Welcome to Term 3. This term will be a busy 10 week term with many events scheduled. The annual Later Years Subject Expo is on next Monday 20th July at the Senior Campus from 6.30pm onwards. All Year 10 students and their parents are expected to attend. The Expo is the beginning of the course counselling process for Year 10 students and parents will have the opportunity to speak to teachers about Year 11 and 12 subjects as well as VCE, VET and VCAL certificate requirements. Individual course counselling appointments will be made for each student in the following weeks to discuss possible career paths and courses of study. I look forward to seeing you there.

Our College Production ‘Grease’ is coming up on Thursday 30th July, Friday 31st July and Saturday 1st August at Altona Theatre. Students are well into rehearsals and are putting a lot of effort into making it an excellent production once again. Tickets are on sale at the office or you can book online at www.trybooking.com/IEBS. I encourage all families to come along and support our music and performing arts students.

Our Year 9 students are preparing for their TEAM 9 Escape for three days next week at The Summit in Gippsland. It promises to be a memorable experience with many indoor and outdoor activities that promote teamwork, perseverance, self-confidence and social skills. We look forward to hearing about their adventures in the next newsletter.
The first visit from our Chinese Sister School, the High School Attached to Yangzhou University, is coming up next week. Thank you to all our host families who have generously offered to host the 19 students and 3 teachers who will be visiting from 23rd – 28th July. We have several activities planned for the visit beginning with a welcome reception at Government House. The Chinese students will attend our classes and enjoy an Aussie barbecue, volleyball game and special assembly. We will publish some photos in the next newsletter.

Year 9 course counselling commences in Week 3 on 28th July. Parents and students currently in Year 9 will have individual sessions to help them select the right course of study and subjects for their later years. Parents will be contacted by their course counsellor to make an appointment time, so please ensure you attend this important meeting with your child.

Enrolments for Year 7 next year are still open. Interested families can contact the Junior Campus to enquire. An information night for Grade 6 students commencing next year and their families will be held later this term.

Elaine Hazim
Acting Principal

VCAL Happenings

Training the U13s Albanvale Cobras Football Team

Year 12 VCAL students Josh Duffin and Jack Black train the under 13’s three times per week at Albanvale Football Club. They train the team on every Wednesday and Friday for 1½ hours. Game day is Sunday where they assist the head coach with the team. Jack and Josh are responsible for skill and conditioning training. The players are enjoying the experience.

Jack and Josh are both competent and experienced players with Albanvale Football Club. Josh started playing at the age of 9 and Jack at the age of 14.

A member of the team Jake Smith just played his 100th game for the team. He is one of the best on the team and he is good at everything, he shows up to training every time and does his best to improve. His dream is to become an AFL player and play for Collingwood. He certainly tries his best in order to achieve his dream.

Stefan Sagdinov, Josh Duffin, Jack Black
Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)
The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF) is now available for eligible families. The fund will run over four years and provide payments for eligible students to attend camps, sports and excursions. Families holding a valid concession card, temporary foster parents or students 16 and over with Health Care Card may apply. Eligible secondary school students receive $225 per year of eligibility. Payments will go directly to the school and be used to cover expenses for the student. **To apply, please complete the CSEF Application Form attached to this newsletter and return it to your campus office as soon as possible.**

Music and Performing Arts Update

**JPAS**
The 2015 Junior Performing Arts School (JPAS) saw 60 students from Deer Park West and Cairnlea Park Primary Schools combine with the 35 piece Year 7 concert band class for three days of music, dance, singing and drama. The three days had students working together in a variety of ensembles including bands, vocal, percussion and guitar ensembles, dance groups and improvised drama performances. After three days of hard work, the students’ efforts culminated in a spectacular night time concert showcasing their talents and performances. This year’s JPAS logo was designed by our very own Alisha Akter of 7E. Thank you to all the staff involved to make JPAS such a success including Fiona Morris, Adam Grech, Troy Grech, Dan Nilsson, Chris Magilton, Michelle Fornito, Melissa Garlito and our ex VUSC students Madeline Axiak and Thom Baccay.

