**Birchip P-12 School**  
A Mindful School

**Address:** (PO Box 9)  
Campbell Street  
BIRCHIP 3483

**Telephone:** (03) 5492 2287  
(03) 5492 2553

**eMail:** birchip.p12@edumail.vic.gov.au  
**Web:** http://www.birchip.vic.edu.au

School Council members: Wendy Watts, Angela Liston, David Smith, Louise Lee, Cameron Flowers, Kevin Reid, Margaret O’Keefe, Leigh Hogan, Cathy Bales, Andrew Sayle, John Richmond, Russell Christie, Eileen Smith, Merrilyn Kelly

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**Forthcoming Events**

**November**
- Thursday 26th → Year 11 curriculum planning meetings
- Friday 4th Dec
- Monday 30th → All cast (those who play a character) at the hall  
Parents’ Club Meeting 7.30pm
- Tuesday 1st → Madagascar - all P6 students at hall during music lessons
- Wednesday 2nd → Year 9 & 11 examinations
- Friday 4th
- Monday 7th → Grade 6 Celebration Dinner
- Tuesday 8th → One up Day:  
  Kinder → Prep, Grade 6 →  
  Year 7, Year 11 → Year 12  
  Physical Resources Meeting  
  Madagascar - full dress rehearsal
- Thursday 10th → School Council Meeting  
  Madagascar - matinée performance
- Friday 11th → Primary Swimming Program Finishes  
  Madagascar - evening performance
- 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

**December**

**January**
- Wednesday 27th → Staff return for 3 day professional development
- Friday 29th → Staff return
- Monday 1st → Students return
- Thursday 4th → Prep students commence school

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**Year Nine & Ten Exams**

Year nine & ten students will have their last timetabled classes on Tuesday 1st December 2009 in readiness for their end of semester exams which will commence on Wednesday 2nd December 2009. The last school day for year ten students is Friday 4th December 2009. The year is really getting busy with staff correcting and setting exams, testing, writing student reports and then preparing the end of year activities. There are only three weeks left but as the calendar suggests much to do.

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**Lions Youth of the Year**

Tuesday 8th December 2009 at the Birchip Community Leisure Centre.

Kate Watts, Emily Hogan and Darcie Cooper from year 11 are the three entrants in this year’s Lions’ Youth of the Year. Kate is speaking on how technology has impacted upon our lives, Darcie is speaking about the pressures on the Australian health system and Emily will be discussing that Sex Education should be taught in school. It takes much courage to speak in public and the community is urged to come along and hear the girls speak.

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**Year Eleven students**

Year eleven students completed their end of semester examinations on Wednesday 25th November 2009. Mr Christie and Mrs Barb Smith have organized individual learning plan meetings with each year eleven student and their parents to ensure all have appropriate courses and pathways.
There will be a dinner before the speeches and if anyone in the community wants to come for the meal, cooked by the netball club ($25.00), they should let Eileen Smith know before Monday. Please contact Eileen at the school. However, if you want to just come for the speeches, that is fine too. The speeches will commence at 8:00 p.m.

### Year 9 & 10 end of unit examinations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 9 &amp; 10 Exams</th>
<th>Mon 30 Nov</th>
<th>Tues 2 Dec</th>
<th>Weds 3 Dec</th>
<th>Thurs 4 Dec</th>
<th>Fri 5 Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 – 10:40 Picture This Advance</td>
<td>11:00 – 12:40 Landcare World of Bus Japanese Adaptations</td>
<td>9:00 – 10:40 Democracy Phys Ed</td>
<td>11:00 – 12:40 Yr 9 Maths Yr 10 Maths</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Madagascar

**Monday 30th November 2009**
ALL cast (those who play a character) will be at the hall for the whole day!

**Tuesday 1st December 2009**
Classes will run as normal for the cast while the primary groups will be bussed to the hall in their allocated music time.

**Tuesday 8th December 2009**
Full dress rehearsal (all Madagascar participants will be involved from 9am until approx 11:30 a.m.)

