Forthcoming Events

**February**
Monday 18th →  Year 11 Work Experience
Friday 22nd →  Year 8 Cape Bridgewater Camp
Tuesday 19th →  Prep ‘Settling into School’ Parent Meeting
Tuesday 19th →  Year 7 Ballarat Camp
Friday 22nd →  School Council
Thursday 21st →  Interschool swimming sports

**March**
Wednesday 5th →  Parents’ Club AGM 7.30pm
Monday 10th →  Labour Day Public Holiday
Tuesday 11th →  Physical Resources Meeting
Thursday 13th →  School FETE
Friday 14th →  Primary Summer Sports - Donald
Wednesday 19th →  Northern Zone Swimming Sports
School Council
Thursday 20th →  Last Day Term 1 - 2.30 finish

**April**
Monday 7th →  Friday Day Term 2
Tuesday 8th →  Physical Resources Meeting
Thursday 17th →  Summer Sports - Hopetoun
School Council
Friday 25th →  Anzac Day
Monday 28th →  Grade 6 Maldon Camp

**May**
Sunday 4th →  Years 10/11 Canberra Camp
Friday 9th →  Year 9 Advance Camp
Monday 5th →  Year 9 Advance Camp
Friday 9th →  Physical Resources Meeting
Tuesday 6th →  Primary Cross Country - St Arnaud
Friday 9th →  School Council

Induction of badges of office to students holding positions of responsibility

On Wednesday 13th February 2008 the school’s official Induction Ceremony was held with the Buloke Shire Council.

Mayor, Cr Reid Mather presenting our students with their badges of office.

It was also an opportunity for our school to officially acknowledge the traditional owners of land around Birchip – the Wotjobaluk people.

Miss Johnson delivered an address on the reasons behind the Government of Australia’s apology to the stolen generation.

To our students who have taken on these positions of responsibility, thank you for having a go, for being prepared to put you hand up and ultimately believe that you can help make a difference. We congratulate you all on your election to office.

**2008 Positions of Responsibility include:**

**Primary SRC**
President: Sophie Hogan
Vice President: Jacob Christie
Secretary: Hayley Hogan
Treasurer: Chelsi Kemp
OHS and EO: Jordan Galway

**Bus Captains**
Watchem Wilkur
Maddelyne Fott, Ian Fraser, Joe Boyle, Ashleigh Baird

Jil Jil – Winston
Alicia Emonson, Mitchell Moloney, Debra Hughes, Megan McKinnon

Beulah Bus
Brianna Smith, Steven Reid, Kellie James, Joshua Bennett

Curyo
Tyler Lehmann, Emma Forrester, Marnie Lehmann
Year 7
David Casey, Jessamy Bennett, Zoe Weir
Year 8
Matthew Gladman, Emily Smith, Cory Hinkley-McConachy
Year 9
Karleigh Weir, Mikaela Christie, Nicholas Bales
Year 10
Darcie Cooper, Ian Fraser
Year 11
Shota Nakamura, Elsie Coffey, Jamie Lovett
Year 12
Brianna Smith, Steven Reid, James Barker

President: Ellie Trollope
Vice President: James Barker
Secretary: Dean Totzenberger
Physical Resources: Mikaela Christie

House Captains
Young (blue): Brianna Smith, Jak Goldsmith
Fraser (yellow): Roseanne King, Steven Reid

School Captains: Brianna Smith, Steven Reid

**Year 7 and 8 Camps**

On Monday morning the year 8s head for Portland for the week under the care of Mr Christie, Miss Barclay and Mr Whelan.

Year 7s go to Ballarat on Tuesday with Mr Tyler, Miss Johnson and Mrs Barb Smith.

The activities planned will ensure that all students have an interesting and educational week.

**Good luck to all students and thanks to teachers for their planning and willingness to be involved.**

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**Preliminary Notice**

**Parents Club AGM**

5th March 7.30pm

Staff Recreation Room

School Council & Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday 21st February 2008 at 8:00 p.m. in Staff Recreation Room.

Finance Committee Meeting at 7:30 p.m. – just prior to the School Council Meeting.

2008 Interhouse Swimming Sports

Complete results of the Interhouse Swimming Sports held today will be published in next week’s newsletter.

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**Year 12 Activity**

Thursday 21st February 2008 – to be held at the Shamrock and BCG garden

There will be NO classes for Year 12 students on this day.

