Forthcoming Events

December

Monday 5th  Grade 6 Celebration Dinner
Tuesday 6th  One-Up Day for Kinder→Prep, Grade 6→Yr 7, Yr 11→Yr 12
Year 9 Driver Education - Charlton
Wednesday 7th → Year 10 Planning Meetings
Friday 9th
Friday 16th  VCE Results Published
Tuesday 20th  Presentation Night - 8pm
Wednesday 21st  Student reports distributed at 3:15pm

We have less than three full weeks to go now. Teachers are in the middle of reports and final testing is being completed. We continue to hope that the weather stays fine and warm so that our farmers have an uninterrupted harvest.

One up day is to be held on Tuesday 6 December 2011 for Kindergarten students going into Prep, year eleven students going into year twelve and grade six students going into year seven. There will be normal school for students in prep – year five. There will be NO school for current year eight and nine students next Tuesday.

Student Attendance
End of year arrangements

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 Wednesday 21 December 2011.

Year Nine & Ten Exams

Year nine & ten students commenced their examinations yesterday. These examinations last until Wednesday 7 December 2011. On Thursday 8 December 2011 and Friday 9 December 2011, Mr Christie and Mrs Barb Smith will hold individual learning plan meetings with each year ten student and their parents to ensure all have appropriate courses and pathways. The examination timetable is below.

Year 9 & 10 End of Semester Two Examinations Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 5 December 2011</th>
<th>Tuesday 6 December 2011</th>
<th>Wednesday 7 December 2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00 – 10:45 Red Block Entreprenurial Studies</td>
<td>One-Up Day</td>
<td>09:00 – 10:40 Blue Block</td>
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<tr>
<td>History – Revolutions</td>
<td>Kinder → Prep</td>
<td>Year 9 Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 – 12:40 Purple Block</td>
<td>Year 6 → Year 7</td>
<td>Year 10 Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>T.Art - Textiles &amp; Art</td>
<td>Year 11 → Year 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improving Performance</td>
<td>Year 9 Driver Education</td>
<td>Yr 10 Planning Meetings with Mr Christie &amp; Mrs B Smith</td>
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The last day for year ten students will be next Friday 5 December 2011.
PRESENTATION NIGHT  
TUESDAY 20 DECEMBER 2011

Presentation Night will be held on Tuesday 20 December 2011 commencing at 8:00 p.m. in the Birchip Public Hall. All students, parents and community members are very welcome and encouraged to attend.

Our guest speaker this year is ex-student Robbie Lee. Robbie will talk about his education at Birchip P-12 School, his career as an apprentice carpenter, successful builder and football coach before returning home to follow his passion of farming. Robbie is married to Jo. Together they are parents to twin boys Blake & Connor and daughter Asha. Robbie’s career in football is one of legendary status. He has won many club best and fairest awards, three league best and fairest medals with North Central, Central Murray and with West Adelaide in the SANFL. Robbie also played in the Victorian State Country football side at the Australian Country Football Championships in Perth where he was adjudged best afield. Robbie has coached, captioned and played in five premiership sides.

ONE UP DAY

One up day for students entering year 12 in 2011 will be on Tuesday 6 December 2011.

On this day course requirements and homework for completion over the holidays will be given out.

We realise that this time of year is busy for some of our students but co-operation on attendance will see the educational outcomes for students being enhanced.

The year twelve subjects are at the top with year seven subjects underneath.

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<td>09:05</td>
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<td>11:31</td>
<td>12:13</td>
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<tr>
<td>D&amp;T [Food] 1</td>
<td>Accounting 26</td>
<td>Ag &amp; Hort 13</td>
<td>Physics 14</td>
<td>Psychology 9</td>
<td>Chemistry 14</td>
<td>Further Mathematics 11</td>
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2011 P - 6 Swimming Program

The P - 6 Swimming Program commenced yesterday, Thursday 1 December 2011. Sessions will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the following days:

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<tr>
<td>No Swimming</td>
<td>No Swimming</td>
<td>7 December</td>
<td>8 December</td>
<td>9 December</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Swimming</td>
<td>No Swimming</td>
<td>14 December</td>
<td>15 December</td>
<td>16 December</td>
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2011 VCE Achiever of the Year – Award Presentation

Last Friday, I travelled to Melbourne to the 2011 VCE Achiever of the Year Award Presentation where Mikaela Christie and seven other finalists were presented their awards by the State Minister of Education, Mr Martin Dixon. Bendigo student Patrick Clark was awarded the overall 2011 VCE Achiever of the Year. We congratulate Mikaela on her award and wish her well in her future endeavours. Mikaela received a Lenovo ThinkPad Tablet as a prize. Incidentally, Simone Christie also won a Lenovo personal computer being the lucky parent selected in the draw.

Year 7 English

Year 7 English have been studying the war novel ‘Private Peaceful’ by Michael Morpurgo and learning about life before the advent of the First World War and the conditions in which the soldiers fought. The novel generated some interesting discussion about big issues like why those with disabilities can be an easy target. The group talked about the class system and whether we need it, the reasons countries initiate war and why so many of a country’s finest men signed up to fight. Students were able to incorporate their own family history into the discussion and it was amazing how many students had been touched by a variety of wars. The unit of work was tied together with photographs, art, music and poetry that dealt with the effects of war. The most pleasing aspect of the unit was that students learned to question, converse and substantiate their point of view.