**Thursday 10th December**
Matinee at 1:30 p.m. (All Cast will move to the hall at the end of period 3)
NO afternoon classes

**Friday 11th December 2009**
Evening performance at 8:00 p.m.
Cast to the hall at 6:00 p.m.

_Eleisha is looking for beach chairs to borrow. If you can assist, please contact Eleisha._
Year 9 & 10 Flight excursion

The culmination of the Birchip P-12 School’s Flight class was a trip to the Qantas Maintenance Facility at Tullamarine and then a quick trip to Hobart for the night. Needless to say, the students and teachers were very excited. Ex-Birchip student, Andrew Sinclair took the group on a two hour tour of the Qantas facility where they observed minor maintenance being carried out. The workers operated in meticulous conditions as they maintained hydraulics, windows and seats. Students were allowed to sit in the pilot seat and realised that perhaps the conditions were far from glamorous. The group explored the galley and then went into the bowels of the plane to investigate how the landing gear, hydraulics and cargo hold operated.

The hangar area was massive and all were impressed with the x-ray testing of the body of the plane. Incidentally, the metal sheeting used on the top front section of the plane was only 0.8 mm thick.

Qantas explored, the group boarded a plane for a flight to Hobart and for some students, it was their first time on a plane. Once in Hobart, they toured the Salamanca markets, Constitution Dock and Wrest Point casino.

The next day the students climbed to the top of Mount Wellington and experienced one hundred kilometre an hour winds. While the view was magnificent, it did make the group a little apprehensive about the flight home. The trip was hectic but all students believed the excursion to be worthwhile. The group would like to thank Mr Cameron Whelan and Mr Russell Christie for organising this invaluable experience.
School Teams State Final

The school encourages students to challenge themselves by pitting their talents against the best in their field. Four students, Harrison Christie, Jesse Smith, Hayley Hogan and Emily Smith took part in the Stuart Appleby Junior Golf Foundation School Teams state final at La Trobe golf club. The event is conducted annually for students in years seven to nine. The competition is played over nine holes as a four person Ambrose event. While the four Birchipians didn’t win, they finished with a respectable one over par thirty six and had a great day. Heather Hogan was the team scorer and June Senyard gave her local knowledge of the golf course to the group.

Fairfax Production

Fairfax Performing Arts Director, Claire Glenn and Sharyn Featherby, Performing Arts Officers from the Swan Hill Rural City Council came to school to present certificates to the actors who took part in the Swan Hill Fairfax production earlier in the month. The group was awarded a ‘Commitment and Development’ Award and given tickets to Shakespeare’s ‘Comedy of Errors’ which is playing at Swan Hill in March. This will be an excellent opportunity to see professional actors interpret this classical piece of theatre. The students were also given the opportunity to attend an acting summer school at a reduced cost.
Knowledge of Science leads to good health

Years one and two are learning about dental health. The children watched a short documentary and were told that bacteria in the mouth grows and multiplies when sugar is eaten. To test this widely accepted wisdom, the group carried out an experiment. The children were given three cups. Yeast (acting as the bacteria) and warm water were put in two cups and sugar was added to the third. The group predicted that the cup which had sugar added to the solution would grow more rapidly.

After leaving the three cups covered and out of sight for half an hour, the class saw how big the yeast froth had grown...WOW, what a surprise! The three cups overflowed and the one with sugar was gushing over the rim of the cup. The children were very excited and by the end of the lesson, the room smelled like a bakery.

Year 9/10 Food Science

Yesterday was the final practical session for the Food Science students. They planned the menu for a celebration lunch and capably produced the dishes within the time set. Their skills and knowledge have improved greatly throughout the semester. The students have been lucky enough to have three staff available to them, Ms Meehan, Mrs Knights and Mrs B Smith which was a ratio of three students to one staff member. Yesterday was the last day for Mrs Knights. We wish her all the best for 2010, motherhood and hopefully a return to teaching soon!
Kanga Cricket

Last Friday in Donald, our kanga cricketers toiled hard in rather testing conditions. Both teams made the Grand Final with the girls meeting Donald and the boys playing off against Jeparit.

Our girls played well all day but unfortunately were not able to maintain enough scoreboard pressure in the final and Donald ran out winners. Our boys dominated their final and were victors by 100 runs. This meant that Birchip qualified for the Regional Final in Hamilton.

Departure time on Tuesday at 7:00 a.m. was an early start. Our first game was against Mortlake. Our boys batted first but bus lag took its toll. Nervous batting resulted in a score of 4 for 14 at the halfway mark. After scrambling to 7 for 75 at the conclusion Mortlake batted well and amassed a rather overwhelming 193.

In our next game against St Michaels, Horsham, we endeavoured to improve and although it was a defeat we narrowed the margin somewhat. The scores were 173 to 91.

