**Forthcoming Events**

**November**

- **Monday 17th**: Primary swimming program commences
- **Monday 17th → Friday 21st**: Kool Skools CD launch in Charlton
- **Tuesday 18th**: Primary Swimming Program Commences
- **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
- **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
- **Wednesday 10th**: Summer Showcase – End of Year Christmas celebration
- **Thursday 11th**: School Council Meeting
- **Monday 15th**: VCE results published
- **Tuesday 16th**: Presentation Night
- **Wednesday 17th**: Student reports distributed
- **Thursday 18th**: Last day for students
- **Friday 19th**: Pupil Free Day

**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
- **Wednesday 10th**: Summer Showcase – End of Year Christmas celebration
- **Thursday 11th**: School Council Meeting
- **Monday 15th**: VCE results published
- **Tuesday 16th**: Presentation Night
- **Wednesday 17th**: Student reports distributed
- **Thursday 18th**: Last day for students
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**School Values**

Thanks to the school VALUES team for their thoughtful discussion last Monday. Representatives from year 6 – year 12, along with Parents’ Club, School Council and staff came together to discuss the initial suggestions proposed by the various school community stakeholders – students, staff, Parents’ Club and School Council.

The chosen values which will be presented to school council for final approval are:

- **RESPECT**
- **RESPONSIBILITY**
- **UNDERSTANDING**
- **TRUSTWORTHY**
- **INTEGRITY**
- **AIM HIGH**

**School Council Meeting Next Week**

School Council Meeting
8:00 p.m. Tuesday 20th November 2008

At this meeting, school councillors will adopt our strategic plan for the next four years.

**P - 6 Swimming Program – Helpers wanted**

The P - 6 Swimming Program will commence on Tuesday 17th November 2008 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Swimming will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week until 12th December 2008. If you are able to help, on all or some of these days, please contact 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
Prep and Year 5 Buddies

Yesterday Mrs Kelly and six Year 5 students visited the Birchip Pre-school so that the students could meet their 2009 buddies. It was an extremely positive experience for all as the children played and listened to stories. The visit concluded with a spontaneous Puppet Show which amused and entertained many of their new little friends. Next Thursday the entire Year 5 group will visit.

Kanga Cricket

Yesterday senior primary students travelled to Donald to take part in a Kanga Cricket Carnival run by Cricket Victoria. We entered a boys’ team and a girls’ team and they performed very well in hot and windy conditions. The boys, coached by Mr Tyler, won two of their three preliminary games and narrowly missed the final. Highlights included a 37 run partnership between Jacob Christie and Nikko Garcia and some sensational sixes being hit by Royce Bennett.

The girls also won two of their initial matches and qualified for the final where they played Wedderburn. The final was a seesawing affair with Birchip dominating early and claiming wickets, mainly due to the powerful opening combination of Marnie Lehmann and Claudia Lee. Wedderburn then steadied and made a respectable score of 77. When Birchip batted we were a bit slow to get going but only lost two wickets for the innings. Hayley Hogan contributed some valuable runs late in the order. Although we scored less than Wedderburn by taking 5 wickets to their two Birchip was victorious by nine runs.
This qualifies the girls for the next stage of the competition which will be held in Hamilton on November 25.

Thanks to Mr Welton and Mr Tyler for their organization and coaching of the teams.

**News from Dinner Plain – Alpine School**

This week we began on the ‘home straight’ of our Alpine School Journey.

Five weeks went so quickly and before we knew it, it was parent visiting weekend. After an eagerly awaited weekend, we came back to TAS for the final four weeks of our journeys. The last four weeks we have here are expected to go really quickly and we have so much to do, such as our passports, Community Learning Projects, Presentations of Learning and Community Learning Project Presentations. This week, some highlights were having David Tatnall visiting for some photography classes, where we went outside to do some photography around the Alpine areas. The duck production session was also a hit, where we ran hypothetical ducking businesses in our school teams.

*The Birchip P-12 School Alpine School Team 2008 – Hayden Collins, Kirsten Geason & Emily Noonan*

**EARLY WARNING MEETINGS**

Early Warning Meetings were held last Monday with staff discussing the progress of all students from years prep – ten. Home group and classroom teachers will follow up with students and may also contact parents if necessary.

**Athletics Coaching**

Tuesday morning saw all of year 7 and 8 running, jumping and throwing when we were visited by two coaches from Athletics Victoria.

Students participated in all of the events covered by the school curriculum and during our athletics carnivals.

