

Semester 2 – Term 3, 31st July 2017

Important Dates

Junior Campus		Senior Campus	
2 – 4 August	Year 8 & 9 Camp – The Summit	3 August	Year 10 Course Counselling
4 August	Y7 Concert Band Performing Arts Workshop with Derrimut PS	7 August	Year 12 VTAC Interviews begin
9-11 August	Dental Program	25 August	Year 10-12 Immunisations

Next Newsletter: 16th August, 2017

College Principal's Report

Welcome to Term 3. This term as always our students are involved in several different activities, while the Year 12 students are undertaking the final semester of their secondary education. We wish them all the very best as they strive to successfully complete their studies and get ready to embark on a new journey.

The Later Years Expo and Rugby League Information Evening were held last Wednesday at the Senior Campus and both were very well attended. Year 9 students have had their course counselling interviews with their families and Year 10 students will have their course counselling this week to select subjects for next year. Parents would have received a letter in the mail regarding course counselling times. Please contact your child's campus if you have not received your appointment time.

Last week we welcomed a short visit from our sister school in China. The six visiting students and teacher spent time in classes at both our Junior and Senior campuses, as well as some sightseeing in Melbourne and a Welcome Reception at Government House on Wednesday. The visit gave them a chance to see what education in Australia is like and to practice their English. I would like to thank our host families for generously volunteering to host the students and teacher last week.



Junior Campus

88 Billingham Road,
Deer Park, Victoria 3023
P 03 9363 1155
F 03 9363 8681

Senior Campus

5A Jamieson Street,
St Albans, Victoria 3021
P 03 8312 0200
F 03 8312 0211

Trade Training Centre Cairnlea Campus

Ken Jordan Road
Cairnlea, Victoria 3023
P 03 8312 0200
F 03 8312 0211

Correspondence To

PO Box 83
St Albans Victoria 3021

Email victoria.university.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au
Web www.vusc.vic.edu.au

Congratulations to three students from Year 9 who have been given the opportunity to attend the Victorian Alpine School at Dinner Plain for 9 weeks this term. Ezias Danielson, Chantel Moncur and Nhung Le have successfully applied to attend the Alpine School for Student Leadership where the curriculum focuses on personal development and team learning projects sourced from students' home regions. Students are involved in a number of important processes this term; discovering their learning preferences, expeditions, selection of the teams for later terms, hosting a range of guests, developing a Portfolio and Website of their reflection and learning, presentation of their learning and ultimately a Community Learning Project presentation for important school and community leaders. Thank you to Ms Rebecca Hogarth for organising this fantastic opportunity and making the trip during term to support the students.

Congratulations also to these students for displaying the College Values of Aspire to Achieve, Respect Ourselves and Others, and Strengthen the Community with remarkable achievements –

- Jaymir Sali in Year 11 for being accepted into the Spark Engineering Camp, which was held in Melbourne during the holidays from July 10-15. Apparently the applications were to a very high standard and Jaymir was selected amongst tough competition! Spark is a program of extension and hands-on learning based on engineering and Jaymir has worked hard for this opportunity. Well done Jaymir!
- Chad Rosete in Year 12 who performed in the Young Australian Broadway Chorus on 22nd June. It is an excellent achievement to gain a place into this program and perform at such a high standard. Well done Chad!
- Matagi Puneфу in Year 7, Titan Tiananga in Year 8, Compton Fuatimau in Year 9 and Noah Lewis in Year 9 who have all been selected as a member of the SSV Rugby League State team for their age group to compete in the annual School Sport Australia Rugby League Championship in August. Well done boys!
- Leanna Nguyen in Year 7, Mariana Fajardo Valencia in Year 8 and Huy Quoc Ly in Year 9 who all received a Certificate for Outstanding Academic Success this week; and for the many many students who received awards at the Junior Campus last week for Outstanding Exam Scores Above 90% and Outstanding Effort in Semester 1. The lists of these students are attached.