Our final game was against Warrnambool and this was our closest margin for the day, a loss by 35 runs. Once again the positives we took out of the game was the overall improvement in all facets of the game. A highlight was Sam Milne bowling for a hat trick and the fact that we took 6 wickets. Another positive was the fact that the first two teams we played actually were undefeated and played off in the final.

Thanks to Mr Welton and Mr Tyler for their coordination of Kanga Cricket.
P - 6 Swimming Program

The P - 6 Swimming Program commenced last Monday 23rd November 2009. The program will continue to Friday 11th December with the following schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30th November</td>
<td>No Swimming</td>
<td>No Swimming</td>
<td>3rd December</td>
<td>4th December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th December</td>
<td>No Swimming</td>
<td>9th December</td>
<td>No Swimming</td>
<td>11th December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key Water Safety Messages

- Never Swim Alone
- Never Turn Your Back
- Look Before You Leap

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.

Grade Five and Six Homework Questions – due Friday 4th December 2009

1. What is a soothsayer?
2. Geographically, what is a burn?
3. In golfing terms what did a stymie refer to?
4. According to custom, how old is a Chinese baby on the day it is born?
5. What is Australia’s highest military award?
6. How many herbs and spices does the Colonel use in KFC?
7. Agoraphobia is the abnormal fear of what?
8. In what month were you born if your birthstone is a pearl and your flower is a rose?
9. The four suits of playing cards are said to represent different social positions and occupations. What are they?
10. What is a leveret?

Answers to last week’s homework questions which were due Friday 27th November 2009

1. What colour is the Hope Diamond? Blue
2. What, according to Australia’s national anthem, girts our home? Sea
3. How many Village People were there? 6
4. What’s the international radio code word for the letter R? Romeo
5. Who do bardologists idolise? William Shakespeare
6. What striking name was bushranger Frank Ward better known as? Captain Thunderbolt
7. What is John Howard’s middle name? Winston
8. What did pessimist Hyman L Lipman add to pencils in 1858? Erasers
9. How many tiles are there in the Oriental game Mah – Jong? 144
10. What is the coloured part of the eye called? Iris

Year 7 Spelling Words

Double letters test

Maths is Marvellous – You can count on it!

Shopping

Ask your children to help with the shopping. Look at quantities, weights, size and cost of items. Encourage your child/children to work out the notes and coins required to pay for goods purchased. Practise rounding up and down to the nearest 5 cents, 10 cents or dollar.
Books for Sale

Booklists went out today to all secondary and Year 6 students. We are encouraging students to re-sell their books to reduce costs for families. A number of students have already brought in texts to sell and these are listed below.

All secondary students:
Roget’s Thesaurus - $10, $15
Oxford Australian Colour Dictionary - $10

Year 11 students:
English: Macbeth - $10, Inheritance - $12
Year 11 General Maths: Cambridge Essential General Maths &CD - $15
Year 11 Food and Technology: Cookery the Australian Way-$25, Food &Tech units 1&2-$30
Design and Technology –Textiles and Wood-Design and Technology VCE Units 1-4-$30
One brand new Heinmann Biology 1 (4th) edition- $68

Year 12 students:
Further Maths: Essential Further Maths &CD- $50
Maths Methods: Maths Methods 3&4 &CD- $50
Chemistry: Heinmann Chemistry 2 Text &CD- $35, $40 and Student Workbook- $20
Food and Technology: Cookery the Australian Way-$25, Food &Tech units 3 &4-$30
Design and Technology –Textiles and Wood-Design and Technology VCE Units 1-4-$30
Physics- Jacardana Physics 2 - $50
English- The Secret River- $12

If you wish to sell any texts please bring them to the office with your name and purchase price on each text.

“‘The Year that Was” Power Point"

To enable the 2009 “The Year that Was” Power Point to be created we need many photographs. We are particularly looking for new families, births, deaths, marriages and other special occasions in peoples lives. Photographs of people involved in day to day activities are also sought. Photographs will be looked after carefully, scanned and returned. If you can assist please deliver photographs to John Richmond at the school office.

Ladies Tennis Tournament

Birchip 8th December 2009
Enquiries to Sharee Dobson

BIRCHIP TENNIS TEAMS

The Ballapur tennis team will play at St Arnaud, leaving Birchip at midday. If there are any problems, please contact Eileen Smith

Eileen Smith, Laura Lee, Louise Lee, Wendy Buteux, Angela Gleeson, Jenny Goldsmith, Kerrie Walder, Margaret O’Keefe, Ian Smith, Chris Lee, Joshua Moloney, Jesse Smith, Brendan Gleeson, Hugh O’Keefe, Tim Walder

 Scrapbooking

The final class for this year will be held on Friday 11th December 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Uniting Church Hall

For Sale

3 kelpie pups, 2 males, 1 female, both working parents, can be viewed $50 each. Enquiries
Murray Paley 0417 537 069

THE DONALD YOUTH GROUP PRESENTS...