10:00 a.m. Work Co.
11:15 a.m. Morning Tea
11:40 a.m. Declan Fay – Writing Workshop
12:30 p.m. Lunch
01:30 p.m. Declan Fay – Motivational Talk

Cost - $10.00 per student

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**SCHOOL FETE**

Fete Evening on Thursday 13th March 2008 is fast approaching. Students will be soon engaged in planning their activities. Today, children in primary and secondary were given raffle tickets to sell. No family has more than two books to sell.

The fete is the school’s main fundraising event for the year and we are seeking your support to make this year’s fete a success. 

**The raffles for this year are:**
Primary Quilt made by Val Connelly
Year 7 Monster Lolly Raffle
Year 8, 9 Television
Year 10, 11 & 12 Swag

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**Information Meetings - Japanese Trip and Alpine School**

It was pleasing to see so many parents and students interested in the possibilities of being a part of the Japanese Trip scheduled for September / October 2008 and the school’s bid for a group of students to attend Alpine School in Term 4.

Students interested in going to Japan should have their application forms to Ms Nakamura by Friday 22nd February 2008.

All Year 9 students will have a further information and discussion session with Miss Digby and Mr Marchesi next Wednesday during period 4. The Community Project will also be part of the discussion. Irrespective of whether Birchip P-12 School is successful in its bid to attend Alpine School or not, the project will become an integral part of ADVANCE which all year 9 students will be involved with in semester 2.
Good luck to year 11 students heading off for work experience next week. The placements Mrs Barb Smith has organized promise excellent experiences for all involved.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Placement</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type of Work Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassie Baker</td>
<td>Wycheproof P-12 College</td>
<td>Wycheproof</td>
<td>Primary teacher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Bales</td>
<td>Bendigo Health</td>
<td>Bendigo</td>
<td>Allied Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoe Barbetti</td>
<td>Swan Hill Vet Clinic</td>
<td>Swan Hill</td>
<td>Animal Welfare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon Bardell</td>
<td>Natalie Lama Tennis Coaching</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Tennis Coaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathew Bennett</td>
<td>Swan Hill Off-Road</td>
<td>Swan Hill</td>
<td>Heavy Diesel Mechanic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsie Coffey</td>
<td>The Advertiser</td>
<td>Bendigo</td>
<td>Journalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cody Connelly</td>
<td>Horsham Occasional Care</td>
<td>Horsham</td>
<td>Childcare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Cooper</td>
<td>PMP Digital</td>
<td>Port Melbourne</td>
<td>Graphics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Dyall</td>
<td>Signs Plus</td>
<td>Swan Hill</td>
<td>Sign writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alicia Emonson</td>
<td>Alphington Sports Medicine Clinic</td>
<td>Northcote</td>
<td>Physiotherapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madde Foott</td>
<td>MacRobertson Girls High School</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>P.E. Teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Glen</td>
<td>Warracknabeal Kindergarten</td>
<td>Warracknabeal</td>
<td>Early Childhood Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Lehmann</td>
<td>Foreman &amp; Sheean</td>
<td>Mildura</td>
<td>Electrician</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene Liston</td>
<td>AllCare Equine Centre</td>
<td>Geelong</td>
<td>Veterinary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Lovett</td>
<td>Carrenballac P-9 College</td>
<td>Carrenballac</td>
<td>P.E Teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shota Nakamura</td>
<td>Cabrini Hospital</td>
<td>Malvern</td>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Noonan</td>
<td>West Coast Adventure</td>
<td>Torquay</td>
<td>Outdoor Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac Noonan</td>
<td>R.S.P.C.A Shelter</td>
<td>Ballarat</td>
<td>Animal Welfare</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Rumbold</td>
<td>Colin Rumbold</td>
<td>Lalbert</td>
<td>Diesel Mechanic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthony Ryan</td>
<td>Dept of Primary Industry</td>
<td>Swan Hill</td>
<td>Wildlife Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Ryan</td>
<td>S &amp; J Baxter Buildings Pty Ltd</td>
<td>Bendigo</td>
<td>Building and Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron Valentine</td>
<td>Ballarat Grammar School</td>
<td>Wendouree</td>
<td>P.E Teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruben Vesikuru</td>
<td>McGuire College</td>
<td>Shepparton</td>
<td>P.E Teaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Watts</td>
<td>Ballarat YMCA</td>
<td>Ballarat</td>
<td>Personal Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew White</td>
<td>Dennis O’Grady Engineering</td>
<td>Swan Hill</td>
<td>Building and Construction</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We wish all students a very successful and enjoyable work experience placement.

**Competitions**

There are lots of competitions on at the moment with some excellent prizes. Lots of organisations virtually give money away to people who write on interesting topics.

