Forthcoming Events

**November**

Monday 7th  VCE Further Maths 2 & Psychology Exams
Tuesday 8th  VCE Maths Methods 1 & H&HD Exams
Wednesday 9th  VCE D&T, Maths Methods 2 & Aust. History Exams
Thursday 10th  VCE Specialist Maths 1 Exam
Friday 11th  VCE Ag & Hort, Specialist Maths 2 & Accounting Exams
Monday 14th  VCE Chemistry & Physical Education Exams
Tuesday 15th  VCE Studio Arts & Physics Exams
Wednesday 16th VCE Certificate II (Hospitality) Exam
Thursday 17th  VCE IT Software Development Exam
Friday 18th  VCE Business Management Exam
Friday 18th  → Year 9 ADVANCE - ‘Relay for Life’ - Ararat
Saturday 19th  →
Monday 21st  VCE Certificate II (Engineering) Exam
Monday 21st  → Year 11 Examinations
Friday 25th  →
Friday 25th  Last day for Year 11 students
Tuesday 28th  → Summer Sport for Year 7→9
Monday 28th  → Year 11 Planning Meetings
Friday 2nd  Dec
Wednesday 30th  P6 Swimming programme commences
Lions ‘Youth of the Year’ Contest

**December**

Thursday 1st  Japanese Trivia Day - Cohuna
Thursday 1st  → Years 9 & 10 Examinations
Wednesday 7th  →
Monday 5th  Grade 6 Celebration Dinner
Tuesday 6th  One-Up Day for Kinder→Prep, Grade 6→Yr 7, Yr 11→Yr 12
Saturday 10th  → Year 9 Driver Education - Charlton
Wednesday 17th  → Year 10 Planning Meetings
Friday 24th  →

2011 Year Twelve Examinations

Yesterday was the first of many year twelve VCE ‘end of year’ examinations. We continue to wish our students good luck as they continue their study and sit for these examinations.

Don’t forget the Habits of Mind Competition. There are fantastic money prizes for students. Entries close Friday 25 November 2011. That’s only three(3) weeks away.

Habits of Mind Competition

Students are invited to enter the Habits of Mind ICT competition. Guidelines are found below, with the competition being split into two divisions; Lower School (Years 4 to 6) and Middle School (Years 7 to 10). Prizes for the winners of both divisions will be available.

Lower School:

This competition is open to Lower School students only. Students are invited to submit a presentation video of up to 5 minutes in duration. Entries will be judged based on creativity, originality, and the effective use of ICT in the presentation.

Middle School:

This competition is open to Middle School students only. Students are invited to submit a presentation video of up to 10 minutes in duration. Entries will be judged based on creativity, originality, and the effective use of ICT in the presentation.

Prizes for the winners of both divisions will be available.
**Birchip Hospital Flower Show 2011**

Once again the Birchip Hospital Flower Show was held successfully, and I know how excited the children were to be a part of it. Their art work looked so bright and cheerful and added to the carnival atmosphere of the occasion.

All together, there were 488 articles of art, craft, cooking, photography and flowers entered by the primary classes. It was a major feat to display all entries. Several craft items were entered by secondary students too. Fortunately with the help of Mrs Debra Emonson and Marcia and Peter Mallia, all articles were able to be on show. Thanks also to Miss Rosie Howard, Mrs Kelli-Ann Sheahan, Mrs Janine Welton and Mrs Merrilynn Kelly for the entries from their classes too. Our own judge many hours to make her final decisions, because the quality and creativity is so good. Well done students!

Of course at the end of the afternoon comes the unenviable task of taking down all the exhibits and packing them away carefully, making sure the prize tickets are attached. Special thanks to Mrs Amanda Reid for her sterling work, and also to Joseph, Darcy and Bridie Reid who helped with the packing and return of items to school.

Prize roses - Congratulations too must be conveyed to our gardener Dave Valentine who managed to prune the school roses at just the right time this year, and was the envy of all at the Flower Show with the beautiful red roses, one of which won the coveted “Champion Rose”. I was particularly pleased the school won this year, as I picked the roses very early on the morning of the show and obviously picked the right ones. So many visitors to the school admire the roses, some of which are very old and some varieties cannot be bought any more. Well done Dave.

**Article by Mrs Maureen Donnellon**

Many thanks to Mrs Maureen Donnellon for her continued excellent efforts with our children’s work, getting their work ready for the Flower Show and then displaying and packing their works back up again. It is a huge job but one which many children and their families appreciate. Thank you Maureen!
France Belgium – Part 2

It certainly pays to have friends who have local knowledge. This was the case in Fromelles where our group was met by a very generous Pierre Seillier who took the eight Birchipians around the local cemeteries, historical sites and museum.

