

Semester 1 – Term 2, 24th May 2016

Term Two Important Dates

Junior Campus		Senior Campus	
1 June	Year 7 Immunisations	23-27 May	VCE Music Lunchtime Performances
3-7 June	Year 7-9 Exams	30 May	Y10 & VCE Drama Performances 7.00pm Drama Centre
10 June	Report Writing Day (no classes)	2-9 June	Y10 & Y11 Exams
13 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday	10 June	Report Writing Day (no classes)
		13 June	Queen's Birthday Holiday

Next Newsletter: 14th June, 2016

College Principal's Report

Parent Teacher Interviews and DISA Survey

Parent Teacher Interviews this term will be held on Thursday 23rd June, in just a couple of weeks. I encourage everyone to make an appointment with your child's teachers on Compass. While you are at the school that day we'd love you to fill out a survey for us. It is called the DISA survey. It stands for Diagnostic Inventory of School Alignment. Staff, students and parents did this survey in 2012 when we were developing our Strategic Plan. Now, four years later, we are developing a new Strategic Plan for the next 4 years and would like to evaluate our performance before setting new targets for the next 4 years. We'd very much appreciate your feedback and hope you will spend the time to give us your views on how the school is going. Computers will be available for use on Parent Teacher Interview day or you can do it at home using the following link: <http://disasurvey.acelleadership.org.au/survey/df03a372>.

Athletics Carnival

The Athletics Carnival held last week at Keilor Park Stadium was very successful. Students had a lot of fun while competing to win points for their house. We were fortunate that the day was mild and sunny, which meant that everyone was able to enjoy the day. Thank you very much to the PE staff and student teachers for organising a most successful event once again.

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Senior Campus

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Trade Training Centre Cairnlea Campus

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Women in Leadership Program

On Friday I visited 12 Year 11 students at Hall and Wilcox's offices at the Rialto, where they were participating in a 3 part program to develop Women's Leadership skills. The program involved them working with Lawyers from Hall and Wilcox to review the 7 Habits of Highly Successful People. The lawyers went through the habits with them, explaining them and helping students see how to become more successful as adults and professionals. It was an excellent program which our students are most fortunate to be involved in.



China Study Tour

It was a pleasure to welcome the students back from China after spending 6 weeks intensive study in-country. They arrived home, tired but happy having spent an amazing time staying at the Shanghai Industry and Commerce School and visiting Beijing for two weeks. The students were officially welcomed back to Australia at Treasury Place by the Parliamentary Secretary last week. Each group, including the teachers, did a presentation of their learning while in China. I very much enjoyed seeing the growth and maturity the students demonstrated. An experience that I highly recommend to all Year 9 students. Study Chinese in Year 9 and participate in the China study tour!



NAPLAN

Students in Years 7 and 9 undertook the NAPLAN test last week. This is the annual test that the Education Department and Government use to compare Victorian students' learning with students from other states and countries. Over recent years our students have shown improvement each year in the NAPLAN test and we expect they will again this year.

Homework

Teachers set homework for students to provide them with practice to consolidate their classroom learning or to prepare for their next class. Please encourage your students to make a regular habit of completing their homework, as it is an essential part of their learning. This year we have implemented a computer program called Compass, which many teachers are now posting student assignments on. Please log in to Compass to check if your child has homework to complete and make sure they do it. You can check their attendance while you are looking at it, check their grades for completed assignments, and make appointments for Parent / Teacher Interviews. As yet not all work will be on Compass, but as teachers get used to using it you will find there is more and more visible. This will keep you informed of what is going on at school for your child and give you the opportunity to help them when necessary.

Parents can support students by:

- developing a positive and productive approach to homework
- ensuring there is a balance between the time spent on homework and recreational activities
- reading to them, talking with them and involving them in learning opportunities during everyday household routines and physical activity
- talking to teachers about any concerns they have about the homework
- attending the school events, productions or displays their child is involved in
- ensuring upper primary and secondary students keep a homework diary
- discussing homework with their child in their first language, if English is not the main language spoken at home, and linking it to previous experiences
- linking homework and other learning activities to the families' culture, history and language, linking with relevant services, clubs, associations and community groups.

