Forthcoming Events

November
Tuesday 25th  Kinder Transition Day
Year 5 & 6 Girls Kanga Cricket - Hamilton
Wednesday 26th  Year 9/10 Food excursion
Friday 28th  Primary Report Writing Day – no school for Primary Students
Last day for Year 11 students

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
Year 9 Driver Education
Tuesday 9th  Transition Day #4 (One Up Day)
Wednesday 10th  Summer Showcase – End of Year Christmas celebration
Thursday 11th  School Council Meeting
Monday 15th  VCE results published
Activities week commences
Tuesday 16th  Presentation Night
Wednesday 17th  Student reports distributed
Thursday 18th  Last day for students
Friday 19th  Pupil Free Day

Classes working towards the end of the year
Friday 5th December 2008 is the last day of timetabled classes for year ten students.
For students in years prep – year 9, classes will continue as normal until Friday 12th December 2008. Activities week will commence from Monday 15th December 2008.

New 2009 staff to visit Birchip P – 12 School
Our three new teachers will visit us for varying times during next week. This will enable us to get to know them while they get a little more orientated to Birchip.

- Mr Gavin McRae will teach Physics and Mathematics
- Miss Sacha Meehan will teach Biology & Science
- Miss Stacey Hicks will teach English & History.

We welcome our three new teachers are trust their time with us is enjoyable and fruitful.

Alpine School Term 2 - 2009
Congratulations to Laura Lee, Emily Smith, Jesse Smith and Ashlea Potter who received news earlier in the week that they were successful with their submission to attend Alpine School, at Dinner Plain. These students will spend nine weeks in Term 2, 2009 at Alpine School.

Year 12 Exams
Year 12 exams are now completed and students are breathing a little easier after a full-on three examination period. Today also see the end of year 11 exams. Next week, Mr Christie and Mrs Barb Smith will conduct course planning meetings with year 11 students and parents to ensure their 2009 year 12 year is organized

Report Writing Days
Next Friday 28th November 2008, there will be NO school for students in Years P – 6. Teachers will be busy writing end of semester reports. The following Tuesday 2nd December 2008, there will be NO school for students in years 7 – 10 as their teachers will be busy with report writing also.
Year 9 & 10 Flight excursion to Point Cook & Ballarat Airport

Eleven eager boys together with Mr Whelan and Mr Richmond set off on Tuesday morning at 6:30 a.m. to travel to Point Cook where they saw various aircraft at the RAAF museum including the RAAF Hercules which assisted in the evacuation of Darwin following Cyclone Tracey in 1974. Students then experienced an aerobatic display.

On Wednesday morning the class had booked flights with commercial pilot Daryl Chibnall (AeroVision). Daryl manages AeroVision – a general aviation company which the CFA and the DSE and various other government agencies contract services out to. Daryl is very involved in bush fire and coastal surveillance as well as a variety of other general aviation services. Unfortunately the Ballarat weather was typical – overcast and raining and the flights were cancelled. Daryl and David Brown (Ballarat Aero Club – President) will visit Birchip in the next two weeks to take the boys flying over home territory. Daryl and David spoke about their individual journeys to become pilots and then showed our students around the airport and up close to many different planes. We thank Daryl and David very much for giving of their time and sharing their passion for flying with our students.

Many thanks to Mr Whelan for his thorough organization of and participation in the excursion.

Spare Seats!!

There are three spare seats on the food excursion to Boort next Wednesday 26th November. Bus departing 9.00 am returning 5.00 pm. $20.00 includes transport and visits to Glenloth Game, Simply Green Tomatoes and Salute Olives. Lunch will be supplied by the food students and enjoyed at Boort Lake.

Please contact Mrs Barb Smith.

Kool Skools CD Launch

Last Monday night saw the launch of the latest Buloke Shire CD entitled ‘Striking Resemblance’. Hours of writing and practising these songs are captured on this album as students demonstrated their talent and dedication to music they all possess. The night was hosted by our very own Virginia Glen and Elsie Coffey, who throughout the night interviewed and probed bands on their musical tastes and backgrounds. The girls, accompanied by Tom Rumbold, also performed two of their songs from the album. Our other performers for the night were Shota Nakamura and Eugene Liston who teamed with Ethan Powell to make up the trio ‘Loaded Dice’. Anyone wishing to purchase the new album ‘Striking Resemblance’ can pick up a copy from the office for $10.00. Many thanks to Virginia, Elsie for their hosting of the evening and to Tom, Shota, Eugene and Ethan for sharing their musical talents with us.
Year 4, 5 & 6 Mind Your Own Business (MYOB)

Mr Welton, Mrs Kelly and the grade 4, 5 & 6 students are busily completing and enjoying an economics unit designed to develop and improve skills and understandings of supply and demand, advertising, surveys and the Habit of Mind: Working Interdependently; a unit where students are introduced to the business world.