Joshua Phelan, Amy Bennett, Leslee Cooper & Jayden McGinnis research World War One information.
Entrepreneurial Studies

Entrepreneurial Studies was a new subject introduced this year that has captured the students’ imagination. Year 9 and 10 students learned the basics of accounting and how to construct a profit and loss statement. One student responded that she had, ‘learned how interesting and important things like how to go about asking for a loan and how to make a business plan could be.’

Students could develop either an individual business or form a partnership with other students while the school very generously supplied the initial seeding funds needed to get the businesses underway. From brainstorming sessions, the students came up with the following businesses: selling herbs and worms, jam making, cakes in ice cream cones, a movie night, dog washing and biscuit making and hand-made greeting cards.

The students have had much fun and learned that money making isn’t easy and takes time and work.
Mrs Gaye Edmonds, Assistant Principal, Carranballac P-9 College along with other music teachers and members of the college’s Rock Band entertained our students on Tuesday. Band members are currently undertaking a tour of country Victoria and visiting Hopetoun and Robinvale schools prior to returning home. The Rock Band members were amazing and clearly showed their passion for making music. Zoe Turnbull, on behalf of the students at the Birchip P-12 School thanked members of the band for sharing their talents with our students.

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.

Want to save money
Buy second hand books
Available from the office:
Jacaranda Physics 1 - VCE Physics Units 1 & 2
Jacaranda Physics 2 - VCE Physics Units 3 & 4
Cambridge Essential Standard General Mathematics
Further Notes - VCE Further Mathematics Units 3 & 4
Cambridge Essential Mathematical Methods 1 & 2 CAS
Cambridge Essential Mathematical Methods 3 & 4 CAS
Heinemann Chemistry 1 - VCE Units 1 & 2
Heinemann Chemistry 2 - VCE units 3 & 4
Heinemann Biology 1 - VCE Units 1 & 2
Nelson Physical Education - VCE Units 1 & 2
Macbeth
Heinemann@Work Hospitality the essentials
Nelson Design and Technology Wood, Metal, Plastics Workbook - VCE Units 1 & 2
Jacaranda Atlas
Nelson Information Technology - VCE Units 1 & 2
Literacy Intervention

Most people are probably aware that there are many intervention programs available to students, and the programs address a variety of deficits or “holes” in students’ learning.

Perhaps the most well known literacy intervention program is **Reading Recovery**, which is designed to support year one students who have not quite grasped the concepts of reading and writing during in-class instruction. At Birchip P-12 School, we are fortunate enough to have a relatively small annual population of year one students, so that each year several students have access to **Reading Recovery** who possibly would not be on the program if they were in a larger school.

Over the last few years, teachers and education support staff have been tutoring students using the **Bridges** literacy intervention program. **Bridges** is suitable for children in both Early Years (Prep to four) and Middle Years (five to eight). Students working in **Bridges** read texts of varying degrees of difficulties, as well as engaging in discussions of text, composing and writing sentences and playing literacy games.

This semester, we at the school broadened the scope of our literacy support by trialling several interventions, some developed locally and some commercially packaged. The locally developed programs, loosely based on successful programs already in use, target selected aspects of programs to individual students’ needs.

**Oral and Written Language (OWL)** focuses on speaking and writing skills. **OWL** is suitable for children in years one to six who read well, but could use extra support with writing, speaking, spelling and word attack skills. Students working in **OWL** learn strategies to help them plan their writing and compose interesting sentences to convey their ideas to others. They learn to sound or chunk words to help with both writing and spelling words, and they learn to use known words to help them write or spell new words. They practise speaking clearly and saying words accurately, as it is very difficult for children to write correctly words they cannot say properly.

**BARN OWLs** (**B**etter **A**t **R**eading a**N**d **O**ral and **W**ritten **L**anguage) are students in years two, three or four who need literacy support. **BARN OWL**s loosely follow the **Reading Recovery** format of lessons. **BARN OWLs** may have had **Reading Recovery** in the past, but are offered the extra lessons as further support. As the name suggests, **BARN OWLs** work on both reading and writing. Students read new and challenging texts with tutor support at school and familiar books to parents or other adults at home. They also compose sentences, practise relating sounds and letters and learn word attack skills for writing, spelling and reading less familiar words.

**MULTILIT** (**M**aking **U**p **L**ost **T**ime **I**n **L**iteracy) was developed in 1998 and revised in 2007 by a specialist team of researchers and educators working from Macquarie University in Sydney. The program is aimed at students from year two onwards, who have achieved some proficiency in literacy, but who are not working at the expected standard for their age or year level. **MULTILIT** students work their way through a bank of 200 “sight words” that they learn to read automatically, without having to sound, chunk or work out. They progress through thirteen levels of word attack skills in which they learn to read, write and say the various phonemes (sounds) used in English. In addition, they practise reading with tutor support to guide their attempts at unfamiliar texts, to help them become more fluent and to help them become more independent at reading successfully.