They clearly enjoyed the experience and it was pleasing to see our students responding well to the feedback and technical assistance provided.

Thanks also to Rhonda Allen from the Mallee Sports Assembly for organising the coaches to tour the local area. Thanks to Mr Sayle for his organization.

**Rock Eisteddfod DVD**

Last chance to order your Rock Eisteddfod DVD. Only $10. Orders to be place at the office, along with payment.

**Outdoor Education**

On Monday and Tuesday of this week the year 9/10 Outdoor Education class headed to the coast for their final adventure activities for the year. Ably lead by Mr Marchesi and Ms Langley and their guides from Southern Exposure Eco-adventure Sports, the group started off with a 20 km off-road mountain bike ride.

The students set a cracking pace through the majestic ironbark bush just outside Anglesea. With the pounding surf of the southern ocean as their backdrop the group weaved their way down challenging bush tracks, jumping logs and sliding around hairpin turns, before finally reaching Torquay and a well earned rest.

On the second day the group headed to Anglesea where local surfing legend ‘Brownie’ gave them some expert tips on how to ride a wave. Everyone was spotted standing up at least once. For many it was their first time on a board. A couple of students even showed great promise for taking up a surfer’s lifestyle!

Many thanks to Mr Marchesi for his organization of the adventure and to Miss Langley for accompanying the group.
MIPS TIPS – Interested in the Australian Defence Forces?

Did you know that there are around 350 different jobs in the Australian Defence Forces? Apprenticeships, degree courses, the ADF gap year and the new Defence Technical Scholarships – all offer an extensive range of opportunities. A Defence Technical Scholarship (DTS) is a fantastic opportunity for Year 11 and 12 students, intending to pursue an ADF technical trade career after completing Year 12. The DTS rewards technically-savvy students for staying on at school and enrolling in specific subjects (your School must be registered for you to be able to register for a DTS). For a taste of the action visit: www.defencejobs.gov.au/education or speak to your Careers Teacher or MIPS Coordinator.

Homework Questions
Due 21st November 2008

1. What is the world’s largest amphibian?
2. On a ship, what is a binnacle used for?
3. What country does the island of Corsica belong to?

4. How many stars are estimated to be in the Milky Way?
5. What type of plant features on Mexico’s flag?
6. How many eyes did Cyclops have?
7. In which ocean are the Maldives?
8. Christine McVie was once a member of which group?
9. In Iceland, what is the Althing?
10. If an animal is vermivorous, what does it eat?

Answers to last weeks questions
1. Czechoslovakia was dissolved to form Slovakia and Czech Republic.
2. Australia’s first parliament met in Melbourne.
4. Lieutenant Zachary Hicks was the first to sight the Australian mainland.
5. Peter Lalor led the Eureka revolt.
6. The last letter of the Greek alphabet is Omega.
7. The Kalahari Desert is located in Africa.
8. The first actor to win an Oscar was Emil Jannings.
9. Alessandro Volto invented the battery.

P/1, 1/2 & 4/5
Christmas Cards

Orders close
Friday 28th November

Collection Monday
1st December

Orders Available From the Birchip P-12 School Office.
Pack of 10 with envelopes. $5.
PARENTS’ CLUB MEETING
Wednesday 19th November 2008 at 7:30 p.m.
Staff Recreation Room - Birchip P12 School

AGENDA
1. Apologies
2. Principal’s report – John Richmond.
3. Minutes of meeting September 17th 2008
4. Business arising from minutes
5. Treasurers report – Deanne Botheras
6. Correspondence – Ros McCallum
7. School Council report – Cathy Bales
8. Catering report – Trish Lehmann
9. General Business
   a. School values
   b. Go for your life grants
   c. Meeting attendance
   d. Other

Upcoming Courses

FIRST AID FOR MUMS AND DADS WITH CHILDREN 0 – 12 years
Sunday 16th November from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
$5.00 (includes a first aid kit)

DIGITAL CAMERAS
Learn to use your own digital camera efficiently and ensure you get good quality photos
Sunday 16th November from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. - $31.00

4 WEEKS OF ADULT SWIM SQUAD -
Wednesday nights from 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
with Connelly Barclay.

FOOD HANDLERS CERTIFICATE
Thursday 27th November  9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
$62.00

DECORATE A CHRISTMAS CAKE
Saturday 22nd and 29th November from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.
Learn the art of decorating a Christmas cake with Lesley Cook. If you don’t have a cake, Sharps Bakery will make a 6 inch round Christmas cake for $17.00. Round cakes are easier to decorate.

