Forthcoming Events

December
Thursday 18th Last day for students
Friday 19th Pupil Free Day
January 2009
Wednesday 28th Staff Resume- Pupil Free Day
Thursday 29th Pupil Free Day
Friday 30th Pupil Free Day
February
Monday 2nd Students in Years 1 - 12 commence school
Monday 2nd → Prep Testing Begins
Wednesday 4th
Thursday 5th Prep students commence school

School Finishing Time Tomorrow
Thursday 18th December 2008

School for all students will finish at 3:21 p.m. on Thursday 18th December 2008.

It will be a casual day for all students.

Commencement of school – 2009

The school office will be open from Tuesday 27th January 2009.

Staff return will to school on Wednesday 28th January 2009.

Students in years 1 → 12 will return to school on Monday 2nd February 2009.

Prep students will be involved in pre-testing on Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd February 2009.

Prep students commence school on Thursday 5th February 2009.

Parents are not required to attend these interviews except for bring their child to school.

Presentation Night
– Tuesday 16th December 2008

Our twenty-eighth annual Presentation Night was held last night. It was a further celebration of our school year. The hall was filled to capacity with many parents, families and community members present to share our success with us.

Congratulations to all award winners.

2008 VCE Graduates
James Barker, Gareth Cozens, James Fletcher, Lachlan Footh, Jak Goldsmith, Debra Hughes, Roseanne King, Nicholas Milne, Mitchell Moloney, Rachael Pellegrino, Steven Reid, Arren Smith, Brianna Smith, Kirby Smith, Dean Totzenberger, Ellie Trollope

2008 Academic Awards
Year 7
David Casey
Dean Lovett
Maryanne Bell
Stephanie Martin
Katelyn Bennett
Harrison Christie
Zoe Weir
Jessamy Bennett
Emma Hogan
Brylie Emonson

Stephanie McClelland – DUX
Year 8
Emma Forrester
Sophie Noonan
Bridgette Hogan

Last Newsletter
This is the last newsletter for the year – in fact the 41st. Have a safe and peaceful Christmas with your families and let’s hope 2009 is another successful year (and very wet).
Thank you all for your support over the past year.
Sarah Watts
Claire Boyle
Ethan Cooper
Emily Smith
Laura Lee – DUX
Year 9
Luke Lovett
Conor Hogan
Evelyn Reid
Chantel Emonson
Mikaela Christie
Nicholas Bales - DUX
Karleigh Weir – DUX
Year 10
Brett Barker
Nathan Witherow
Nathan Bennett
Emily Hogan
Kate Watts
Darcie Cooper - DUX
Year 11
Alicia Emonson
Simon Bardell
Jamie Lovett
Shota Nakamura
Elsie Coffey
Daniel Watts - DUX

VCE Subject Awards
English  Dean Totzenberger
Science  Steven Reid
Commerce Dean Totzenberger
Social Science Elsie Coffey
Technology Brianna Smith
Physical Education Steven Reid
LOTE-Japanese Shota Nakamura
Art  Brianna Smith

2008 Awards for Academic Excellence
Dux of School - Brianna Smith ( ENTER - 90.7 )
Caltex Australia Year 12 All-Rounder Award
Steven Reid
Janet Lee Memorial Literature Prize
Dean Totzenberger

Lions Sports Awards
Year 5 & 6  Jacob Christie  Marnie Lehmann
                        Hayley Hogan
Under 13  David Casey  Emma Hogan
Under 14  Jake Hogan  Laura Lee
Under 15  Timothy Walder  Chantel Emonson
Under 16  Nathan Witherow  Kate Watts
Under 17  Jamie Lovett  Laura Bales
                        Maddelyne Foott
Under 21  Steven Reid  Alicia Emonson

Vocational Education & Training (VET) Certificates
Certificate II (Agriculture)  Rachael Pellegrino
Certificate II (Building Construction)  Alex Noonan
Certificate II (Building Construction)  Patrick Ryan
Certificate II (Community Services)  Cody Connelly
Certificate II (Equine Industry)  Zoe Barbetti
Certificate II (Community Services)  
Debra Hughes - VET Prize

