this information, providing a better basis for assessing needs and developing policies to meet them. The improved quality of information will also result in more accurate reporting to the community on the state’s education system.

Will the privacy of personal information be protected?

Yes, security is built in to the VSN system and the number itself. The student records maintained in the VSN system contain minimal information about each student—name, date of birth, and gender together with the date of admission and date of exit from each school attended.

The VSN system is not a collection point for other student data such as academic achievements and outcomes, health or welfare information. Because the number is randomly assigned, personal information about the student cannot be inferred from it.

Access to the data in the VSN system is strictly limited, and the database itself will be maintained in a fully secure environment. The information will be used only for educational purposes and the ways in which the VSN can be used are prescribed by legislation. The legislation also includes criminal offences for use of the data for other than the prescribed purposes. Commonwealth and State Privacy Principles have also been used to guide the design of the VSN system.

Are parents and students entitled to see the information stored on the VSN system about the student?

Yes. A student (and the student’s parents, if the student is under the age of 18) may request a copy of the information held in the VSN system relating to that student.

What do schools think of the new system?

Schools, other education organisations and education experts have been regularly consulted during the development and design of the VSN. Care has been taken to minimise the administrative demands that the VSN places on schools. There has been broad support from the education sector in general, for the introduction of the VSN.

How can I find out more?

Visit www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/vsn/parents.htm or send an email question to victorian.student.register@edumail.vic.gov.au
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.

Maths is Marvellous – You can count on it!
Sherbet (measurement)
Mix together:
1 tablespoon icing sugar
½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
½ teaspoon citric acid
1 heaped teaspoon jelly crystals
Stir until mixed completely
Eat (in moderation) and enjoy

Birchip Junior Cricket
Results Game 2
Clarke 99 defeated Johnson 98
Clarke:
Harrison Christie 33
Matthew Rickard 18
Jake Hogan 16
Sean Hogan 9 retired
Seamus Lowry 3/5

Johnson:
Brenten Delaney 31 retired
Jacob Gleeson 19
Rowley Walsh 10
Joseph Reid 2/3
Jacob Gleeson 2/13
Gus Walsh 2/4

Game 4: 7th November 2009 and 14th November 2009
Clarke versus Ponting
Umpires: John Bales and Peter Doran (2 weeks)

Grade Five and Six Homework Questions – due Friday 13th November 2009
1. Eboracum is the Roman name for which British city?
2. What are Scandinavian jarls?
3. Kolinsky is the fur from which creature?
4. The gladiator Spartacus hailed from which town?
5. How many kangaroos are on the $1 coin?
6. What are profiteroles?
7. What is an Aboriginal mogo?
8. Who wrote The Shiralee?
9. Name Victoria’s floral emblem.
10. What is the capital of Uganda?

Answers to last week’s homework questions which were due Friday 6th November 2009
1. In cricket how far in front of the stumps is the popping crease? 1.22m
2. What does a surveyor measure with a theodolite? Horizontal and vertical angles
3. If a myriad of fans arrived for a football match, how many would there be? 10 000
4. When written in words, what is the only vowel not used in the numbers from 1 – 10? A
5. So up to what number, in word form, must you count before the missing vowel is finally used? One hundred and one.
6. What were the Christian names of the Indian leader, Mahatma Gandhi? Mohandas Karamchand
7. In poetry writing what are quatrains? Four line stanzas.
8. Basically, what is added to iron to make stainless steel? Chromium.
9. Name the three continents that the Tropic of Capricorn passes through? Africa, Australia and South America.
10. Australian Edwin Flack contested three running events at the 1896 Olympics. What were they? 800m, 1500m and marathon.

Girls Cricket
Girls wishing to practice their cricketing skills can train with the Malie Murray Heat girls team each Sunday at the Swan Hill Recreation Reserve from 11am – 1pm. For more information on these sessions contact Andrew Farlie on 0408 321877 or Mel Caffrey on 0408 052845
Fundraising for the Royal Children’s Hospital

A group of primary children led by Caitlin Bidstrup of grade two, are making various bookmarks to sell to raise money for the Royal Children’s Hospital. I congratulate these students on a wonderful self-initiated project to benefit others less fortunate. We certainly do have leaders in the making here. The bookmarks are selling for .50c and bags of lollies also for $1.00.

MAISON BLAND – GOLF SUCCESS!

Congratulations to Mason on his selection for the VGA Shootout in Melbourne in January 2010.

Congratulations to Mr Travis Knights on his award of the Golden Whistle

‘For his consistent performance throughout the year, and an umpire who has improved the most during the season throughout the Mallee and North Central Football Leagues.

WANTED – BIRCHIP SWIMMING POOL KIOSK MANAGER

Food Handlers Certificate needed.
Enquiries – Anthony Judd 5492 2200 or Roger Blencowe.

YEAR 7 SPELLING WORDS

1 Dismiss  2 confiscate  3 resentment  4 all right  5 marriage  6 resounding  7 circuit  8 Tormentor  9 deliberate 10 Communal 11 stagnant

FULL LIFEGUARD COURSE

Contact Birchip Business and Learning Centre
Telephone: 5492 735 Facsimile: 5492 2863
eMail: birchipblc@bigpond.com
Birchip Tennis

Ballapur team: to play at Donald. 12 noon start for the ladies and 12.30pm for the men.

C. Lee
B. Gleeson
J. Goldsmith
H. O'Keefe
J. Smith
J. Moloney
Emergencies: K. Walder, M. O'Keefe, T. Walder, K. Davidson
Any problems contact Chris Lee

Secondary Students Basketball Competition

The secondary students’ basketball competition begins on Monday 9th November 2009.
If you don’t have a draw please contact Harry Christie.