All of these students are to be congratulated on their wonderful achievements. The staff at the College are very proud of them.

Also, I'm pleased to announce that following an interview process, the Department has appointed Patrick Architects to design our new school buildings. We have worked with John Patrick before as he and his firm designed the Trade Training Centre at Cairnlea. I am greatly looking forward to working with him again and will keep you updated on further developments.

Finally, you may remember I mentioned earlier this year that our Rugby League Coach, Mr Tony Adam, has been appointed as the Australian Schoolboys U18 Rugby League Coach for 2017. Tony will take the Australian team to New Zealand in September to take on the Kiwis. This is an amazing and very prestigious achievement. It is the first time in history that anyone has ever been appointed this position from outside NSW or QLD. Here is a photo of Tony with the team (front row, fourth from the left). Well done Tony!

Cheers,

Genevieve Simson
College Principal



VUSC News

YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAM

During the recent school holidays four of our year 11 students, who had been awarded scholarships by Western Chances, were able to join with other young people from all over the world to attend the week-long residential Young Leaders Program held at the University of Melbourne's Trinity College.

Congratulations to Zahraa Ali and David Ly who attended the Biomedical stream of the Program and to Natalie Noonan-Long and May Qureshi who attended the Law and Justice stream.

Here is what May had to say about her experience of the Program:

During my time in the Young Leaders Program, I was able to experience Melbourne University and meet a range of people from different cultures and backgrounds. The best part of the program was the learning experience; the classes we had in the Law and Justice stream provided me with valuable insight about pursuing a career in this field. Because of this experience, I am more confident in the field I will pursue which is to become a family lawyer; one of the classes in the Law and Justice stream was run by a lawyer who is currently in his first year as a practicing solicitor. What surprised me about the experience was the friendly and accepting disposition of the people who have only met you, but they were so warm and amiable. I would definitely recommend this program to others because it is such a valuable learning experience.

Well done to May, Natalie, Zahraa and David.

Michael Donnelly
Senior Campus Youth Worker

AVID Symposium

AVID students from years 7-11 participated in a symposium which focused on Retention in Education. Students were prepared in their AVID classes with the critical reading of texts, which addressed issues relating to retention in education. This will now lead into a learning task where students will work in teams to develop a project for semester 2; this project will have the primary aim of communicating the importance of staying at school to a select audience in our college community.

AVID teachers also presented mid-year awards to nominated students who have performed outstandingly in the following areas:

- Cornell Notes
- Organisation (binder /planner)
- Leadership in Collaboration
- Perseverance
- Commitment to AVID (all rounder award)



Congratulations to the award winners, and many thanks to parents and guardians who attended to support the students.

We are very fortunate to have a strong AVID teaching team who motivate our students to do their best. Thank you to the wonderful teaching staff Ms Kristy Muratore, Mr Christopher Troy, Ms Maria Panagiotidis and Ms Athena Vass.

We would also like to acknowledge the butchers Meat2U who donated 200 sausages for our sausage sizzle.



Year 7

Cornell Notes	Sara Tariq
Organisation	Mali Okita
Leadership in collaboration	Vijay Joseph
Perseverance	Jordan Zammit
Commitment to AVID (All rounder)	Donald La

Year 8

Cornell Notes	Danita Caruso	
Organisation	Cecilia Nguyen	
Leadership in collaboration	Leila Petroski	
Perseverance	Jacinta Klemmer	Sahil Narayan
Commitment to AVID (All rounder)	Chloe Woods	

Year 9

Cornell Notes	Thea San Jose
Organisation	Crystal Mercuri
Leadership in collaboration	James Phan
Perseverance	Chris Soe
Commitment to AVID (All rounder)	Arhabella Cuera

Year 10

Cornell Notes	Hafsah Qureshi
Organisation	Sonia Joseph
Leadership in collaboration	Leyla Holt
Perseverance	Ricky La
Commitment to AVID (All rounder)	Callum Blackmore



Year 11

Cornell Notes	Yedidya Ephrem	
Organisation	May Qureshi	
Leadership in collaboration	Noelia Murana	
Perseverance	Samira Osman	
Commitment to AVID (All rounder)	May Qureshi	Yedidya Ephrem

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. 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 14 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 reloan or reservation can be done.

