Only 4 weeks to go!

The school year is coming to an abrupt halt. We have only four weeks left but so much still to do. And NO, we are not winding down – we are actually winding UP!

The year 11 exams are next week with year 9 & 10 exams the week after. Primary students commence their swimming program on Monday 23rd November 2009.

Teachers are also writing tests and examinations and commencing the arduous task of report writing for another year.

The Grade 6 celebration Dinner will be held on Monday 7th December 2009 – this is always an excellent night of reflection and celebration for our young primary graduates.

Madagascar performances will be held on Thursday 10th December (matinee) & Friday 11th December (evening).

Presentation Night is on Tuesday 15th December 2009. This is a night of celebration and congratulations to many students who have achieved success during the year. Please keep this night free.

VCE Unit 3/4 Exams

The VCE exams concluded for Birchip students during the week. We eagerly await the outcomes of these with results being communicated to students on Monday 14th December 2009.
Year 9, 10 & 11 end of unit examinations

All students in years 9, 10 and 11 will be required to sit formal end of unit examinations similar to the June examination period. It is important that students prepare well for these examinations and ensure all work required has been submitted for assessment.

Please refer to the Year 9, 10 & 11 examination timetable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Mon 23 Nov</th>
<th>Tues 24 Nov</th>
<th>Weds 25 Nov</th>
<th>Thurs 26 Nov</th>
<th>Fri 27 Nov</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 11 Exams</strong></td>
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<td>General Maths</td>
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<td>Maths Methods</td>
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<td>Adaptations</td>
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<td>Graphics Art</td>
<td>Food Science</td>
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<td>Health</td>
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Advance

Over the past few weeks the Year 9 Advance class have been completing their community projects. Various students have been involved in activities with the Birchip Kindergarten and the Birchip RSL. Students have spent time painting pictures and playing games with the kindergarten children. All involved had a wonderful time, which culminated in a Teddy Bears’ Picnic. The children thoroughly enjoyed the activities presented to them by the Year 9 students. Another group of students have also been redesigning the front garden at the RSL. They have added many drought tolerant plants which they are hoping will survive the heat! The new garden currently does look amazing. The students would to thank the RSL and the Kindergarten for all their assistance in these activities.
Grade 5 Lake Cullulleraine Report

Bright and early Monday morning 14 grade 5 students set off to Lake Cullulleraine with Mr Richmond and Mrs Emonson for a warm but action-packed week.

First stop was Hattah - Kulkyne National Park where we walked along the shores of Lake Hattah and climbed the Warpil Lookout to be rewarded with a great view.

Then it was on to Mildura, making sure we left any fruit behind due to fruit fly restrictions. After lunch in Henderson Park we headed to the Art Centre. Everyone was impressed by the exhibitions we saw and discussed which works they liked and why. Our guided visit of the magnificent Rio Vista House left us in awe of its splendour.

Before heading to Lake Cullulleraine we visited the Information Centre to examine the historical and informative displays. Once at the camp we knew we were in for a great time, especially with Rhonda, the camp cook, looking after us. That night we were entertained by Red Faces skits performed by different groups.

Damien, from ‘Wild Side Outdoors’, came to the camp on Tuesday and instructed us in bike riding, kayaking and archery. Everyone enjoyed these tasks and no one complained when they had to capsize their kayaks and be rescued.

In the evening we went on a small drive, had a lake walk and played charades and other games.

On Wednesday we were away from the camp most of the day. First we visited Lock 9 then we went to the Millewa Pioneer Museum at Meringur. This was a great open air museum ran entirely by volunteers and unlike many other museums everything was readily assessable. Following this we went on to Werrimull P-12 School and had lunch and combined activities with grades 3 - 6. Werrimull only have 2 grade 5 students and 33 in the primary section all up. Mr Richmond and Mr Tyler exchanged places here. It was also great to meet up with Mr Jamie Russell who is a leading teacher at Werrimull. Jamie completed year 12 at Birchip in 1997. Back at camp we had a warm swim and after tea headed to Mildura to play mini golf under lights. Tiger Woods is very safe based on our scores. After golf we had a brief trip into New South Wales to make our camp an interstate one and then called into McDonalds for a soft serve to help celebrate Shae’s birthday.

Thursday morning saw us packing up to head home. On our way back into Mildura we called into the airport where we witnessed two aeroplanes taking off. Luck continued to be with us as at Lock 11 as we watched a paddle steamer pass through the lock.

A game of ten pin bowling followed and we all appreciated the air conditioning and envied the schools there for their PASE lesson. No lane records were broken but we all had fun.

We then farewelled Mildura and headed to Red Cliffs to visit the Military Museum which houses exhibits from the Boer War to now.

Following a brief look at ‘Big Lizzie’ we visited the Carringbush Glass Gallery where Eunice explained to us about lead lighting and glass fusing. Everyone enjoyed the wonderful pieces she had in her gallery and the cool drinks they provided us.

Last stop was Blackburn Park, Ouyen, home of the ‘Black Stump’, where we had a quick break before setting off to Birchip tired and weary but still telling jokes and taking pictures. Everyone had their own favourite activities and plenty of stories to tell but all agreed that we had found a great place for future grade 5 camps.