A series of tasks and activities have been used to empower students to work together to plan and produce products to sell at a final Market Day on Friday 12th December 2008.

Each Business has an operating budget of $25.00 and all are currently working hard to fill orders or make objects to sell. The aim is to make a profit. Any profits will go towards Junior SRC Projects.

Students will provide more details of the Market Day as the date draws nearer, and many are now advertising to obtain orders for their products.

SUNGLASSES AND COOKIES

Sunshine Cookies have Super Sunglasses for 80c a pair and Cool Cookies 6 for $1.50. There are boy’s sunnies and girl’s sunnies. There are chocolate, chocolate chip and normal cookies.

Jordan Galway, Chelsi Kemp, Sam Owa, Josh Bennett, Kimberly Hill and Cheryl Kemp.

PLACEMATS & MARIE BISCUIT FACES FOR SALE

Bring along your photographs of friends, family or anything you like and we’ll create the perfect placemat that will suit you. You will be able to purchase a placemat for $2.00 or a Marie biscuit face for $1.00 at market day in early December. Orders for placemats must be in by Wednesday 26th November. Please give your orders to Marnie Lehmann or Claudia Lee.
Paving the Way

Yesterday all of our Year 5 students travelled to the Birchip Pre-school and mingled with their new little buddies. Mrs Merrilyn Kelly and Mrs Jenny Noonan were delighted with the many interactions which occurred. Next Tuesday the Pre-school children will travel to school for 2 hours and will again have an opportunity to meet with their buddies.

Birchip P-12 School - Parents & Friends Club News

Parents & Friends Club November general meeting was held at the Birchip P12 School on Wednesday 19th November 2008. Not everyone was able to attend the meetings so we hope this information is a useful addition to the school newsletter.

Mr John Richmond was unable to attend due to other commitments but he provided us with a comprehensive report. One of the most pleasing aspects of his report was that we will be gaining a number of new students to our school next year – both primary and secondary. We also have three new staff members for next year.

School Council report presented by Cathy Bales and Wendy Watts detailed the completed improvements around the school, student activities such as Alpine school & school photos and also some of the “wish list” requests for next year.

Rhonda Bell attended a meeting at the school recently where “School Values” were discussed. Teachers, students and community members were present. The values chosen were: respect, understanding, aim high, trustworthy and responsibility. These are values that the school wishes to impart to our students.

Catering events to come: Aero Club Dinner 6th December, Grade 6 Dinner 8th December, Summer Showcase 10th December.

As this is our final meeting for the year I wish to take this opportunity to say thank you to all who have attended the meetings throughout the year. A bigger thank you to everyone who helped over the past school year, especially all those involved in the catering events and stalls held.

Lastly, I put in a plea to all who would like to attend the meetings but did not get around to it for whatever reason that there is always NEXT YEAR. So mark Parents’ Club on the calendar or on your TO DO list. Parents and Friends Club MEETING 2009 - first meeting will be February.
Homework Questions  
Due Thursday 27th November 2008
1. In which country is the city of Porto?  
2. Why does a salmon make spectacular leaps?  
3. What birds live in the Tower of London?  
4. Why were canaries once taken down coal mines?  
5. James Cook’s first ship was a collier. What kind of ship was this?  
6. Where is urine made in your body?  
7. What is a collection of penguins called?  
8. What is the capital of Israel?  
9. What is a whelk?  
10. Scientifically, what are black smokers?

Answers to last weeks questions
1. The world’s largest amphibian is the giant salamander.  
2. A binnacle is a box or case on the deck, which is used to house navigation instruments such as a compass.  
3. Corsica is part of France.  
4. It is estimated that there are 200 billion stars in the Milky Way.  
5. A prickly pear cactus features on the Mexican flag.  
6. Cyclops had one eye in the middle of the forehead.  
7. The Maldives are situated in the Indian Ocean.  
8. Christine McVie was a member of Fleetwood Mac.  
9. The Althing is Iceland’s parliament.  
10. A vermivorous animal eats worms.