8th Global Village Bilingual Speech Competition - Mariana (8A) & Cecilia (8A)

Congratulations to Mariana Fajardo Valencia and Cecilia Nguyen in Year 8 who represented our school to attend the pre-final in 'Global Village Bilingual Speech competition' at Melbourne Grammar School over the weekend.



Both Mariana and Cecilia worked very hard on speech training with Ms Yang at lunchtime and after school for the last two weeks. They sacrificed their weekend to prepare and attend the competition with their families on Sunday night from 6.30pm until 10.00pm.



There were nearly 100 candidates from different private and public schools around Victoria who participated in this competition. Unfortunately, only 30 students were selected into final competition. Even though both girls did not get into the final round, their professional speeches and exemplary behaviours were a credit to them. Well done girls!

Year 10 Scholarships – Entry in 2018

Scholarship Applications for Year 10 entry in 2018 are now open and close on Friday 18th August 2017. Scholarships are open to students within and outside the school and selection is based on the student's application and interview.

The College is offering a range of scholarships in the following areas:

- **Academic Excellence**
- **Music Excellence**
- **Rugby League Academy (entry at Year 10 or 11)**

Scholarships are valued at \$450 per year and are redeemable against College expenses including Essential Items, Subject Electives and Books. Scholarships are offered for two years and reviewed annually.

Applications will be available at the Later Years Expo or at each campus office.

Learning to Drive: A new approach

Parents are often the main teachers and supervisors of their sons and daughters when it comes to teaching them to drive but we may not always feel that we are properly qualified to do that. Sometimes in our anxiety for their safety and our own we effectively 'take control' of the driving lesson and tell the learner driver where to go, what to do and when to do it. Perhaps these factors explain why the time of learning to drive is extremely safe but the probability of an accident literally skyrockets in the twelve months after the learner has gained their P plates and goes solo.

The Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development has developed a new approach to driver



training, **keys2drive**, which provides a free driving lesson to address this skyrocketing of the risk of an accident after a learner driver has gained their licence. **keys2drive** is a revolutionary approach to learning road safety and the free driving lesson is an opportunity for the learner driver, driving instructor and parent/supervisor to learn it together.

The free lesson goes for 60 minutes, during which the **keys2drive** accredited driving instructor will explain the keys2drive learning approach – 'Find Your Own Way' – and offer examples of how it can be used when learning to drive. The remaining lesson time includes a practical demonstration of these skills being used and taught and you will be driving.

The **keys2drive** free lesson is not intended to replace normal driving lessons rather, it should complement them by empowering learner drivers to 'Find Their Own Way' to becoming safer drivers.

Learner drivers will receive training in the best ways to practice, helping them gain the confidence they need to prepare for safe P plate driving and beyond.

Parents/supervisors will come away with tools to help their learner drivers achieve a good foundation for lifelong safe driving.

Register for the free lesson on keys2drive.com.au or alternatively have your son or daughter drop by the Youth Worker's office to collect the business card of one of the accredited driving instructors and then contact them directly.

Michael Donnelly
Youth Worker, Senior Campus

Homework Club

Homework Club runs in the Resource Centre at the Junior Campus from 3.03pm until 3.45pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 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. One on one help is available if students require assistance with a particular task. Additionally the library is open Monday-Friday mornings from 8.30am.

PARENT OPINION SURVEY 2017

We're conducting a survey to find out what you think of our school.

The Parent Opinion Survey is completed annually by the Department of Education and Training and is conducted amongst a sample of randomly selected parents at every school in Victoria. This year, about 30 per cent of parents will be invited to participate. All responses to the survey are anonymous.