The highlight of the day was a visit to the local primary school. When we arrived at midday, the school was so quiet one could have heard a proverbial pin drop. The group kept wondering why this primary school was so quiet and were told that as French children start school at the age of two and a half out of respect for the little ones, the older children and teachers keep quiet when the children are having their afternoon sleep.

When the children woke, it was back to the normal buzz of a school. The positives of the system were that children learnt to read, work in groups, cooperate and accept discipline at a much younger age.

Our group was welcomed by grade 5-6 students. Eileen Smith gave a presentation in French about Birchip and Australia and the students were amazed at: the size of our paddocks, the fact that we have fences around them, our native pests- mice, foxes and locusts. They laughed at how cheap our land is as in France a hectare costs $9000. They also thought our machinery was very inexpensive and the principal couldn’t believe that our students have their own computers and that our principal actually has a secretary!

To express our gratitude we gave the children; pens, flags, dvds and of course, an Aussie Rules football. The football was an outstanding success in the yard as Cameron Whelan (we told them he was a champion) put the students through a series of drills. However, the children said that they would have to research the rules on the internet. Jessamy Bennett conducted a hockey session and on asphalt the game became quite vigorous.

In return, the Fromelles children had a surprise for us- they sang in descant, the two verses of the Australian Anthem. It certainly touched our hearts.

Then it was off to the medieval walled city of Ypres. But the pace stayed frenetic- it was up at six to see the sun rise over Polygon Wood Cemetery and walking through the cemetery in the grey of dawn was especially moving. Then back to barracks; a shower and off to the Saturday market where locals did their shopping. We had a quick bite to eat and then visited Cloth Hall Museum. The group commented that this was the best museum they had ever visited as it was impossible for one not to come out without having shed a tear.

The Menin Gate ceremony was the highlight of the Ypres stay. There was a sense of; ceremony, sadness for the young lives lost, thoughts that it could have been my brother, the soldiers were unbelievably brave and at the same time, what purpose did this carnage serve. The girls presented to the fanfare of three buglers and an Irish bagpiper. However, a Belgium choir who had composed their own rendition of ‘Flanders’ Fields,’ added to the respectful atmosphere of the evening. Eileen met with the composer of the piece and it was said they were both in tears and hugging each other.

Our very informative guide, André took us to the advanced medical stations that were cramped, unventilated concrete boxes. He also spoke about the ironies of war and that the chemist who invented gas bombs was actually once a Jew who was later responsible for manufacturing Zyklon B that was used extensively in the concentration camps throughout Nazi occupied Europe.

André also pointed out, that Australian bunkers were known for their slap-dash method of construction (we could even see grenades in the concrete) whilst the Germans constructed Romanesque sophisticated bunkers. Funnily, the Australian bunkers were kept together with wooden sleepers!
**New Bus telephone Contacts for parents**

O’Connors have new bus telephone contact numbers for emergency purposes. These new telephones give guaranteed coverage for the extent of the bus route.

- **CUYRO BUS:** John Wegner – Mobile - 0408 741 988
- **BEULAH BUS:** Peter Garley – Satellite - 0147 144 058

Please keep these contact numbers in a suitable location and also on your mobile telephones for emergency purposes.

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**Lions Youth of the Year**

*Wednesday 30 November 2011*

Nine year eleven students have indicated their willingness to be involved in the 2011 Lions Youth of the Year Contest. Students include: Claire Boyle, Joshua Chamberlin, Ethan Cooper, Brenten Delaney, Emma Forrester, Bridgette Hogan, Laura Lee, Sophie Noonan, Emily Smith

Judges this year will be Julie McClelland, Sandie Richmond and Paul Lowry.

As there is a large group of young people involved, the impromptu questions will take place prior to dinner in front of a small audience.

The five minute prepared speeches will take place following the Birchip Lions Club weekly dinner.

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**Japanese Calligraphy Contest**

Last Term, students enjoyed Japanese calligraphy in class. Some students work was sent to the Victorian Calligraphy Contest. Congratulations to Ben Milne (Grade 5) who won Third Prize in Years 5&6 level competition. Ben received a certificate and a medal for his efforts.

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**Maths Is Marvellous - You Can Count on it!**

Allow children to read a variety of maps. Distance, location, direction and scale can be explored. Locate towns or sites of interest using grid references.