1. As part of National Youth Week 2008 five National Talent Competitions – RockIT, WriteIT, ShootIT, DesignIT and SnapIT – will be held as a way of unearthing some of Australia’s youngest and most dynamic musicians, writers, filmmakers, designers and photographers. And you can win some awesome prizes! If you go to [http://www.youthweek.com](http://www.youthweek.com) you will find details of the competition and places where if you write twenty five words you will be eligible for lots of prizes.

2. Writers wanted! Students are invited to enter their short stories or poems and battle it out for many great cash prizes. $1000 prizes for each poetry and short story winner and a choice of Nintendo Wii plus game, Sony digital camera, 8GB Ipod Nano and $100 music voucher or Nintendo DS Lite and 3 games. Second prize $250, third prize $150 and the fifteen finalists win $20 each. Entries from Kindergarten to Year 12 welcomed. Entry free and must be in by March 21st 2008.

3. The school fete is on Thursday 13th March 2008 and we need publicity! Prizes will be given to the best secondary and primary school poster. Get going, create and have fun. Posters must be in to Mrs Eileen Smith by Monday 3rd March 2008.

4. Wimmera Regional Library has a short story competition that closes on Friday 9th May 2008. Prizes are

   Open: 1st $500 2nd $25
   Teenage: 1st $150 2nd $75 3rd $50
   Junior: 1st $100 2nd $50 3rd $25

   Details and entry forms are available from the school library or [www.wrlc.org.au](http://www.wrlc.org.au)

   If you want any information or assistance see Mrs Eileen Smith

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**DO YOU HAVE A HEALTH CARE CARD?**

If So You Are Entitled To the ‘Education Maintenance Allowance’
The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

Consequently parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a current Health Care Card or Pension Card.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (29 January 2008 which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (14 July 2008). The **EMA application must be submitted to the school by 29th February 2008** for the first instalment and 3 August 2008 for the second instalment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of $215 for primary students and $430 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school. Schools receive the school portion electronically twice a year and parents/guardians receive their portion via two cheques. Students turning 16 years in 2008, will be paid on a pro rata basis and not on the 70/30% basis.

### Payment Amounts

<table>
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<td>Parent</td>
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<td>$150.50</td>
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<td>School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two</td>
<td>Parent</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School</td>
<td>$32.25</td>
<td>$64.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>$215.00</td>
<td>$430.00</td>
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</table>

Parents with continuing eligibility, who are paid the first instalment of 2008 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Parents who transfer children to another school after 29 February 2008 and prior to or on 1 August 2008, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

Application forms are available from the school office.

### Student Concession Cards

Eligible students aged 15 years and older, who wish to purchase a student concession card so they can travel on the Victorian Public Transport system, can obtain forms from the school office or download a form from [http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au](http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au)

The new form now requires students to have passport photos which the school can not supply. Once you have completed the form it will then need to be signed and stamped by the school, then the completed form will need to be taken to an issuing point for processing: Connex Premium Stations, Staffed V/Line stations & V/Line ticket agents (Donald) or The MetShop.

### General Knowledge Questions

**This week's questions**

1. Traditionally, what does a cooper make?

2. The name Segovia is associated with which musical instrument?
3. Over which Mountains does the Chinook blow?
4. What was the first single of The Spice Girls?
5. Which desert is on the US Mexico border?
6. Baltrusol, Medinah and Oakmont are all types of what?
7. In a church what is a clerestory?
8. What was the original name for Scrabble?
9. Which country developed the cuckoo clock?
10. What do you fear if you suffer from canophobia?

### Japanese News from Ms Nakamura

Osaka Twilight Festival
Melbourne-Osaka, Sister City Celebration, 30th Anniversary
Sunday, 17th February 2008
4pm - 8pm Treasury Gardens
For more information
Birchip Youth Group Meeting
Wednesday 20th February 2008
4pm at the Shamrock.

Buloke Family Fun Day

The Buloke Shire Council with the support of the community will once again be holding the Buloke Family Fun Day. The event will be held on Sunday 30th March 2008 in Sea Lake. The Family Fun Day aims to provide a day of entertainment for the whole family as well as involve and celebrate youth and their talents through technology, music and visual art.

Calling all young local musicians

Enter your band, solo act or performance in a local push start event to be held in the Buloke Shire on Sunday 30th March, 2008 at Sea Lake.

Push Start is a state-wide music showcase for young and emerging performers under the age of 21 years in Victoria. Formerly known as Battle of the Bands, Push Start provides opportunities for young performers to gain recognition at local, regional and state levels. From the local heats, acts are selected to enter regional finals. Make your mark on the music industry!