The survey helps our school gain an understanding of how you view our school climate, student engagement, and relationships. Our school will use the results to inform school planning and improvement strategies.

The survey will be conducted online by ORIMA Research Pty Ltd and only takes 15 minutes to complete. It can be accessed from Monday 7th August to Sunday 27th August.

The survey is available in English, Arabic, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Chin (Hakha) and Hindi.

Results will be sent back to our school at the end of September.

For more information, see: [Parent Opinion Survey](#)

Sports Corner

This term we have already had a big two weeks in sport. Our intermediate and senior basketball students headed down to the Altona Sports Centre to compete in the Keilor Division Basketball Championships. Our intermediate girls fought hard all day but unfortunately did not progress to finals. The intermediate boys started off their campaign with a bang knocking off the reigning champs Taylors Lakes SC in their first game, and some heroic efforts allowed the boys to win by 1 point. Due to the tough competition and large field our boys did not progress to finals, only missing out by percentage. Both of our senior sides also narrowly missed out on a spot in the finals after some very close games and hard fought out efforts. Most importantly students played in great spirits and enjoyed a day of tough competition. We look forward to the Year 7 and 8 basketball and volleyball competitions in the coming weeks.

GIO Cup Illawarra Sports High 32 defeated VUSC 24

For our last GIO Cup game for the year the VUSC Rugby League team travelled to Wollongong last week to play Illawarra Sports High at the prestigious Collegians Sports centre.

With a flight to Sydney and over an hour on the bus to Wollongong, VUSC started the game off very slowly and were soon down 10 nil after 10 minutes. Too many missed tackles and unforced errors at the back resulted in gifting the opposition field position and as a result we were unable to hold them out while they managed to post 2 tries. This trend continued for the first 20 minutes where VUSC were constantly put under pressure. However, the tide started to turn and last 10 minutes of the half saw VUSC trade sets and get an even share of possession resulting in the team putting Illawarra under pressure. The 18 nil score line was not as bad as it seemed.



The 2nd half turned out to be all VUSC. Despite Illawarra Sports High scoring first, VUSC managed to grow in confidence and gain momentum and thus played some of their best football of the year. Running hard and executing their plays they managed to score 5 second half tries.



Despite the loss, VUSC can be proud of the way they responded after halftime to at least give themselves a chance to win the game and didn't stop trying right to the end. Again many lessons were learnt about what is required to compete at this level and the importance of doing the little and hard things well for the duration of the game.

We would like to formally thank IVET for sponsoring the team and thus enabling us

to travel more comfortably in VUSC tracksuits. Overall, our first year in the GIO Cup has been a big success and the boys are to be congratulated on the way they have conducted themselves on and off the field. Although results were not where we would like them to be, we have learnt a tremendous amount about ourselves and what it takes to compete at the highest level in schoolboy rugby. Hopefully the defeats will inspire and motivate next year's team to prepare well and give themselves every opportunity to get a win.

To all boys who played some part in the team's preparation over the past 6 months, you are to be commended for the way you have conducted yourself and represented VUSC with pride and integrity. The sportsmanship shown in all games was outstanding and portrayed all the values we seek at VUSC.

Mr Adam

Interschool Sports Timetable

Term 3, 2017

Week	Date	Sport	Year Level	Location	Coach
4	Tuesday 8 th August	Volleyball	7BG 8BG	Copperfield and Gilson	RHO
5	Friday 18 th August	Rugby 9's	7BG 8BG IBG	Keilor Park	TAD, LMA
7	Thursday 31 st August	Table Tennis	8BG, 7BG	St Albans Secondary College	TBC
		Basketball	8BG, 7BG	Altona Sports Centre	WDI, PWO
8	Friday 8 th September	Keilor Division Athletics	All	Keilor Park	SSV
10	Wednesday 20 th September	Hockey	7BG 8BG IBG	TBC	TBC

VUSC Sports Academy Programs:

- Rugby League Academy (Year 7 -12)
- Soccer Development Program (Year 7-12)
- Netball Development Program (Year 7-12)
- Athlete Development Program (Year 7-12)
- Sport Leadership Program (Year 9-12)

Sport-Coordination and Sports Academy Staff

If students and parent would like further information about the College Interschool Sport Program, please contact the below staff members:

Senior Campus Sport Coordinator – Mr Tony Adam

Junior Campus Sport Coordinator – Mr Lee Maieron

Rugby Coordinator – Mr Tony Adam

Netball Coordinator – Ms Abbey White

Soccer Coordinator – Miss Carlè Rooks

Athlete Development Program – Ms Rebecca Hogarth and Mr Tony Adam

Sports Academy Strength and Conditioning Coach – Mr Lee Maieron

Mr Tony Adam

Sport Program Development Manager

Building self-esteem away from the screens

As so much of a young person's social world revolves around their online feeds and connections, it is no wonder that 'likes' and comments have become a social currency and a reflection of where young people see themselves amongst their peers.



Whilst social media has the ability to ignite a flourishing self-esteem with glowing comments, hundreds of likes and thousands of followers, it can also have a negative impact. A lack of likes, followers or comments, or even just a small number of nasty or negative comments, can do irreparable damage to a struggling self-esteem.

In addition, because many of the social networks kids are using centre around the sharing of visuals, this can lead to an over representation of aesthetics as the yardstick of popularity. Instagram, Snapchat and musical.ly are some of the popular networks right now and all are based on photos, video and performance. Which is all well and good if you have a good sense of who you are and are not relying on the feedback from these networks to decide your worth. But for many, putting themselves out there can mean they open themselves up to judgement and even ridicule. And even if they get hundreds of likes or lots of lovely comments, it is often the one nasty one they remember the most.

We need kids to know they are worth more than their likes and followers. We need them to know their sense of self is not based on what others, and even strangers, may think of them.

But how do we do that in a world that sees kids so attached to their screens and their online social connections?

Well, like all things in parenting today, there is no one simple solution. However there are certainly ways we can help ensure that a sense of self-worth is based on the achievements, the values and the qualities that make each and every child unique.

Build their independence and resilience early

From a very early age, provide them with opportunities to build their independence, have responsibilities, learn to fail, make mistakes and problem solve when things don't go to plan. These skills will become invaluable in a world that sees constant comparison and the inevitable negative interactions of the online world.

Stay relevant

Don't resort to the "in my day we...". We may well reminisce about the more carefree days where we got to switch off and hang out with mates in the neighbourhood oblivious to what the rest of the world thought of our latest picture. But that's not particularly relevant to our kids today. And shutting down their account, turning off their computer and walking away from social media altogether is really not an option for most. Be sure your kids know that you understand the role the technology plays and the challenges they face. That way you put yourself in the best position to have the right conversations and put in place the right boundaries.

Provide other role models and community

Getting involved in outside pursuits and interests away from the screens can help them form connections with other parts of the community. Coaches, youth leaders and other role models can all play a part in mentoring a child about the importance of balance whilst reminding them that there is a life beyond the screens.

Give them opportunities to help

There is no better way to feel better about oneself than to feel useful. Helping at home, helping in the community and volunteering can be great ways for kids to build self-worth away from the screens. It may be helping coach some kids at the local sports club or getting involved in a cause or issue that matters to them. This will give them a sense of purpose that revolves around their actions and their input and not just what others perceive about them.

Family rituals

Regular meals and time where no devices are present can be crucial to providing the stability and security young people need. Mealtimes have been proven to be an effective way of letting kids know they always have a place that is familiar, secure and unconditional. This may not be a reality for every family every night, but trying to incorporate any sense of ritual into a family, especially one where screens are not involved, will certainly provide a positive impact.

We know that the technology and the devices are going to continue to play a huge role in the social and emotional lives of our children. Therefore we need to ensure that we are doing all we can to give them a balanced, true and positive view of themselves that continues to flourish both in real life and online.