Junior Cricket
This week’s game is the start of the 3rd game:
Chappell (Nick Bales) versus Waugh (Hugh O’Keefe)

Umpires are John Bales and Kevin Delaney.
Please be at ground by 8:30 a.m. ready to start by 8:45 p.m.

Last week’s washed out game (second day of Waugh vs Border) will hopefully be played next Thursday 20th November starting straight after school and this will be in place of junior cricket training.

East Wimmera Health Service
Junior Food and Domestic Services Assistants
Permanent and Casual Positions available at Birchip

Applications are invited to fill permanent and casual Junior positions within Food and Domestic Services at Birchip campuses. Junior staff assist with the preparation and provision of evening meals to patients and residents, amongst other tasks within domestic services, through two hour rostered shifts from 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm each day.

Further information, including a Position Description, can be obtained from Jackie or Leonie at Reception at the Birchip Campus.

Applications in writing, including the name of two referees, are to be addressed and forwarded to Ms. Janet Feeny, East Wimmera Health Service, P. O. Box 31, St. Arnaud VIC 3478 by 28th November 2008

An Equal Opportunity Employer
R. J. Bulmer
Chief Executive Officer

School Bags & Hats
A new supply of green bucket hats has arrived. They are light weight poly cotton with a drawstring for adjustments. $6.00 each.

Primary back packs are available for $35.00 and larger backpacks suitable for secondary students are available for $45.00 & $50.00.

There are still a few of the older style school carry bag available.

Donations of assorted buttons and ice cream containers with lids would be greatly appreciated for the Secondary Art Class
### Haywire Bus Timetable - 2008
#### Saturday 22nd November

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUS ‘A’</th>
<th>Charlton - Donald</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stop</td>
<td>Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlton</td>
<td>8:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald</td>
<td>8:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUS ‘B’</th>
<th>Boort - Donald</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stop</td>
<td>Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boort</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wycheproof</td>
<td>8:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald</td>
<td>8:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUS ‘C’</th>
<th>Woomelang - Donald</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stop</td>
<td>Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woomelang</td>
<td>6:15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea Lake</td>
<td>6:45pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berriwillock</td>
<td>7:15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birchip</td>
<td>8:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watchem</td>
<td>8:15pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donald</td>
<td>8:40pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: All buses will leave the Donald Hall at **12:30am** and follow the same route home.

For more information contact Marc - 0429867897
## 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>Practise shapes, count backwards from any number between 0-100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Taylor</td>
<td>Practise spelling words 1-20 (Yr 1) and 1-100 (Yr 2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>Star Award&lt;br&gt;List words&lt;br&gt;Oral Presentations&lt;br&gt;General Knowledge</td>
<td>End of Nov&lt;br&gt;Ongoing&lt;br&gt;17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Nov&lt;br&gt;21 Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>General Studies</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Complete outstanding work</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Maths Mate</td>
<td>17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Practise parts of speech for test</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Advance</td>
<td>Mr Knights</td>
<td>Advance story</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Finish 2 essays</td>
<td>18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Ex 7.4 Box plots</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Get up to date</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Study!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Work through activities ‘before the exam activities’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Years</td>
<td></td>
<td>15 minutes reading a day!</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Wanted to Buy**

Cute and cuddly kitten  
Ring Noeline Hogan 5498 1261
Habits of Mind

Planning for a Mindful future

Mrs Barb Smith and I have been attending the ‘Mindful by Design’ conference to lead school change with ‘Habits of Mind’ in Melbourne over the past three days. We have been incredibly fortunate to have world leader and guru in ‘Habits of Mind’ Art Costa from the United States along with James Anderson to facilitate the conference. Over the past 18 months our school has taken up the initiative to become a ‘Mindful School’ based on the 16 ‘Habits of Mind’ of highly successful people. We continue to infuse and embed this initiative into all curriculum documents, information books, assessment, reports, reviews, learning goals and the school’s strategic plan. Our classrooms are changing so that students will be more able to engage, explore, explain, elaborate and evaluate. We were also fortunate to share our experiences to date and hear other school teams from all over Australia, New Zealand and Singapore. Mrs Merrilyn Kelly, Mr Greg Welton and Miss Elisha Johnson continued their ‘Habits of Mind’ journey when they attended their last professional development day on Tuesday. They too were fortunate to hear world expert Art Costa.