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**Gnurad Gundidj - Term One, 2012**

There is an information meeting at Hopetoun secondary College next Tuesday 8 November 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

**Relevant dates to remember:**

- Starting date is Sunday 5 February 2012.
- Parent Visiting Weekend is 3rd and 4th March 2012.
- Community Learning Project Presentation day is Wednesday 28th March 2012.
- Finishing date is Saturday 31st March 2012.
Student Attendance –
end of year arrangements

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 25 November 2011 and then must attend compulsory course planning meetings during Monday 28 November 2011 – Friday 2 December 2011. 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 9 December 2011.

Students up to and including Year 9 are required to attend school until the end of the school year on Thursday, 22 December 2011.

Reports to all students will be distributed on Thursday 21 December 2011.

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

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Fishing Rod Holders for Sale

Tim Phelan and Jarryd Hogan are constructing quality fishing rod holders for members of the community in Entrepreneurial Studies at the Birchip P-12 School. They are single rod holders and made from steel. They will also be coated in a silver spray.

Cost: $10.00 each or 2 for $18.00

Contacts:
Tim Phelan: 53 902 441
Jarryd Hogan: 54 935 253
Or speak to Mr Jarrod Tyler at the school.
Prep BBQ & Grade 1 & 2 Sleepover

First we played some games. Next we had sausages and hamburgers. Then we had an icy pole. Finally we went home.

Lachlan Randall

First we played games. Next we had a Barbecue. Then we got into our pyjamas and watched a movie. Finally we stopped the movie and went to bed.

Tadhg Lowry

First we got into our pyjamas. Next we went to the toilet. Then we watched a movie. Finally we went to sleep.

Sam O’Donnell

First we played some games. Next we had a barbecue. Then we had a story. Finally we went home.

Tate Knight

First we went to school. Next we played some games and some stories and we had some sausages and some hamburgers too. Finally we went home.

Bridie Reid

First we went to school. Next we played some games and some stories and we had some sausages and some hamburgers too. Finally we went home.

Tania Brooks
Photographs wanted – for “The Year that was – 2011”

As in previous years, I am starting to compile a collection of photographs of people, celebrations, awards and occasions within the Birchip area for the 2011 year. Photographs of children born this year, people who have died during the year, people who have celebrated milestones, special birthdays and celebrations will be most welcome. I am also looking for photographs of organizations, their achievements, awards and activities along with those who arrived in and departed from Birchip during the year.

Please eMail your photographs to jr@birchip.vic.edu.au or drop them into the school office where they can be scanned and returned to you immediately.

Birchip Junior Cricket

The Junior Cricket Competition started last Saturday with an Indoor Game. Watson 92 defeated Hussey 36

Watson: Harrison Christie and Joseph Reid 41 runs, Connor Buteux and Jacob Christie 27 runs, Jacob Christie 3 wickets, Matthew Chamberlin 4 wickets,

Hussey: Riley Doran and Jake Gleeson 27 runs, Jake Gleeson 4 wickets, Jack Lee 3 wickets, Khiana Brooks 3 wickets, Bill Lee 2 wickets

This week is the first of the full games to be played at the George Cartwright Oval

Hussey versus Clarke

Umpires are Andrew Lee and Scott Randall.

The whole game will be played Saturday morning (both innings) so it is important that players are at the ground by 8:45 a.m.

Any players not available should notify their captains ASAP.

School Lunch Orders from Georgie’s Café

As of Thursday 1st December 2011, all orders will be on a cash basis only with orders in bags. There will be NO exceptions

You are requested to settle all accounts by Friday 16th December 2011 to avoid charges.
Make a Wish Day!

It is believed that a wish will come true if the numbers on a clock are all the same, like 11:11.

Quite amazingly the date next Friday will be 11.11.11.

To commemorate this special occasion the School Board will be holding a casual day where students are encouraged to come to school dressed as their wish!

IN THEME- $1  OUT OF THEME- $2

All the money raised will be donated to the Make-A-Wish foundation

★ So get ready to make a wish at 11:11 on 11.11.11 ★
Dear Ladies,

Many thanks for the excellent presentation of food and the great waitresses & workers at the Cropping Group Expo dinner. The letter of appreciation & thanks from Margaret O’Keefe from the Birchip Cropping Group was full of praise for how well organized the catering was on this occasion & the sum of $1,783.96 each was received by both the BWN & the Uniting Church from the Birchip Cropping Group demonstrating how important it is to continue to support catering events in our community allowing any profits made to go back into the community.

The next function is Carly Sharp’s wedding at Tchum Lake on Saturday 5 November 20011. We plan to prepare salads & cook the meat at the Birchip P-12 School and hence the different venues on the roster.