**Meet the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Excursion**
Towards the end of term two, the Year 7 concert band was kindly sponsored by the benefactors of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra to go and see them perform at Hamer Hall in the city Arts Precinct. The performance was tailored to a secondary school audience and included an introduction to the different sections of the orchestra, and to the music or repertoire that they play. We heard a range of music from movie themes such as ‘The Incredibles’, to famous classical pieces such as Beethoven’s 5th Symphony and Mussorgsky’s ‘Pictures at an Exhibition’. It was a terrific day and many of the students left with a new found appreciation and enjoyment for music in general, and all were grateful for the experience.

**The Lion King**
During the last week of term two, the Year 9 and 10 concert bands travelled to the Regent Theatre in the city to watch a professional production of ‘The Lion King’. Although this was a highly enjoyable and fun experience, its motive was also to help prepare them for their own concert band performance of ‘The Lion King Medley’ which they will be playing at this year’s Annual Music Concert on 25th August. The music department and the students who attended would like to thank the School Council for subsidising the event and making it possible for them to attend.

Mr Andre Vikas  
Arts Domain Leader and Head of Music and Performing Arts
GIO Trophy Winners!
A massive congratulations to our Senior Boys Rugby League team who beat Hallam Secondary College 32-30 on Wednesday 17th June in a tough game to become Victorian Champions in the Victorian section of the GIO Trophy Final.

The team will now travel to Cootamundra to play in the Southern NSW section of the draw. Thank you to Mr Adam and Mr Pearce for supporting the students and helping them aspire to achieve their goals.

Well done to all!!

Social Netiquette

Today’s transition to high school usually comes with a transition to a greater online presence. Here are four great ways to help your children develop ‘social netiquette’.

Today’s technology requires a great deal of responsibility for youth and their parents. I know I expect my children to use their manners, show respect and treat others as they would like to be treated. I expect this in the real world and I expect this online – constantly and consistently. Social netiquette is exactly that: online rules and guidelines that match real world rules and guidelines.

Here are some guidelines you can teach your child to help them develop social netiquette:

1. Don’t be an open book
Giving away too much information, too soon, to people you may not really know can put your child at risk. What you need to know and understand is that your child is now hanging out in the biggest possible public place there ever was. Placing themselves online and being an open book can make your child a target. Even with tight privacy settings and all the awareness in the world, that post, that photo is out there; chances are that sometime, someone out there is going to make a derogatory comment about something they’ve put online. Be prepared for that, and talk to your kids about what to do when it does. We recommend they do not respond, let a trusted adult know what has happened and do not re-enter that conversation.

2. Building your personal brand
Everything we do online is either adding or detracting from our personal brand. Everything your child says, ‘likes’, reposts, comments or tweets tells others what they are all about. Today’s first impressions occur on the internet. Your child’s personal brand will take them further than any education or university degree. In today’s world an individual’s online reputation is far more believable than anything they can provide on a piece of paper. A strong personal brand will allow your child to move between opportunities with ease.

3. Housekeeping required
Your child’s personal brand will also outline any of their personal and professional achievements. Setting up and maintaining social networking requires constant work. Work with your kids to maintain a clean house, so to speak. Keep social networks tidy and tight. Have a conversation about why ‘quality friends’ should win over ‘quantity of friends’. Are they connecting only with real life face to face friends? Mistakes will be made, and our aim is to minimise the slip-ups our children will make. Let your child know that you are far more likely to respect them for being upfront about issues rather than trying to bury any mistake they have made. Take a proactive and preventative stance – spending the time now to help your child navigate their way through their digital world will pay off in the long run. Learning how to edit, block and delete content is a great place to start.

4. Encourage kids to T.H.I.N.K.
Is it True? Is it Helpful? Is it Inspiring? Is it Necessary? And is it Kind? If your child can answer yes to those questions, then certainly they can consider putting their material online. But even a single ‘no’ to one of these questions means they will be pushing the boundaries of social netiquette. Times certainly seem different these days, but the rules are still the same. Be nice in public, make a good first impression, tidy up your mess and think twice before speaking.

By Catherine Gherhardt for Parentingideas Club (extract)