Birchip Junior Cricket

Scores after first day of game 3 Chappell versus Waugh
Waugh 64
Harrison Christie 14
Jacob Christie 11
Chappell
Nick Bales 2 wickets for 8

The game continues this week with Chappell requiring 65 to win.
Umpires: Kevin Delaney and John Bales
NOTE: Game 2 was completed on Thursday night. Scores and a ladder will be published in next week’s newsletter.

Summer Showcase  
Wednesday 10th December

Dear Parents,
Your assistance would be appreciated to dress the students for their class items. These items will commence at 7:00 p.m. in the stadium following a BBQ tea.

Grade Prep/1
Children to dress in Christmas fashions!! Green school shorts will be fine and either white, green, red or a “Christmas” T-shirt. Santa hats, reindeer antlers, tinsel or whatever you think looks OK.

Grade 1/2
Children are to dress in football gear, any team, shorts and jumper/top
Runners are fine, but no football boots please.

Grade 3
Chloe Rymer A pretty dress and shoes
James Paley Good pants and a smart shirt, perhaps even a tie!!
Joe O’Donnell As a witch doctor!

All other students in school uniform with festive additions they can put on for Christmas items. E.g.; Santa hats, reindeer ears, Christmas T-Shirts.

Grade 4/5
Royce Bennett DJ, Jeans, Denim Jacket, Black shirt, Cool glasses!
Rebecca Botheras Dressing Gown.
Shae Colbert News reader. Looking very smart!! Good shirt

All other students, seventies outfits. Bright colours, folk style etc.

Could students name all items, put them in a named plastic bag and bring for our full dress rehearsal, Tuesday 9th December 2008.

Please let myself or class teachers know ASAP if you have difficulties obtaining outfits and we can try to help find something suitable for your child

Thank you for your assistance

Mrs Andrea Phelan

Donald Dance Studio
Presents
HAIR SPRAY
St. Arnaud Town Hall
2pm & 8pm
13th December 2008
**Upcoming Courses**

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

**DECO RATE 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.

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**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

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**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>Counting by 1, 2, 5 &amp; 10s and backwards by 1 from any number between 100 to 0</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>
</tbody>
</table>
| 5/6        | Class   | Mr Welton | Spelling and tables - keep learning  
General Knowledge Questions | 27th Nov |
| 7          | English | Mrs Smith | Study for grammar test | |
| 7          | Maths   | Miss Barclay | Maths Mate | 24th Nov |
| 8          | English | Mrs Smith | Study for grammar test | |
| 9          | Advance | Miss Digby | Advance Final Story | 27th Nov |
| 9          | Maths   | Miss Barclay | Statistic analysis | 24th Nov |
| 9/10       | Democracy | Mr Delaney | Election activity | |
| 10         | Crime & Punish | Mrs Smith | Make sure you are up to date | |

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

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**Vicswim at Watchem**

Watchem Swimming Pool has been allocated Program 1 - Monday 5th to Friday 9th January 2009 and Program 2 - Monday 12th to Friday 16th January 2009.

In the current Vicswim brochure the class times were for morning sessions. **This has been changed to afternoon sessions - 2pm to 5pm for both programs.**

Enrolment closing date is 12th December 2008.
Birchip’s Community
Christmas Carnival
In the Hall and Morrison Street
Tues 23rd December 2008 from 6.30pm -

* Santa visiting Santa’s Winter Wonderland between 7 & 8pm
* Christmas Angels face painting
* Bouncy Castle & Cha-Cha
* BBQ & soft drink for sale
* BYO alcohol

Music all Night

* 7pm-8pm Easy listening music
* 8pm-9pm Community Carol Singing, Reading of the Christmas Story & a visual display of the Year that Was
* 9.00pm-12 ‘SEVERED’

$5 person (adult or school aged child) or $20 family (includes unlimited rides)
Habits of Mind

Year 9 & 10 Flight excursion to Point Cook and Ballarat
Responding with wonderment & awe

Thanks to Mr Whelan’s organization and enthusiasm, our Year 9 & 10 Flight students had the opportunity to visit Point Cook and then Ballarat Airport where students got to see various airplanes over Australia’s short history in flight. Students were most impressed with not only see but getting inside the cabin and fuselage of the RAAF Hercules – the one that assisted in the evacuation of Darwin following Cyclone Tracey in 1974.

Unfortunately, due to poor weather conditions, their proposed flight in a 4 seater Cessna at Ballarat Airport was cancelled. This has been rescheduled when David Chibnall – Commercial Pilot will fly to Birchip enabling our students to experience flying.