Homework in Years 7-9 should include daily independent reading and may also include class work, projects and assignments, essays and research. As a general guide, Year 10 to 12 students would be expected to increase time spent on their homework, and require from 1 up to 3 hours per weeknight with up to 6 hours on weekends during peak VCE periods.

Cheers,

Genevieve Simson



VUSC News

VUSC Participants Complete Victorian Young Leaders in China Program

Congratulations to our Year 9 students: Lisa Buahn, Maryann Toeke, Lisa Nguyen and Sisi Ti Shi who were outstanding ambassadors on Monday 16th May for our school at Treasury Theatre where the students' presentations and ceremony were attended by Ms Judith Graley, the Parliamentary Secretary, as well as the Chinese Ambassador.

The day's events followed the girls' six weeks of experience in China, absorbing Chinese language, History and Culture while spending two weeks in Beijing's Foreign Studies University, then in Shanghai's Industry and Commerce Foreign Languages School.

The six weeks were an amazing experience creating life-long memories while also



requiring dedicated work and independence, living away from family and friends in long, busy days. It was fantastic fun, learning Chinese with 'buddies'. The mastery of language by the students made huge advances and will now benefit other students in our Chinese classes.

If you are studying Chinese now in Year 7 or Year 8, make sure you ask any of the girls about their fantastic experience so you can consider participating, perhaps in 2017.

"Xie, xie".



2016 Beacon Student Ambassadors

Victoria University Secondary College has a long-standing partnership with The Beacon Foundation. The vision of the Beacon Foundation is "An Australia that understands, cares and is motivated to support young people successfully transition to further education or meaningful employment". The Beacon Foundation provides opportunities for our students to work with, and learn from, successful business leaders and mentors. It also provides the opportunity for our Year 10 students to nominate to be Beacon Student Ambassadors to host professional visitors at the college and be a representative for students.

After an interview process, with a group of strong candidates, the 2016 Beacon Student Ambassadors are:

Steven Ho (10E), David Ly (10D), Karanita Seve (10B), Cheylee Fiddler (10D) and Kimie Chua (10E).

Congratulations to these students for modelling all three of our College values 'Aspire to Achieve', 'Strengthen the Community' and 'Respect Ourselves and Others' as they work towards helping their fellow students gain a deeper understanding of the world of work and careers.

DID YOU KNOW.....

Early music lessons boost brain development

Musical training before the age of seven has a significant effect on the development of the brain, showing that those who began early had stronger connections between motor regions -- the parts of the brain that help you plan and carry out movements.

If you started piano lessons in grade one, or played the recorder in kindergarten, thank your parents and teachers. Those lessons you dreaded -- or loved -- helped develop your brain. The younger you started music lessons, the stronger the connections in your brain.

A study published recently in the *Journal of Neuroscience* suggests that musical training before the age of seven has a significant effect on the development of the brain, showing that those who began early had stronger connections between motor regions -- the parts of the brain that help you plan and carry out movements.

E-BOOKS

The College has purchased an ePlatform which allows students to borrow eBooks from our library.

- Students can access our e library via the link <https://vusc.wheelers.co/>
- Students log on using their Student Id and the Password VUSC1234.
- After logging on students can browse then borrow the books for a two week period.
- Additionally there is an App available for download to various devices.

Any queries please see one of the Library Team.

HOMEWORK CLUB

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.