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)
Foundation:  Virginia Glen
Intermediate:  Tom Rumbold  Patrick Ryan
                        Cody Connelly  Zoe Barbetti
Senior:  Debra Hughes Rachael Pellegrino
Zoe Barbetti – VCAL Prize

2008 Parents’ Club Arts Awards
P - 6 Arts Award  Sophie Hogan
7 - 12 Arts Award  Emily Hogan

SES & Lions Citizenship Awards
P-6 Citizenship  Sophie Hogan
7-12 Citizenship  Brianna Smith

ADF Leadership & Teamwork Awards
Year 10 – Kate Watts, Year 11 - Elsie Coffey,
Year 12 – Brianna Smith
Winning House 2008
Young House
Australian School-based Apprenticeships [ASBA]
Tyler Lehmann  Thomas Rumbold  Andrew White
Gareth Cozens  Mathew Bennett
2008 Birchip Lions Club Achievement Awards
Year Prep   Dylan Connelly
One         Penny O’Donnell
Two         Jesse Kemp
Three       Luana Baird
Four        Rebecca Botheras
Five        Emily Totzenberger
Six         Chelsi Kemp
Seven       Tim Phelan
Eight       Brenten Delaney
Nine        Tayla Connelly
Ten         Lee James
Eleven      Andrew White
2008 Year 6 Graduates
Ashleigh Baird   Sophie Hogan
Joe Boyle        Kellie James
Connor Buteux    Chelsi Kemp
Jacob Christie   Marnie Lehmann
Yarrann Emery    Bridget Sullivan
Jordan Galway    Darcie Tierney
Hayley Hogan     Ronald Turner
Molly Hogan      Jasintha Yarde

2008 VCE Results
All sixteen Birchip P-12 School’s Year 12 VCE students successfully gained their VCE yesterday. Of these students two also received their Senior VCAL Certificate. One third of the VCE class achieved ENTERs above 80.

Dux of the school was Brianna Smith with an ENTER of 90.7. Brianna undertook 7 VCE studies with three study scores above 40 including 49/50 for Food & Technology, 45/50 VET Hospitality & 41/50 Agriculture & Horticulture. Brianna has already accepted the offer of an apprenticeship with Neil Perry’s Rockpool Bar & Grill – Melbourne. In fact Brianna will commence her apprenticeship this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. as we are reading this newsletter. The school and indeed the whole community wish you all the best Brianna.

Birchip P-12 School Citizenship Awards
The citizenship awards in primary and secondary go to students who, in the opinion of staff, have contributed to the overall welfare of the school and its students and who have also provided an excellent example for others to follow. The citizenship prizes go to students whose contribution to the school and its social life has been outstanding.

Secondary Award
The winner of the secondary citizenship award is a person whose list of achievements and contributions is impressive. She participated in all school sporting events, she played hockey, she coached the Birchip Watchem Minkey hockey juniors and coached the Under 16 mixed hockey team. She was treasurer of the Birchip Youth Group and assisted with the organisation of Rampage. She waitressed at a number of events in the community and on one occasion organised and cooked desserts for 200 people. She was bus captain, SRC representative, House Captain and was MC at the Chinese cultural event. She is our school captain and was the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authorities’ VCE Achiever for July. We congratulate Brianna Smith.

Primary Award
The winner of the primary citizenship award is sponsored by the Birchip SES in honour of the valuable contributions made by Joan Ensor. The recipient of the Primary Citizenship award showed kindness towards others and demonstrated highly efficient organisational skills. She was always respectful to her peers and teachers, and inclusive of all. She worked tirelessly, showing a passion for her roles and led by example. She was Bus roll Monitor and President of the Junior SRC. The 2008 winner of the Primary Citizenship Award is Sophie Hogan.
Summer Showcase an Extravaganza

Last Wednesday evening the Birchip P-12 School filled with hundreds of people in celebration of 2008.

The school was opened to the entire school community at 4:30 p.m. who came in droves to view the many and varied displays. The primary gallery was resplendent with student work. By 5:30 p.m. it was filled with parents, grandparents, friends who were accompanied by students proudly showing their work from 2008. The displays represented all fields of endeavour including: art, science, environmental studies, technology, numeracy and literacy and Japanese language and cultural studies.

The secondary displays were a source of much pride also. Student art and graphics work was admired, particularly the bollards which will be installed in the school grounds over the summer break.

