Each year the Department of Education and Training undertakes a student attitude survey, a parent opinion survey and a staff opinion survey in all government schools. This information is provided to schools to enable us to take account of community feedback and implement improvement measures where required. We were very pleased with the results of this year’s surveys. Parent opinion of the college is overwhelmingly positive, with parents commenting that they were pleased with the school climate, student behaviour and student engagement.

Student attitude surveys over the last 4 years have shown progressive increases in student satisfaction with the school. Students comment that they feel safe at school, are motivated to learn and that teachers are willing and able to help them learn to the best of their ability. Staff also have shown increasing satisfaction with the college as a place to teach and work. They comment that they have a strong focus on, and take collective responsibility for, student learning. Overall staff rate our school highly, have trust in their colleagues and enjoy collaborating together.

Year 12 students finished the year with Celebration Day last Wednesday. Students came dressed in a wide array of costumes to share breakfast with the staff, followed by a wonderful assembly with some very heart-warming speeches. I’d like to congratulate the whole student body on the very positive way in which they conducted themselves on the day.
The Year 12s were an excellent role model to the younger students and Year 11s and 10s gave the year 12s a touching farewell as they formed an arch for the seniors to walk out of the school after assembly.

Year 12 exams have begun. I wish all students the best of luck in these most important exams. Once exams have finished we’ll be celebrating with year 12 students at the Y12 formal on 18th November.

The VUSC Annual Concert is coming up on 2nd November. We very much look forward to this concert each year and hope to see as many families as possible there. It will be held in the Activity Centre at the Junior Campus, beginning at 6:30pm. Free tickets are available from the office at both campuses. All welcome.

Hamlet was a very engaging production performed in the college theatre at the Senior Campus on 13th October. The play was an adaptation of Shakespeare’s Hamlet written by Casey Nicholls, our Drama teacher at the Junior Campus. The play very cleverly told a modern day version of Hamlet, incorporating and blending Shakespeare’s language with modern English as well as with music, singing and fabulous acting. The ghost gave the audience a few scares but it was all in good fun.

This production was developed in partnership with Western Edge Youth Arts, who did a fabulous job of working with students to build their acting skills and presence on stage. I was very pleased to see that three former students were part of this production, giving their time to support current students to get as much out of acting as they did while they were with us as students. Thanks to all the cast and to the many people who supported the production throughout its development. We look forward to another one, equally good, next year.

The College review, which takes place every four years, is currently underway. This process entails the school, together with the Department of Education and Training, appointing an external reviewer to explore what the college has achieved over the last four years and assist the college to develop a new Strategic Plan for the next four years. The reviewer, Emma Richardson from Valad Solutions Pty Ltd, has spent two days in the college this term and will meet with a panel of challenge partners (educators from Victoria University, other schools, the DE&T and the College Board) on Thursday November 3rd for the final day.

The review panel will explore what we’ve achieved and make recommendations for areas to improve on over the next four years. The reviewer will write a report detailing these recommendations and they will form the basis of our next Strategic Plan. It has been a most interesting process thus far and I’m sure will provide excellent and strategic guidance for the college for the future.

I’d just like to end with a reminder that students should not be brought to school before teachers are supervising the playgrounds. Supervision begins at 8.30am. Students at the senior campus are welcome to study in the study centre as they arrive at school.

Cheers,

Genevieve Simson
College Principal
Hamlet 2016
This year Victoria University Secondary College partnered with Western Edge Youth Arts to create a new Hamlet for our times for our college community.

And what a Hamlet it was.

It was like this. Hamlet, a girl, lost her father. Then her mother married her Uncle Claudius and her best friend betrayed her. Then her father’s ghost appeared and things got very real.

The production featured Samoan language alongside Elizabethan text and dances choreographed by our very own student dancers. Innovative mobile projections of the ghost had audiences spooked, while Hamlet and Ophelia captivated with their raw portrayal of teenage struggle. A chorus of storytellers held audiences in the palms of their hands, as the gravedigger and Rosa and Gilda offered much needed comic relief.

Congratulations to all students for strengthening our community through the arts!

Ms Nicholls, Production Manager
Photos by Nicky Dracoulis, Western Edge
2016 ANNUAL CONCERT
The 2016 Annual concert will feature a wide variety of musical acts from across both Campuses of our college.

Where: Junior Campus Activity Centre (Gym)
Who: All staff, students and parents are invited to attend
When: Wednesday 2nd November 2016 commencing at 6.30pm (performing students to arrive at 6.00pm)

Tickets are available for FREE from the Junior and Senior Campus offices. Bookings are essential!

Please do not hesitate to contact Miranda Orford (Brimbank) or Adam Grech (Deer Park) through the school if you have any questions.

ESSENTIAL / OPTIONAL ITEMS
The 2017 Essential / Optional items lists are now available from the General Office at both campuses. On receipt of deposit (or payment in full) students will receive their 2017 Booklist and College Diary.

All students will receive a copy of the College Essential / Optional items list on Friday 28th November, 2016.

FREE STATIONERY
All students paying Essential / Optional items and Electives in full by the due date (see Essential / Optional items lists for due dates) will receive the FREE stationery pack t the value of $41.50. All stationery listed on the 2017 booklist under the heading STATIONERY is included in the FREE pack.