Thank you to all the children for their fantastic attitude and willingness to be a part of everything. We did have a warm week but we were so busy enjoying ourselves that we didn’t really notice it. Again many thanks to Mrs Emonson for her amazing efforts.
Congratulations Daniel Watts

Congratulations to Daniel Watts on being awarded a 2010 University of Ballarat Year 12 $2,000 scholarship. Daniel is one of 20 students who received a $2,000 scholarship. Daniel will be required to take up an offer at the University of Ballarat to accept this scholarship. Well done Daniel – you deserve your award.

Science – Adaptations – visit to Naracoorte Caves

On Friday 13th November, Hayden Collins, Conor Hogan, Hugh O’Keefe and Tim Walder accompanied Miss Sacha Meehan on an excursion to the World Heritage listed Naracoorte Caves as part of their study of evolution in Science Adaptations. An extensive range of fossils have been found in the area providing many clues to the evolutionary history of Australian animals. On a tour of the Victoria Fossil Cave, students saw reconstructed fossils of Megafauna species that are believed to have become extinct 50,000 years ago. They were also able to see a fossil grave where palaeontologists are still currently working as they continue to find fossils within the caves.

The students then continued on to the Wonambi Fossil Centre which comprises a display of how life in Naracoorte would have looked 500,000 years ago. This was a fantastic way for the students to see how evolutionary biologists determine physical features of animals based on their bone structure.

Madagascar

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
Tuesday 8th December 2009
Thursday 10th December
Friday 11th December 2009

All primary students to the hall during their allotted music lessons
Full dress rehearsal from 10:00 a.m.
Matinee Performance at 1:30 p.m.
Evening performance commencing at 8:00 p.m.
P - 6 Swimming Program

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 the following days:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Days</th>
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<tr>
<td>23rd November</td>
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<td>7th December</td>
<td>No Swimming</td>
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<td>9th December</td>
<td>No Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th December</td>
<td>No Swimming</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Helpers:

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

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!

Money Boxes

Encourage your child/children to keep a money box and count the money that has been saved. Look at how many of the same coins are required to make $1.00 and how a mixture of denominations can also make a dollar.

Year 7 Spelling Words

1. neighbour
2. experience
3. hospital
4. exhausted
5. rescue
6. daughter
7. surroundings
8. endure
9. effort
10. trauma
11. simmer

Ladies Tennis Tournament
Birchip 8th December 2009
Enquiries to Sharee Dobson

Primary Disco!

$5.00 entry
Birchip Tennis Pavilion
Friday 4th December 2009 from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Drinks & Lollies available!
Competitions (best dressed), Prizes & Games!

Presented and supervised by
The Birchip Youth Group
Any questions contact Micaela 0488 570 867
**Grade Five and Six Homework Questions – due Friday 27th November 2009**

1. What colour is the Hope Diamond?
2. What, according to Australia’s national anthem, girls our home?
3. How many Village People were there?
4. What’s the international radio code word for the letter R?
5. Who do bardologists idolise?
6. What striking name was bushranger Frank Ward better known as?
7. What is John Howard’s middle name?
8. What did pessimist Hyman Lipman add to pencils in 1858?
9. How many tiles are there in the Oriental game Mah – jong?
10. What is the coloured part of the eye called?

**Answers to last week’s homework questions which were due Friday 20th November 2009**

1. Primarily, what was Pax the Roman goddess of? **Peace**
2. How many petals does a daffodil have? **6**
3. Where did the dance known as the conga originate? **Congo**
4. Which two countries merged to form Tanzania? **Tanganyika, Zanzibar**
5. What is the correct name for the organisation known as Interpol? **International Criminal Police Organisation.**
6. Of which country is the Knesset the parliament? **Israel**
7. What does chiromancy involve? **Palmistry – reading hands.**
8. Who composed the opera *Rigoletto*? **Verdi**
9. Of which country is the Ob a major river? **Russia**
10. Does a tortoise possess teeth? **No**

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**CHICKEN POX**

Some children have been infected by chicken pox. Infectious diseases rules state exclusion for a period of five days after the first eruption.

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**Congratulations – James Totzenberger [Kool Skools]**

At the recent Kool Skools awards presentation at Etihad Stadium, Buloke entry ‘Replacement Child’ was awarded best ‘pop and punk’ band for the competition. Competing schools came from Victoria and New South Wales making this achievement significant.

James Totzenberger is a member of the Buloke band along with Jeremy Lane and Brett Walsh from Charlton. Their musical composition ‘Everything ends in silence’ has lyrics and music written by James. This is an amazing feat and James, Jeremy and Brett are to be congratulated on their achievement.
GENERAL MEETING PARENTS’ CLUB

Monday 30th November 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

ALL PARENTS AND FRIENDS WELCOME

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
BIRCHIP P-12 SCHOOL

GUEST SPEAKERS:
STUDENTS FROM ALPINE SCHOOL
ASHLEA POTTER, CURTIS SMITH, EMILY SMITH, LAURA LEE

CHRISTMAS THEME FOR MEETING
KRIS KRINGLE - SUPPER

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Fire Ready Community Information Session

Wednesday 2nd December 7.00pm
Birchip Community Leisure Centre
Cnr Johnson & Morrison Streets, Birchip

All members of Birchip & surrounding district community are invited to attend a ‘Fire Ready Community Information Session’, hosted by Community Safety from the Country Fire Authority. This information session will inform all residents about understanding their fire risk and assist them to prepare for the approaching fire danger period. Please come along and find out how you can better protect your family and yourself from fire.