Sports Corner

Inter-School Sport Timetable

Term 2, 2016					
Week	Date	Sport	Year Level	Location	Coach
7	Mon 23rd May	AFL	SB/IB	Keilor / Marbi	
7	Thur 26th May	AFL	7B 8B	Keilor Park	
7	Fri 27th May	Cross Country	All	VUSC	DMA, RGI, SQU
8	Tue 31st May	Soccer	8G	Keilor Park	TSQ
8	Thur 2nd June	Soccer	8B	Keilor Park	TSQ
9	Tue 7th June	Soccer	7G	Keilor Park	TSQ
9	Fri 10th June	Soccer	7B	Keilor Park	TSQ
11	Tue 21 st June	WMR Netball Champs	7G 8G	TBC	AWH

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.

Interschool Sport Update:

VUSC Netball Success

Congratulations to all our netball teams who represented our college at the recent Divisional Championships. We have had a vast improvement from previous years, which has been thanks to the hard work of our students and commitment of our staff. In particular Miss White, who has put in many hours training our student teams and developing their skill set. We are very **proud** of all our students' efforts, as they all truly lived the College value of '*Aspire to Achieve*'.

Senior Boys Netball finished Runners-up at the Divisional Championship.

Intermediate Girls Netball – Finished 3rd

Intermediate Boys - runners up in Western Metropolitan Region

Year 8 Girls Netball –runners up in Western Metropolitan Region

Year 7 Girls Netball – Won the Western Metropolitan Region

Junior Boys (Year 7 and 8) Netball – 4th Place



Girls Volleyball

Recently the VUSC Senior Girls' volleyball team travelled to Geelong to participate in the Regional Finals. Playing against strong opposition, including Maribyrnong College, the girls demonstrated very good skills to match it with their more fancied opponents. All games played were highly contested with many long rallies the order of the day. The team managed to win one game and narrowly lost another two in the round robin phase of the competition. The improvement shown by the girls in a short space of time from the Keilor Division to this event was fantastic. Another highlight was the way they played each game with plenty of spirit and enthusiasm irrespective of the score. Well done girls!

Team members: Jenny Cheung Pun, Anastasia Lo Tam, Florence Leasiolagi, Toe Minute, Ina Faifaiga, Lupe Mote, Darlene Foisa, Natalie Seve.



Intermediate Boys Soccer Team – 3rd Place at Divisional Championships

Thank you to Mr Squeo and Mr Giovanniello for all the work they have and continue to put in with our Soccer Development Program students.



Sports Academy Update

Our Sports Academy programs have been busy preparing our student athletes physically and mentally for their sports. Our compulsory early morning training sessions on Tuesday and Thursday at our Junior Campus have been buzzing with excitement, some mornings have been cold due to a 7:15am start, but that hasn't broken our student athletes' spirits. We thank our student athletes who continue to commit to their personal gains and the program.

As our Sports Academy program grows and student demand and interest increases, we have now been able to gather further support from our community partners by welcoming our sport technical support staff to the academy team/programs.



Rugby League Wrap

Term 2 has been an extremely busy for the Rugby League Academy, with our senior and intermediate boys in action. We have also had a number of individuals gain selection in a number of representative teams.



Senior Boys 9's

On Thursday 19th May our Senior Boys Rugby League Team participated in the 9's Final's Day at Langama Park, Sunbury. Playing round robin games against Hallam, Keysborough and Hume Central the team managed to win two games and thus reach the final against our 'old foe' Hallam College. In the final VUSC had a very positive start and lead at halftime 10 - 4. However, the team just couldn't find a winning blow to put the game to bed with the team having 4 times players held up over the line and denied tries. To Hallam's credit they refused to lie down and managed to score the

winning try with one minute to go. Whilst disappointed at not defending the title won last year, VUSC played a very committed brand of football and never stopped trying. All players are to be commended on their effort levels. Well done boys!

GIO Trophy – West Qualifier

Congratulations to the VUSC Open U/18's team who have won the right to be the Victorian representative in the semi-final stage of the prestigious Southern NSW Country GIO Trophy. This was achieved after convincingly winning the West qualifier at Haines Reserve, Werribee where the team was able to put together three very strong performances. During the day VUSC played some outstanding rugby league with every member of the team playing their role in both attack and defence. To score over 100 points and not concede a single point was an outstanding effort. We very much look forward to playing Hallam in the final next month.

