On Saturday I welcomed back our Year 9 students and Mrs Pardew who have just spent six weeks in China for the Victorian Young Leaders to China program. The following paragraph was written by Mrs Pardew just before they departed:

“The students are writing reflections now before we have our final farewell assembly. The last few days since our night at the Chinese movies to see jungle book have included dragon boat activities. We've learned the bamboo dance...really hard but so good and we were included in the launch of this school's 'Business Chinese' launch for their learning hub partnered with another school. We've struggled to make celebratory coloured boxes for the dragon festival. We've visited the art gallery...an amazing building, before another amazing meal, overlooking the boats on the river and night lights of Shanghai. A really fun activity with our buddies was our Australia celebration where our buddies tried vegemite, answered quiz questions about Australia and tried out some colloquialisms with our coaching to get the sounds right...goodonyamate!
So fabulous to have been here despite the hard work and missing home, family and friends. But how exciting to have enjoyed learning so much and meeting so many new people!”

I’d like to thank Mrs Pardew for accompanying these students and supporting them in their incredible experience which has taught them so much. Welcome back!

It was wonderful to see both our Junior Campus and Senior Campus students organising and presenting an ANZAC Commemoration assembly on Friday 22nd April. The students did an excellent job and spoke clearly and eloquently. The Senior Campus event was attended by local MP Natalie Suleyman as well as the local newspaper. More details about the event can be found further in the newsletter. Thank you to all the staff who organised the events and supported the students in their presentations.

A reminder to students that the Athletics Carnival will be held at the Keilor Park Athletics Centre on Wednesday 18th May. Students will be transported by bus and will return to school by 3.03pm. It is always a great day and I encourage all students, whether participating or spectating, to come dressed in their House colours and support their peers on the day.

The school community is also invited to attend the Senior Music Soiree next Tuesday 10th May in the Senior Campus Drama Centre. Commencing at 6.00pm, it promises to be an entertaining evening with group and solo performances by our talented music students. Hope to see you there.

Cheers,

Genevieve Simson

AVID

On Friday 15th April Victoria University Secondary College’s AVID classes from Year 7 to 11 went to Victoria University, Footscray Campus to attend a lecture about Thomas King and how he became the Young Victorian of the Year for 2015. During the lecture Thomas talked about Animals Australia and the unsustainable use of palm oil. Animals Australia is an organisation about protecting animal rights. Thomas is also very passionate about reducing deforestation and the use of palm oil in products.

“Animals are not just something, but they are also someone” Thomas King stated. His speech about his life and his love for animals was very motivational and made students look at the protection of animals in a whole new perspective. After the lecture most of us signed a petition about how Hungry Jacks needs to implement a policy that uses more animal-friendly procedures. Thomas was also willing to take photos with us at the end of the lecture. Students went away feeling empowered that they can make a difference in the world and to stand up for your values and beliefs.

By Trevor Mai and Thea San Jose of 8A
ANZAC COMMEMORATIVE EVENT- 2016

The 2016 ANZAC Commemorative Event planned by the Australian History class highlighted an exhibition, which portrayed all the artefacts from WWI and WWII. The local ex-servicemen and women provided all these primary sources. The theme for the event was “Recognising the Local Heroes”.

The students created soldier profiles of the local Australian heroes which was displayed on an acknowledgement board outside Room A04. The Caroline Springs R.S.L contributed by providing information for the soldier profiles.

Unlike other years, this is the first year we decided to provide ANZAC treats to the whole student population. The purpose was to raise awareness of what the Australian soldiers consumed while on the battlefield in WWI. The Campus Principal, Ms Elaine Hazim, worked tirelessly to find sponsors for ANZAC biscuits, apple juice and meat pies.

The Australian History class commemorative event worked in conjunction with the whole school Assembly where Emma Misi delivered a speech on behalf of the class. Lameck and Levy need to be commended for organising the singing of the New Zealand Anthem. The chief guest, Ms Natalie Suleyman, organised by the History class was again present to share her thoughts and experiences related to ANZAC. This year one of the highlights of the ANZAC exhibition was an audio and visual projection set up by Lameck, which covered the survivor stories. The students and the invited guests enjoyed this show immensely.

We would like to thank Ms Suleyman and the Veterans for taking their valuable time to attend the event. Praise should be given to the integration team and the student teachers for their willingness to cook, pack and serve the ANZAC treats for all the students of the College. The staff and the students appreciated ALDI, Coles and Safeway’s contribution with the donation of the ANZAC treats. The contribution and hard work of the Australian History class is also recognised for making this year’s ANZAC event a great success.

Looking forward to 2017.

Ms Devi and Ms Auld
ROYAL CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL
As part of our commitment to Building the Community this year our college held a ‘lucky ticket’ Easter basket prize draw to raise money for the Children’s Hospital Good Friday Appeal. It was fantastic that we were able to raise $380 for this worthwhile cause. Thanks must go to some very enthusiastic SRC student helpers at the Junior Campus – Helen Pakoti, Faith Sagote-Mears, Meynard Rabino and Rebecca Dominic - who volunteered their time on Parent/Teacher Conferences Day to sell the lucky tickets. Congratulations to the two first prize winners who were Phil Wood and Steve Quinn.

- Ms Wooles and Ms Lambert

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES
Homework Club is offered in the Resource Centre at the Junior Campus from 3.03pm until 3.45pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. This is an excellent opportunity for students to revise their work for the day. AVID research shows that if students do not continually revise they lose most of the learnt material within a few weeks.

The Homework Club can be a valuable vehicle to improve reading ability. Library staff will help students find a suitable book and then individually conference with them to improve fluency, comprehension and inferencing skills. Staff will also model the “read aloud strategy” to demonstrate what good readers do.