2008 Buloke Youth Art Exhibition

The aim of the 2008 Buloke youth Art Exhibition is to promote the creative achievements and excellence of young people outside the sporting arena. This event is being staged to showcase the remarkable and largely hidden talents of young people living within the Shire.

Entries will be sought from young people who display considerable talent in the areas of painting, photography, drawing, woodwork, metalwork, textiles, sculpture, and computer graphics. If work has been created in another medium, it will also be included. Entries will be judged on the basis of creativity, craftsmanship and any significance it may bear to the Buloke Shire. Entries are open to people under 21, so past students may enter.

The emphasis is not so much in the competition as the showcasing so the organisers are hoping for high quality contributions. Each entry must be accompanied by a profile and photograph of each entrant outlining their name, year level, school, interests and explanation of their entry. Entries with more than one contributor are allowed and will be taken into consideration during the judging.

There will be great prizes up for grabs in both the music and art competitions so get your entries in quick.

Entries will be collected from and returned to your local school or Shire Office prior to the event by organisers of the Buloke Family Fun Day. For further details contact Marc Cox, Buloke Shire Youth Development Officer, on 5497 1300 or email marc@buloke.vic.gov.au

Birchip Swimming

1. Swim squad and swim lessons with Connely will commence Tuesday 26th and Weds 27th February, but only if there is enough interest. Names and money must be given to BB&LC to reserve a place. The course will run for 4 weeks. COST $25.00

2. The Birchip Pool Committee has agreed to assist the B&S Committee clean up the site after the B&S Ball. The working Bee commences at 12.30pm. Any help from children or parents would be gratefully appreciated. Money raised from this will go towards paying for the pool heating. As the Germans say many Hans make light work.

Thanking you in anticipation.
Habits of Mind

The Birchip P-12 School was successfully in obtaining funding via the Australian Government Quality Teacher Program. The aim of this program is for teachers to improve their knowledge and skills to facilitate the teaching of personal learning and metacognition. It is envisaged that this program will focus on the 16 habits of mind as listed:

- Persisting
- Thinking and communicating with clarity and precision
- Managing impulsivity
- Gathering data through all senses
- Listening with understanding and empathy
- Creating, imagining, innovating
- Thinking flexibly
- Responding with wonderment and awe
- Thinking about thinking (metacognition)
- Taking responsible risks
- Striving for accuracy
- Finding humour
- Questioning and posing problems
- Thinking interdependently
- Applying past knowledge to new situations
- Remaining open to continuous learning

This week we found out the good news that the program will be fully funded with a grant of $5,000. Thanks to Mrs Barb Smith and her implementation team.

Internet Health & Safety

Information Evening
Wycheproof P-12 College
Monday 25th February
7.30pm
Multipurpose Room

Developing ethical, responsible and resilient digital citizens.

Topics covered include:
- Being safe and secure when using technology
- What people are doing online
- Acceptable use policies
- Signposts to e-Safety
- Online bullying and harassment (what to be aware of?)

RSVP the College on 5493 7409 for catering purposes.

BIRCHIP UNITING CHURCH & BIRCHIP-WATCHEM NETBALL CLUB CATERING

Saturday Feb 23rd for Wedding function.
All savouries to be delivered to BCG by 4.00pm SATURDAY.
All desserts to be delivered to hall by 7.00pm SATURDAY.
Queries to Michelle Lee on 54922758.

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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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mrs Kelly</td>
<td>General Knowledge Questions, Spelling list 2,</td>
<td>22nd Feb.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Tables 2x, 5x, 10x, 3x</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>Mr Welton</td>
<td>Research questions</td>
<td>22nd Feb</td>
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<td>List words</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Langley</td>
<td>Homework Sheet</td>
<td>18th Feb.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Prepare class talk</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Miss Langley</td>
<td>Homework sheet</td>
<td>18th Feb.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Mr Delaney</td>
<td>Market questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Maths Methods</td>
<td>Miss Langley</td>
<td>Review questions Chapter 1</td>
<td>26th Feb.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Mrs Smith</td>
<td>Knowledge &amp; Chapter questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Further Maths</td>
<td>Miss Barclay</td>
<td>Finish all exercises up to 3D</td>
<td>18th Feb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Mr Christie</td>
<td>Complete Chapter 3 questions</td>
<td>22nd Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Miss Johnson</td>
<td>Complete all work</td>
<td>25th Feb.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

All Years - 15 minutes reading a day!