FOR SALE

Pea Straw – small square bales. Good for garden mulch $5.00 per bale.
Contact Danny 0417 311 990 or Tony 0427 501 830

FOR SALE

94 Fairmont Ghia Falcon on gas. Good condition.
$2000.00 – ONO
Contact Danny 0417 311 990

TURF FOR SALE

- Sir Walter (Buffalo)
- Kikuyu
- Conquest (Couch)
If interested, telephone 0429 550 536

East Wimmera Health Service

Junior Food and Domestic Services Assistant

Birchip Campus
Casual Position

Applications are invited for the above position at the Birchip Campus of East Wimmera Health Service. This Junior position within our Food and Domestic Services Division will assist with the preparation and provision of evening meals to patients and residents through two hour shifts from 4.00pm to 6.00pm, amongst other tasks in the domestic division.

Further information, including a Position Description, can be obtained from Danny Stone, Campus Manager at Birchip Campus on (03) 5477 7121.

Applications in writing, including the name of two referees, are to be forwarded to Ms Janet Feeny, Human Resources Manager, St Arnaud Campus, P. O. Box 31, St Arnaud VIC 3478 by Wednesday 18th November, 2009.

Appointment to this position is subject to a satisfactory criminal record check.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Kathy Huett
Chief Executive Officer

Sunscreen is provided by the Parents’ Club to Primary classrooms and is also available in the office for student use.

School bags (Secondary - $52.00, Middle School - $48.50, Primary - $35.00) and sunhats ($8.00) are available from the office.
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>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Count backwards from any number between 30 &amp; 100. Count by tens starting at any number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Weir/Emonson</td>
<td>Homework questions</td>
<td>13th Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Weekly Homework</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading 30 minutes / Timetable</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Spelling, Private Peaceful assignment</td>
<td>12th Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Meehan/Barclay</td>
<td>Ex 7.5 all due</td>
<td>9th Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Fiji population profile questions</td>
<td>10th Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Complete your final verdict</td>
<td>9th Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Fashion Affair</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Characteristics and properties of fabrics</td>
<td>12th Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Health research</td>
<td>11th Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Work on your research task</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Mr Sayle</td>
<td>Types of experiences</td>
<td>13th Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Globalization - Environment task</td>
<td>10th Nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>General Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Ex 11F</td>
<td>10th Nov.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

Second Hand Books

A reminder to Year 11 & 12 students - if you wish to sell your VCE text books, just bring your books to the office and ensure the price you’re asking is attached.

Also, 2010 VCE students, ensure your English booklists and money is returned to the office as soon as possible.
HABITS OF MIND

Resume

Full Name – James Henry (Harry) Rickard

Education – Harry started school at Curyo at the age of 4½. He was sent to school early to keep it open. In 1925 Harry attended the Curyo West State School at Kelly’s Plain which was on his father’s property. Harry even remembers the school number 3236. Harry received his Merit certificate at Curyo West and remained at school for another year. In 1933 when he was 13 he went to boarding school at Caulfield Grammar. He gained his intermediate certificate and earned his colours for swimming, athletics and football. Harry returned to the farm in 1935.

Employment History – Except for the time away during the war Harry spent his working life on the farm. He enlisted in the Army in 1942 in Melbourne and spent 2 years in Western Australia and 2 years in the south west pacific (Bougainville and New Guinea). He moved to town in 1966 when his son Barry was married.

Interests – Harry always had a keen interest in sport. He played football for Caulfield Grammar and then for Curyo, enjoyed tennis and more recently bowls. He was Cub Master for 10-12 years and played an important role in the RSL and Legacy. He attends meetings of the Birchip Historical Society Inc.

How has using the Habits of Mind contributed to your life pattern?

- Harry remembers a childhood of taking responsible risks. At thirteen he had to kill a sheep as his dad was too busy. He walked quite a way to a neighbour’s house to get the horse and gig to school.
- Harry enjoys listening with understanding and empathy – he confesses to never being a good reader but he loved to talk and listen.
- He reflects that remaining open to continuous learning is “me to a tee – still learning”. I enjoy learning about the weather and history.

Can you recall a time when being good at one or more of the habits contributed to your life in a positive way?

“When we were soldering you needed to be accurate and precise or you wouldn’t have got home.” The other thing was it helped to be raised during the depression years. You didn’t care so much what you ate and learnt to put up with things a bit more.

What Habit of Mind resonates mostly with you?

“Applying past knowledge – being brought up on the farm you could feed yourself – we had eggs, butter, meat, milk and a garden with fruit and vegies in it”. We were self sufficient. Harry also said finding humour – “I always say the best tonic is laughing and smiling”.

Which Habit of Mind has had the greatest effect on you meeting life’s challenges?

Persisting – I always work at things until I get them right. I have been guest speaker at many Australia Day Ceremonies and 25 times at Anzac Day ceremonies, from Robinvale to Maribyrnong.

Harry was quite strong in his view that there is no such thing as the good ol’ days. “No day is as good as today.” We have freedom, plenty of food and clean water.

Harry is keen to question and problem solve. There is no such word as can’t. With all the technology available we can do lots of things. He reflected that it’s been said that they can’t bring water from the north of Australia to the south. “Why can’t they?” Harry asked. They built the Snowy Scheme and the Great Ocean Road with picks and shovels!! Why can’t they?

Thank you Harry