Additionally the library will be open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8.30am.

PICK UP AND DROP OFF
Could parents/guardians please refrain from parking in neighbours’ driveways when dropping off and picking up students.

FREE STATIONERY OFFER
We only have limited stock left of the FREE Stationery packs. When you pay Essential / Optional and Electives in full, you will receive the pack for FREE. The Pack is valued at $45 and includes all items listed under Stationery on the 2016 booklists.

CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUNDING
All students who are listed on a family Health Care card, have their own Health Care card or are living out of home qualify for this funding. Applications forms are available at the General Offices and on Compass. Funds are held at the college for your child’s use and may be used for sporting activities, camps, excursions or sports uniform.

SCHOOL BUSES
Parents and students are advised that all VUSC school buses are now fitted with Closed Circuit Television Systems (CCTV). The cameras will monitor outside the front of the bus as well as inside the bus.

Victoria University Secondary College has a new WEBSITE!
Log on to www.vusc.vic.edu.au to visit our new website and read about the latest news, college events, curriculum programs and extra-curricular activities, and much more!

There is also a quick link to Compass to easily access the Parent Portal.
Inter-School Sport Timetable

Note: Students interested in representing the college in interschool sport competition are asked to please see your campus Sport Coordinator for more information or the Campus Coach.

### Term 2, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Coach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Wed 4th May</td>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>SBG IBG</td>
<td>Altona</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Badminton</td>
<td>SBG IBG</td>
<td>Altona</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Fri 6th May</td>
<td>Netball</td>
<td>7BG 8BG</td>
<td>Altona</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Badminton</td>
<td>7BG 8BG</td>
<td>Altona</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mon 9th May</td>
<td>Golf</td>
<td>8BG 7BG</td>
<td>Sunshine Golf Course</td>
<td>RGI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Thur 19th May</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>1G</td>
<td>Keilor Park / Green Gully</td>
<td>TSQ, RGI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mon 23rd May</td>
<td>AFL</td>
<td>SB/IB</td>
<td>Keilor / Marbi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Thur 26th May</td>
<td>AFL</td>
<td>7B 8B</td>
<td>Keilor Park</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Fri 27th May</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>VUSC</td>
<td>DMA, RGI, SQU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tue 31st May</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>8G</td>
<td>Keilor Park</td>
<td>TSQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Thur 2nd June</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>8B</td>
<td>Keilor Park</td>
<td>TSQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tue 7th June</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>7G</td>
<td>Keilor Park</td>
<td>TSQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fri 10th June</td>
<td>Soccer</td>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Keilor Park</td>
<td>TSQ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Training:**
Training is COMPULSORY for all student athletes (please let your coach know if you cannot make training). Students MUST have the following items with them to participate in training sessions:
- Fitness Centre (FC) Waiver Form completed and handed into the Strength and Conditioning Coach,
- A towel, water bottle, change of clothes, and runners (Football boots for outdoor sessions).

**Sport-Coordinators and Sports Academy Staff**
If students and parent would like further information about the College Inter-School Sport Program, please contact the below staff members:
- VUSC Senior Campus Sport Coordinator – Mr. Steven Quinn
- VUSC Junior Campus Sport Coordinator – Mr. Rocco Giovannielo
- VUSC Rugby Coordinator – Mr. Tony Adam
- VUSC Rugby Union Females Coach – Ms Casey Nicholls
- VUSC Soccer Coordinator – Mr. Rocco Giovannielo and Mr. Tony Squeo
- VUSC Athlete Development Program – Mr. Marshall and Ms. Hogarth
- Sports Academy Strength and Conditioning Coach – Mr. Matt Mallach

**JOIN A SPORTING CLUB!!**
Any Student interested in joining a sporting team outside of school, please see Mr. Marshall or your HPE Teacher for further information. Lastly, we look forward to the continued support and dedication of our student coaches and helpers. Students, who are interested in coaching a College sporting team, need to see Mr. Marshall for further information or your campus sport coordinator.

Sporting quote of the Month: “What makes something special is not just what you have to gain, but what you have to lose.” (Andre Agassi).

Mr Dale Marshall
Sport, Health and PE Leader
How parent modelling can develop balanced technology habits in kids

Children are natural mimics. They mimic our language, especially the worst aspects of our language such as swearing.

As American researcher and psychologist Martin Seligman found in his ground-breaking research into children’s thinking styles, they mimic our optimistic and pessimistic thinking too!

But it’s our habitual behaviours that really leave their mark. Our kids pick up good manners, money and saving habits, and now our technology habits. This means we have the chance to develop good or bad habits in kids by our own observable behaviours.

So now that digital technology is such in integral part of family-life it makes sense to do all we can to develop smart, balanced technology habits in kids. Here are some ideas to help:

1. **Be mindful of how often you have a mobile device in your hand.** Avoid constantly reading emails or texting while in social situations.

2. **Limit your own media use when you are with children.** Be available emotionally with your children rather than stare at a screen when children are around.

3. **Create tech-free zones.** Keep mealtimes and other family social gatherings tech-free.

4. **Model face-to-face time.** Let your kids see you engaging with ‘back-and-forth’ conversations with others. This is how kids learn conversation, negotiation and other relationship skills.

5. **Consciously engage.** Join with kids in games and other technological engagement but at the same time connect with kids in other ways too.

Media and digital devices are an integral part of our lives today. The benefits of these devices if used moderately and appropriately are almost limitless. Parents can use the ageless power of modelling to influence their children to be savvy but balanced users of digital technology.