Could staff working at the Lake please wear Black & White.

Hoping you are once again all willing to assist and if unable to please arrange a swap, or failing this please contact Louise Lee on 54 922 576 or Frances Lee on 54 922 358.

Deliver food to school between 1.30pm - 3pm

Cold Savouries – 3 Dozen Each

Chicken Balls in Chilli Sauce - M Lee, K Walder, S Flowers
Rice Paper Rolls – B Smith, C Cook, S Christie, S Kemp
Mushroom en Coute – S Donnellon, R Colbert, D Thompson
Club Sandwiches – E McCallum, B O’Donnell, C McKenzie, J Coffey
Bocconcini Tomato Skewers – S Chamberlain, B Doran
Salmon Pikelets – B Horton, L Lee, N Hogan, F Sayle
Bruschetta - B Ryan, C Brown, D Ferrier, C Bales, B Wright
Cucumber & Salmon Bites – J Hogan, F Best

Four (4) Litres of Salad

Potato – D Reid, B Horton
Noodle – L Cook, D Botheras
Own Choice – P Juergens, H Barber, K Bales, S Connelly, R Bell, R Ferrier, M Rickard, J Noonan, J Rymer, R Owa, R Jones, E Reid.

Snow pea & Tomato – F Lee
Chang Noodle – H Hogan
Pumpkin, Feta & Pinenuts – L Boyle

To Work At School – 1.30pm to 3.30pm

N Hogan, H Barber, Val Lee, P Juergens, D Reid, M Nicholls, E McCallum, N Mclean, L Cook, G Rickard, B Horton, K Bales, J Smith.

To Work At School – 5.00pm to 7.00pm

B Smith, B Ryan, L Boyle, S Chamberlain, D Ferrier, K Walsh.

To Work At Lake – 5.00pm to 9.00pm

G'day Kids! It’s Vic here, and I’m here to tell you about my learn-to-swim programs running this summer 2012!

I want YOU to join me in my fun and friendly aquatic education and water safety programs running at all pools or beaches near you this summer. This program has been offered to Victorian kids by Aquatics and Recreation Victoria since 1976!

This year, the cost of the program has been subsidised by the Victorian State Government, making it ONLY $25 for 5 x 40 minute sessions running from Monday to Friday.

There is a program running at the **Birchip Swimming Pool on January 9th-13th 2012 (week 1)**.

For further information about the program, please visit our website at [www.vicswim.com.au](http://www.vicswim.com.au) for a full list of venues and times.

And don’t worry parents, enrolling in the program is as easy as 1, 2, 3!

Visit [www.vicswim.com.au](http://www.vicswim.com.au) for a venue near you
Follow the prompts to enrol your child/children and proceed with payment via Credit Card
Log out and check email for confirmation of enrolment

Or you can enrol over the phone by simply calling 03 9271 3800! It’s that easy!

Enrolments are open now, so be quick to secure a place in the VICSWIM Summer Kidz program with me!

I hope to see you soon, have fun!

Vic.
## Homework!

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<th>Year level</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Homework</th>
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<tr>
<td>P/1</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>Homework Log News this week: Bring a picture/photo to tell class about.</td>
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<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Welton</td>
<td>Spelling - Practise telling time</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>Oral presentations starting Monday Homework questions</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
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All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!
Habits of Mind

Thanks to Mrs Janine Welton

Grade 1/2 applied a variety of Habits of Mind recently when they made a place value kit with icy pole sticks. The students made their kit by bundling icy pole sticks into tens then the tens into hundreds and finally the hundreds into thousands.

**Wonderment and Awe** - WOW! How many sticks do we have? Let’s find out. Using Prior Knowledge – We thought about how we could count quickly by 10s.

**Striving for Accuracy**
We had to count carefully to get the right amount.

**Persistence**
It was really tricky for some of us to bundle up the icy pole sticks but we persisted and we were successful.

**Thinking Interdependently**
We worked together to make ones, tens, hundreds and thousands.

**Continuous learning**
Our place value kit can now be used in class for lots of mathematics problems.

**Managing Impulsivity**
Responding with Wonderment & Awe

**Applying Past Knowledge**
Listening with Empathy & Understanding

**Thinking about your Thinking**
Taking Responsible Risks

**Thinking & Communicating with Clarity & Precision**
Creating, Imagining & Innovating

**Gathering Data through all the Senses**
Finding Humour

**Continuous Learning**

Thinking Flexibly

Thinking Interdependently

Persistence