Victoria University Health Expo
On Monday 10th October Year 9, 10 and VCAL students attending an adolescent health expo at Victoria University Footscray Park. Students were informed about issues impacting adolescents and participated in activities. Everyone had a great day and even Mr Bertagnolio participated!
HOMEWORK CLUB – After School
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 complete their final tasks and assignments for the year and study for upcoming exams.

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.

Sustainable School Shop
Buy and Sell Second Hand Items

www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au

✓ Uniforms
✓ Textbooks
✓ Calculators
✓ Musical instruments
✓ Sporting equipment
✓ and much more

eSmart – a community of schools committed to teaching the smart, safe and responsible use of online technology

Since we received our eSmart status last term, our school’s commitment to being an eSmart School continues and we would like to share information with you about a new online resource for parents recently launched by The Office of the Children’s eSafety Commissioner. This resource provides guidance and strategies to inform you in how to keep your children safe online.

A link to the resource can be found here: https://www.esafety.gov.au/education-resources/iparent

eBooks
The College is currently subscribing to Wheelers Books ePlatformOne which gives us access to 1200 eBooks online. ePlatformOne enables students to borrow at any time using computers, tablets and/or mobile phones with the downloadable app. It is possible to customise the eBook display e.g. change font size; adjust contrast, letter spacing, line spacing and colour and can assist specific visual challenges like dyslexia. There are also highlighting and add notes features to further assist the reader.

The 1200 selected eBooks are available to students and staff members by logging on using their Student/Staff ID (e.g. JEF1010) and Password: VUSC1234.
Each online loan is for 1 week and 6 days and can be monitored by the Library staff as per BiblioTech, our Library Management System (LMS). The only difference is that there won’t be any overdue books as each loan is automatically returned after the loan time. If students or staff are unable to finish the book in the timeframe, the usual relend or reservation can be done.

### Sports Corner

Congratulations to our VUSC Track and Field Team who competed at the WMR Track and Field Championship recently. We had quite a few students place and more importantly students receiving PB’s (Personal Bests).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Khalil Jebara</td>
<td>Open 3000m, 14 Boys 800m, 1500m</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Uala Salia</td>
<td>17 Boys Javelin, 17 Boys 4 x 100m Relay</td>
<td>3rd PB, 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Emma Misi</td>
<td>16 Girls Discus, Shot Put</td>
<td>1st, 1st PB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Wes Sisifa</td>
<td>17 Boys Triple Jump, 18 Boys 4 x 100m Relay</td>
<td>4th, 5th PB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Sam Bonnici</td>
<td>18-20 Boys 800m, 18-20 Boys 4 x 100m Relay</td>
<td>3rd PB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Jacob Azzopardi</td>
<td>18-20 Boys Javelin, 1500m</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Kaine Tran</td>
<td>12-13 Boys 100m</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Brandon Saena</td>
<td>16 Boys High Jump</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Tara Savavau</td>
<td>14 Girls Shot Put, Discus</td>
<td>3rd PB, 6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Naima Lealavaa</td>
<td>18-20 Girls 100m, 200m</td>
<td>5th, 4th PB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Miniti Ofamooni</td>
<td>18-20 Boys Discus</td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Peter Lefau</td>
<td>17 Boys High Jump, 17 Boys 4 x 100m Relay</td>
<td>3rd PB, 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Bradley Foisa</td>
<td>16 Boys Discus</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Tiui Misi</td>
<td>18-20 High Jump, 18-20 Boys 4 x 100m Relay</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Shalom Leasi</td>
<td>17 Boys Discus</td>
<td>1st PB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Faamai Aleni</td>
<td>17 Boys 4 x 100m Relay</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Herman Nonu</td>
<td>17 Boys 4 x 100m Relay</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. KJ Luafalealo</td>
<td>18-20 Boys 4 x 100m Relay</td>
<td>5th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Iverson Fuatimau</td>
<td>17 Boys 4 x 100m Relay</td>
<td>4th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations also to Emma Misi and Shalom Leasi who advanced to the State Track and Field Championships at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park.

### Netball Development Program

During terms two and three students in year 7-12 were involved in the college’s new Netball Development Program with Miss White. Students at the senior campus attended training sessions on Monday and Tuesday mornings from 7am where they worked on skills and match play, while students at the junior campus attended training every Thursday after school working on the same skills and match play. The school entered 3 teams into a competition run in Sydenham on Friday nights, with all teams working really hard and achieving some really great results this season. The eighteen’s ladies, mixed team and under 15’s team were able to make it in the top four position on the ladder and hold that position all year. Congratulations to these students for aspiring to achieve! And many thanks to Miss White for her hard work, commitment and dedication.
Interschool Sports Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Coaches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2-Dec</td>
<td>Lawn Bowls</td>
<td>Y7-9</td>
<td>Deer Park Bowls Club</td>
<td>RGI, PGI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VUSC Presents the Sports Academy Celebration Dinner

This celebration and awards dinner will give us an opportunity to formally recognise and celebrate the success of individual student athletes and our sporting teams who have demonstrated commitment to our College Sports Academy Programs and their own personal aspirations.

When: Tuesday 6th December, 2016  
Time: 6:30pm – 10:00pm  
Location: Deer Park Club, 780 Ballarat Rd, Deer Park

Sports Academy Student Athletes - $30, Adults (12 years and over) - $35, Children (3-11 years) - $20. Please pay at the General Office by Friday 18th November.