HAYWIRE

5th December
8:30PM - 12:30PM
Donald Memorial Hall
Entry $15
Free Buses! Years 7 - 12

FEATURING

LOADED DICE DISCO GOLD

FULLY SUPERVISED

NO PASSOUTS. STRICTLY DRUG, ALCOHOL AND SMOKE FREE

CONTACT:
Laura: 0439826792
Erlin: 0418208656

Junior Cricket

Ponting Vs Johnson - game continues this week.
Umpires - K. Delaney and J. Boyle
Results and game details will appear in next weeks newsletter.
GENERAL MEETING
PARENTS’ CLUB

Monday 30th November 2009
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 to the value of $5.00
SUPPER
PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Fire Ready

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 Tennis Club – Ladies Tournament
Tuesday 8th December 2009

Catering Roster

Please deliver food to the Leisure Centre or School that morning. 4 litre salads please.
Any queries please contact Sharee Dobson on 54922321. Thanks.

Pasta salad and apple & celery salad  Sharee Dobson
Tossed Salad                      Simone Christie, Fiona Best
Potato salad/roll                 Heather Hogan
2 dozen boiled eggs              Louisa Ferrier
Chang noodle salad               Bernadette O’Donnell
Coleslaw                       Simone Donnellon
Tomato & onion salad           Margaret O’Keefe
Fruit salad                  Eileen Smith, Kellie Matthews
Fruit platter                  Jenny Goldsmith
4 litres of ice cream and 2 litres of milk  Jamie Lovett
1 cooked chicken               Louise Lee, Johnny Tuthill, Jonathon Doran, Kerrie Walder
1 cooked chicken and 1 packet of bread Warwick McClelland, Josh Moloney, Bernadette Smith
Tin of beetroot                Louise Lee
2 Litres of Milk               Johnny Tuthill
Passionfruit slice             Jacqui Rymer
Lemon slice                   Wendy Buteux
Rum balls and cake of own choice Belinda Randall
Sponge or cake of own choice   Ange Gleeson

Workers                          Marlene Ryan, Kim Driscoll
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)
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

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>Practise reading times on analogue and digital clocks. Money - counting coins.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Emonson/Weir</td>
<td>Homework questions&lt;br&gt;Class homework, times tables, daily reading</td>
<td>4th Dec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Miss Howard</td>
<td>5 facets that have been due all semester. Must be completed by</td>
<td>3rd Dec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Textiles folios</td>
<td>1st Dec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Miss Howard</td>
<td>5 facets that have been due all semester. Must be completed by</td>
<td>3rd Dec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Mr Christie</td>
<td>Complete exam buster sheet</td>
<td>1st Dec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Miss Hicks</td>
<td>Study for exams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

Youth room key is available from Mikaela Christie between 4.00-6.30pm weekdays.
Contact Mikaela 0488 570 867
HABITS OF MIND

Year 7 Textiles students have been using four of the Habits of Mind to help improve the quality of their practical work. The following table, which was compiled in class by the students summarised the strategies the students used to improve the quality of their finished products.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habit of Mind</th>
<th>Strategies used to encourage better performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Striving for Accuracy</td>
<td>• Using the guidelines of the machine to help sew straight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Using tape measures and rulers to help draw straight lines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Use annotations to make my book neater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thinking Interdependently</td>
<td>• Share knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Help others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Ask for help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persistence</td>
<td>• Not giving up when in need of help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• When doing appliqué keep lengthening the stitch if it gets bogged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Think about the problem and keep trying to fix it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creating, imagining and Innovating</td>
<td>• Use a computer to help with designing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Thinking outside the box with designing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Trying different things to do something</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In response to the question “What other Habits of Mind have you used this term?” the students volunteered the following information.

- Taking responsible risks - During designing I went outside my comfort zone.
- Thinking about my thinking – I thought about what I could do instead of asking the teacher constantly – I was thinking whether I know the answer.

Chelsi Kemp, Joe Boyle and Hayley Hogan displaying their finished products.