Game 1: VUSC defeated Mount Ridley College 40 - 0

Game 2: VUSC defeated Robinvale College 44 - 0

Game 3: VUSC defeated Braybrook College 30 - 0



Intermediate Boys Rugby 9's

On Thursday 19th May our Intermediate Boys Rugby League Team participated in the 9's Final's Day at Langama Park, Sunbury. Playing round robin games against Mount Ridley, Dandenong South and Hallam the team managed to win two games and thus reach the final against Mount Ridley College, coached by former VUSC staff member Hamish Pearce! The game was a thriller and seesawed end to end with both sides throwing everything they had at each other. At the end of regulation time the scores could not be separated and golden point was required. This period of the game provide many heartbreaking moments as twice VUSC had tries disallowed. This proved fatal as Mount Ridley managed to steady and kick the winning field goal after an exhaustive 7 mins of extra time. This only added to the 'pain of defeat'.

Despite the loss, full credit must go to the boys for the way they fought out the final, especially since they were down to one sub and a number of boys playing wounded. They showed a lot of character and the disappointment felt by all members of the team demonstrated the pride and care they have when representing VUSC. Well done boys.

Representative Honours

Term 1 & 2 has seen numerous representative honours for our students in both Rugby League and Rugby Union.

Rugby League

Melbourne Storm U/18 reps: Tiui Misi, Richard Wes Sisifa, Uala Salia, Trent Toelau

Melbourne Storm U/16 reps: Mark Iva, Lloyd Tevita-Letalu, Brandon Saena, Iverson Fautimau

Under 18 Victorian RL Schoolboys squad: Tiui Misi, Richard Sisifa, Uala Salia

Rugby Union

Under 18 Victorian Schoolboys Rugby Squad: Masi Alohelei



Arsenal Soccer Schools Session

On Monday 23rd May, coaches from Arsenal's academy in UK came down to take a session with our Soccer Development Program students.

The coaches concentrated on 1v1 drills with technical coaching points given to the students. Our students were engaged and very grateful for the experience of having highly qualified coaches deliver a session.

If any student would like to get involved in our Soccer Development Program VUSC Sport Academy application forms are available from the main office.

Look out for an article on the Arsenal session in an upcoming issue of the Brimbank Leader!

YEAR 7-9 FUN RUN

The Year 7-9 House Fun Run / Cross Country was a great day with special thanks to our Victoria University Preservice Teachers for organising and running the 'Physical Challenges'. Also a special mention to our House Captains and SRC Reps, who supported and cheered on all students as they ran past their checkpoints. We loved seeing students active and doing their best!

Students who finished in the top 10 for each age group will now go onto represent our College at the Divisional Cross Country Championships on Friday 27th May. Congratulations to the top placegetters for each Year Level below:

Year 7 Girls	Year 8 Girls	Year 9 Girls
1 st – Christina Ediva – 7B	1 st – Sung Thangeng – 8F	1 st – Sheyenne Love – 9G
2 nd – Racheal Jezovita – 7E	2 nd – Sheniqua TAULA – 8G	2 nd – Bisirat Teklay – 9B
3 rd – Adna Sebisobsubasic – 7A	3 rd – Lavinia Malu – 8E	3 rd – Isabella Kovanidis – 9E
Year 7 Boys	Year 8 Boys	Year 9 Boys
1 st – Tarquin Damons – 7A	1 st – Khalid Jebara – 8F	1 st – Alan Nimnuan – 9G
2 nd – Kaine Tran – 7F	2 nd – Compton Puatimov – 8A	2 nd – Aloniab ESTIFANOS – 9C
3 rd – Sasa Despotovic – 7G	3 rd – Rayan Mohammed-Ali - 8H	3 rd – Ali Yalcindag – 9E