The ‘Fire Ready Community Information Session’ is designed for all members of the public to gain a better understanding of the bushfire risks specific to their area. It will provide a good opportunity for community members to highlight and discuss particular areas of concern within their bushfire survival plan.

The ‘Fire Ready Community Information Session’ will be held at the Birchip Leisure Centre, Cnr Johnson & Morrison Streets, Birchip on Wednesday the 2nd December 2009 commencing at 7:00 p.m.

More information on Fire Ready Victoria can be found on the CFA website, www.cfa.vic.gov.au or by contacting Tricia Witney 0400 102 017 or Kevin Sleep on 1800 820 118.
Birchip Junior Cricket

Results from last week’s games:  Ponting 93 defeated Clarke 81

Ponting
Riley Doran 33 retired
Joe Boyle 26 retired
Riley Doran 3 wickets for 9 runs
Royce Bennett 2 wickets for 3 runs
Jessamy Bennett 2 wickets for 4 runs

Indoor game (held Sunday)

Johnson
Joseph Reid & Hugh O’Keefe 37 runs
Riley Sayle & Gus Walsh 29 runs
Joseph Reid 4 wickets

Johnson 171 defeated Clarke 135

Clarke
Harrison Christie & Jake Hogan 41 runs
Ethan Cooper & Matthew Rickard 48 runs
Jacob Christie & Sean Hogan 30 runs
Seamus Lowry 4 wickets
Harrison Christie 3 wickets

This week: Ponting versus Johnson, Umpires: James Boyle & Kevin Delaney

Birchip Business & Learning Centre

Term 4 Classes. Book Today.

Boat license Sun 6th Dec 7 pm ($85 plus $20 for pwc)
First Aid Level 2 Weds 9th Dec 9.30-4pm $175 (volunteers can apply for subsidy)
Water Exercises Mon 23rd Nov- Dec 14th 5.45pm-6.45pm $25 + pool fees
Water Exercise day class Thurs 26th Nov-Thurs 17th Dec 11am $25 + pool fees (childcare may be avail, please ask on enrolment)

Lifeguard & lifeguard update (date tbc if there is enough interest)
Asian Cooking Tues 24th Nov 6pm $20
Meals on a budget Mon 30th Nov 7pm $10
Christmas Wreaths with Jenny Simpson Tues Dec 2nd 7pm

Personalised Christmas cards Dec

Swim Squad Tues nights 7-8pm Tues 24th Nov – Dec 15th

Swimming lessons Weds nights (1/2 sessions)
For more information and to register contact the Birchip Business & Learning Centre
77 Cumming Avenue, Birchip 3483
Phone: 5492 2735 Fax: 5492 2863
Email: birchipblc@bigpond.com

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

Birchip Swimming Pool Reminder

The pool season is upon us and the hot weather has arrived early. Just some reminders to all pool users.

Students strictly 10 and over may enter the pool without supervision and students under 10 years must be accompanied by a parent/guardian 16 years and over. Pool memberships are also due as of December 1 and can be paid at the pool or the Buloke Shire Office, Birchip branch. Families $112, adults $56 and children under 16 $32

Thank you, Amy Cozens - Pool Lifeguard
## Homework!

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Subject</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Homework</th>
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<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Taylor</td>
<td>Practise spelling high frequency words accurately</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Barclay/Meehan</td>
<td>Assignment</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Spelling, Private Peaceful</td>
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<td>Fashion Affair</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Design options sketches</td>
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<td>9/10</td>
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<td>Smith/Meehan</td>
<td>Research assignment</td>
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<td>Miss Barclay</td>
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<td>Miss Barclay</td>
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All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

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### Donald & St Arnaud Dance Studio

**Hairspray**

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### Birchip Tennis

Ballapur to play Wycheproof at home:
- C. Lee
- J. Moloney
- J. Goldsmith
- J. Smith
- H. O’Keefe
- Tim Walder

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### Wanted to Buy

Rabbit hutch.
Contact Rowley and Gus Walsh 0428 565 465
HABITS OF MIND

Students in Year 8 Science have been very busy researching alternative forms of energy. They were randomly assigned teams and types of alternative energy. To complete the required tasks of a creative piece, a poster, an individual report and a class presentation, they have employed Habits of Mind to assist them.

Shannon is ‘Striving for Accuracy’ by reading his work to check for any errors.

Emma and Stephanie were ‘Thinking Flexibly’ as they figure out how to create a model of how natural gas is used.

Brylie is Creating, Imagining and Innovating as she creates a model of a house powered with solar energy.

Riley, David and Tim are ‘Thinking Interdependently’ as they create a song to explain the working of a wind turbine.