We at the school are always open and alert to anything that will support and extend our students’ learning in all areas, so if we become aware of a program that we think will benefit our students we make every effort to offer it in addition to the curriculums offered in the classrooms.
Lions Youth of the Year - Wednesday 30 November 2011

Seven year eleven students did themselves, their families and the Birchip P-12 School proud yesterday at the 2011 Lions Youth of the Year Contest.

Congratulations to Brenten Delaney, who was named the Birchip – 2011 Lions Youth of the Year with Claire Boyle receiving the Public Speaking award. Congratulations to all students involved.

The students along with their prepared speech topics are:

Claire Boyle  Child prostitution
Brenten Delaney  How money has ruined sport.
Sophie Noonan  Refugees
Bridgette Hogan  Child labour
Laura Lee  Safe drug injecting clinics
Joshua Chamberlin  Genetically modified foods
Ethan Cooper  Military uniform changes resulting in soldier deaths in Afghanistan

Many thanks to judges: Julie McClelland, Sandie Richmond and Brett Schofield for their willingness to be involved.

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Movie Mayhem

Birchip P-12 School
Room 5
Starts 2nd December 2011
at 6:30 p.m.
Soft drink - $2.00
Popcorn - $2.00
$5.00 entry
Bookings can be made at the school office.

BLUELIGHT

Date: 2/12/2011
Time: 8:30–12:30
Place: Hopetoun Town Hall

Entry Fee: $10
Alcohol & Drug Free Event!

NO PASSOUTS!
AGES: 12 to 18 only!

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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.
The school is looking fantastic.
Birchip Junior Cricket

Results from last week’s Indoor Game

Watson 98 defeated Clarke 39

Watson
Harrison Christie and Joseph Reid 46
Ben Milne (last man) 22
Jayden McGinnis 4 wickets
Matthew Chamberlin 4 wickets
Chloe Chamberlin 4 wickets
Chloe Rymer 4 wickets

Clarke
Royce Bennett and Brady Paley  22 runs
Royce Bennet 5 wickets
Jack Lee 4 wickets

Ladder:
Watson 3 wins
Hussey 1 win  2 losses
Clarke 1 win  3 losses

Unfortunately due to rain the Saturday morning game between Watson and Hussey did not go ahead.
Hopefully this can be played another time

This week’s game
Indoor Game: Hussey versus Clarke
Umpire: Andrew Sayle
Players are requested to be ready to start by 9:00 a.m. please

Kids Cricket. (Prep – Grade 4)

Next Thursday, 8th December 2011, will be the last week of Kids Cricket. A big thank you must go to Mark Bowen who has very capably co-ordinated and run these sessions each Thursday afternoon and the parents who came to help out at the sessions.

To conclude the program, a modified cricket game will be held during the last session and the children will receive a certificate and drink/ icy pole at the end of the game.

Just a reminder that if you haven’t paid your subs, could you please pay $15.00 to Kelli-Ann Sheahan as soon as possible.

Garage Sale

Saturday 3rd December 2011

36 Sherwood Street & 31 Sherwood Street
Debbie McLoughlan & Lois McLoughlan
Homework!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Homework</th>
<th>Due date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Ms McKenzie</td>
<td>Salvador Dali work due</td>
<td>Monday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!

Free to a good home

2 year old kelpie cross koolie dog. Call Amy Bennett 5399 0525
Birchip Community Christmas Party
Fri Dec 23rd In the hall & Morrison St

☆ Santa visiting between 7 & 8pm
☆ Bouncy castles, bubble tent & Cha-Cha 6.30-10.30
☆ BBQ & soft drink for sale from 6.30pm
☆ BYO Alcohol
☆ Community Carol singing between 6.45-7.15pm
☆ Powerpoint presentation of photos from the Year that Was 7.15-7.45 pm
☆ Christmas Concert 8-9pm
☆ Traders draws at 9pm

Music from Brody Glen and his band
from 9pm til midnight

$5 adult, $5 child (2+) or $25 family.
Includes unlimited rides & entertainment
Funding provided by Buloke Shire & RACV
Habits of Mind

Thanks to Bernadette Smith

Grades 1 and 2 children participated in a string maths game. They used loop cards to practice “doubles” e.g., “I have 16, who has twice 9? I have 100, who has two lots of 100?” To extend the lesson the wool was passed around to each card holder as they answered the question. This created an interesting pattern and the children identified various shapes by recognising their features.

**Applying Past Knowledge** - Phoebe Paley & Kelsey Davidson

We could answer the questions because we know our counting. We could identify shapes because we have learnt them.

**Thinking and Communicating with Clarity and Precision** - Patrick Hogan

We had to make sure we read the question properly and speak clearly with a loud voice.

**Thinking Interdependently** - Abigail Flowers

We had to help each other to hold the points of the wool.

**Responding with Wonderment and Awe** - Ponnu Arjith

We didn’t know when we started what shapes we would make and we had many different sizes.

**Questioning and Posing Problems** - Alexandra Randall

We had to ask questions and we all had to check our cards to find out who had the right answer.