Visiting family and friends showed great interest in the Flight exhibition. The carefully constructed balsa wood model planes showed how well theory and practical elements marry in an integrated subject such as Flight.

The abundant display of tie-dye designed textiles showcased both the technical feats and design nous of the Year 7 and 8 students. Year 8 English students also took the opportunity to present short films they wrote, directed and edited.

The science faculty was also well represented with several displays and multimedia presentations especially involving Climate Change.

After viewing the many installations, everyone enjoyed a free meal consisting of a barbeque cooked by staff and salads provided by the Parents’ Club, in the quadrangle. The atmosphere was both social and festive.

At 7:00 p.m. all those present were ushered into the stadium for an entertaining musical items prepared by primary music teacher Mrs Andrea Phelan. The Prep and Grade One students set a jaunty tone with their performance of ‘Jingle Bell Rock’. The Grade Five and Six students then staged a ‘Birchip Idol’ and the remaining performances were judged by a comical judging panel made up of Connor Buteaux, Chelsi Kemp and Sophie Hogan.

The evening was completed with an evocative rendition of ‘Oh Holy Night’ performed by Elsie Coffey and Virginia Glen.

Many thanks to Mrs Andrea Phelan for sharing her amazing musical talents with our children. Thank you to all staff for the work involved in preparing Summer Showcase and thank you to our parents and school community for again supporting our school.
A very successful P-6 Swimming & Water Safety Program was conducted in the last four weeks of the school year. We managed to swim on most timetabled days. The water temperature ensured most children stayed in for their whole session and the weather was reasonably kind to us. Most children enjoyed participating in the program and their swimming and water safety skills improved. Thank you to the following people who helped out with our swimming program: P-6 Staff, Sue Cozens, Kelli-ann Sheahan, Michelle Lee, Deanne Botheras, Ellie Trollope, Kirby Smith, Maureen Trollope, John Richmond, Jacinta Connelly, Jenny Noonan, Belinda Randall and Carly Langley.

Janine Welton
AUSTSWIM Teacher
2008 FLIGHT: A JOY FOR ALL

On Friday 5 December the P-12 Flight students finally fulfilled their dream to fly with Daryl Chibnall from Ballarat AeroVision.

Students involved included Hugh O’Keefe, Tim Walder, Simon White, Nick Bales, Brett Barker, Conor Hogan, Brady Milne, Marshall Connelly, Ian Fraser, Nathan Bennett, Lee James.

The original flight was scheduled to take place last month in Ballarat but was postponed due to inclement weather and rescheduled to take off from Birchip. Daryl Chibnall is the chief pilot and CEO of AeroVision Ballarat and flew a Cessna 172 Sky Hawk from Ballarat to the Birchip aerodrome. Students were present to see the plane land and greet Daryl on the runway. Before their joy flight, Daryl spoke to the group on the safety of flying in light aircraft.

Groups of three students were then taken for a flight lasting half an hour. Students were able to nominate where they wanted to fly. Students chose to view the Birchip township, Nullawil, Watchem as well as their own properties.

All students found the experience very rewarding and for some students it was their first flight. The school would like to congratulate Mr Russell Christie and Mr Cameron Whelan for conducting such an enriching and engaging Flight program during semester two.

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Parents Club News

2008 is coming to an end so I thought it would be a good chance to add a few words to the final school newsletter for the year.

Most importantly, we would like to thank everyone who helped the Parents Club over the past school year. We would like to say a special thank you to Trish Lehmann and Sam Kemp (retired) for organizing the catering events throughout the year and a big thank you to everyone who participated on the numerous rosters. We could not do it without your support. We would also like a special thank you to Janine Paley and Deanne Botheras for their organization (read that as shopping) of the Mothers’ and Fathers’ Day stalls. I would also like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Mr John Richmond, Mrs Julie Coffey and Mrs Kaye Haslam for all the help they have given me over the past year as secretary of the Parents’ Club.

**Dates for your diary next year: please don’t forget**
First General Meeting Parents/Club - 11th February 2009
AGM - 4th March 2009 - Marc Cox to be guest speaker.

Lastly: a plea for next years school fete. If anyone has any pot plants they are willing to ‘pot up’ and water over the summer we would
appreciate the effort as we would like to be able to ‘offer’ potted plants for sale at the school fete.
Finally, a big thank you to Rhonda, Deanne, Wendy, Cathy and the small band of enthusiastic parents who supported our meetings all year - see you all next year.
Signing off for 2008: Ros McCallum - Secretary Parents’ Club.

Junior Cricket
Results from last Saturday – Indoor Cricket game.
Border 36 defeated Waugh 31
This was an exciting game with everyone involved. Although Border batted first and made only 36 they collected wickets at crucial times to keep Waugh below their total (wickets result in runs being deducted from the batting teams score).

Some of the higher batting pair scores
Border: Jake Hogan and Sean Hogan 21 runs
Waugh: Jacob Christie and Riley Sayle 29 runs.

Some dates to remember.
31st January 2009: Indoor Cricket Game: Chappell versus Waugh (8:45 a.m. start)
8th February 2009: Indoor Cricket Game: Border versus Chappell
There will also be a two day game starting on the Saturday (7th February 2009): Waugh versus Border

VICTORIAN PREMIER CRICKET IS COMING TO HORSHAM
Essendon versus Kingwood
Saturday 10th January 2009
Horsham City Oval
This is a great opportunity to see a high standard of cricket in your local area.

TEENEN AND CRICKET CLUB
Reverse raffle & cocktail party
Friday 19th December, 8:00 p.m. Birchip Community Leisure Centre.
Tickets can be purchased from Simone Christie or Andrew Sayle.
All tickets need to be returned to Simone Christie or Andrew Sayle by Thursday 20th December.

All junior tennis & cricket players should have received a roster. Please deliver savouries to Leisure Centre by 7:30 p.m.

Curyo Fire Brigade
Christmas Breakup
5pm Sunday 21st at the Fire Shed.
Drinks & meat supplied
Please bring a salad.
Santa at 6pm.

To Give Away - Baby Guniea Pigs - 6 weeks old. Phone 5399 0525

WANTED
A House to Rent in Birchip from February/March
Child will be attending Birchip School in 2009.
Currently living in Berriwillock. Phone Sane or Twiggy King 5079 2314

BOOK LISTS
If students misplaced their booklist or would prefer to purchase their books on-line, they can do so by logging onto www.ballaratbooks.com.au

For Sale
Cloth lounge divan
Pair Oliver boots (size 9)
Phone Gwen Kemp 5493 5286
Bales of pea straw - Phone N. Kemp 0438 935 286

Mixed Netball Competition
Friday 16th, 23rd, 30th January and 6th February 2009 Year 10 up. Anyone interested
Phone Jacinta Connelly 0428 922 309 or Steph. Scambler 0407 867
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)
[Sponsored by Mitchell Water.]
Photographs of Grades 4, 5 & 6 ‘Mind your own Business’ – Market Day

Christmas Stockings
These lovely Christmas stockings were designed by some grade two students: Britt Hogan, Britney Robinson, Bill Lee and Brodie Connelly
‘Mind Your Own Business’ - Market Day

Students in Years 4 - 6 completed their economics unit designed to develop and improve skills and understandings of supply and demand, advertising, marketing and the Habit of Mind: Working Interdependently.

Last Friday the unit of work and assessment task culminated in a Market Day in the gallery at lunchtime. All businesses made a healthy profit and the combined total profit was $165.00 which will go towards Junior SRC funds.

Student evaluations included:

Claudia Lee: We worked especially well with the biscuits and we did improve because we worked as a team.

Jasinth Yarde: We improved because we shared our opinions and got along and if we had a problem we could say it.

Nikko Garcia: At first we were messed up, but when we worked out each other’s job we did a great job using teamwork.

Ashlee Tierney: We improved because we listened to each other.

Riley Sayle: We improved because at the start most of our team was sitting around and doing nothing and in the end we were all working together.

Georgia Lee: Our group improved because we worked well together. We listened to all ideas at the start and end. At the start we were OK and we worked well, but at the end we listened more, and we mostly agreed the whole time.

Ronal Turner: We improved because we learnt how it is to own your own business (It’s very hard). We decided to have certain parts of production.

Megan McKinnon: Our skills improved because we listened to everyone’s ideas.