



VUSC News Issue Four

Welcome to Term 2

This term is proving to be very challenging for all of us. We certainly acknowledge the work that parents are doing to ensure their child keeps up to date with their work. Our staff are doing a fantastic job of organising remote and flexible learning for their students and we have had a very smooth transition to this different way of learning so far.

Parents certainly do not need to become their child's teacher this term. Students know what to do and they know how to contact their teacher if they have any issues. However to maximise learning during this time, strong partnerships between students, families and classroom teachers will be essential. It is also important for parents to ensure their children are safe online. Our goal this term is to make sure everyone stays safe while we continue working together to support our students' learning and wellbeing. The following is a summary of how parents can support their children:

- Establish routines and expectations
- Provide a space for your child to work in
- Monitor communications on Compass

- Provide a level of supervision appropriate to your child's stage of development
- Set rules around social media interactions
- Check in with your child often to help them manage and pace their work
- Ensure they are uploading work by the due date
- Monitor how much time your child is spending online and ensure they take breaks.

Please ensure you read through the attached guide which was published on Compass last week. It includes important information about what to do if you're child is unwell and is unable to participate in their classes.

Children of Essential Workers

Attendance at school is only available to students whose parents are essential workers and no other supervision arrangements can be organised.

Parents must fill out the Onsite Supervision Request Form below each week if they require their child to attend school. **This must be emailed to victoria.university.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au by 10am Thursday for the following week.** Note that strict hygiene and safety measures will be in place at school for these students and our staff. The learning delivered at school will be the same as the learning delivered to students at home. The teacher in attendance will be supervising students only, not teaching them.

Other Resources for Families

<https://www.theparentswebsite.com.au/five-tips-parents-support-learning-home/>

<https://www.theparentswebsite.com.au/super-list-great-ideas-kids-home/>

E-books access

Jacaranda have kindly granted access to our eBook bundle for all Year 7-10 students during Term 2 due to the current restrictions and the necessity to learn from home.

Students can access a Jacaranda eBook account here: <https://www.jacplus.com.au>

This link is also available under the "School Favourites" on Compass.

Students will need to know their student code, which is the username they use to access Compass, School Computers and School Email. Students can ask their teachers, office staff or IT staff for their student code if they are unsure. To log in to your Jacaranda account, use:

Username: <student code>@vusc.vic.edu.au

Password: Vicunisc3023

After successful login, students can change the default password.

Families who have not already purchased the Jacaranda eBook bundle for 2020 must do so through the Jacaranda Parent Portal to continue access beyond Term 2 using this link:

<http://parentportal.jaconline.com.au/page/victoria-university-sc>

Alternatively, families can organise continued access beyond Term 2 by contacting Jacaranda Customer Service on 1800 522 758.

Technical issues

Students who are having technical issues at home can ask our IT team for assistance by sending an email to the VUSC Service Desk: servicedesk@vusc.vic.edu.au

Please include a meaningful Subject and a brief description.

Below are also instructions on how to access Microsoft Teams for remote learning.

VUSC Open House and Year 7 Placements for 2021

Parents with Grade 6 children should be receiving a Year 7 Placement information pack from their primary school this term. The Department has extended the deadline for Year 7 placement applications to Friday 29 May. This is when the application form is due back to your primary school.

We have cancelled our Open House however VUSC information packs are now available **online** and can also be posted to you by calling 9363 1155 or providing your address **here**.

Doctors in Schools program

Details of how the Doctors in Schools program will run this term are on page 3 of this newsletter. The service is open to all Junior and Senior Campus students.

Finally, I am pleased to say that the tender process for our new school is still going ahead despite the current Stage 3 restrictions and construction is scheduled to commence as planned in June. Please visit our **website** to view the plans for Stage 1.

Please continue to take care of yourselves and each other. As always, please contact your child's Coordinator or our general office if you need any assistance.

Elaine Hazim

College Principal

Child Safety at VUSC

Victoria University Secondary College is a child safe organisation committed to protecting students from all forms of abuse.

Our College has stringent protocols in place and endeavours at all times to be fully compliant with the Child Safe Standards set out under Ministerial Order 870.

Our College has the following documents and policies in place to achieve compliance with the Standards. All of these documents are available for downloading on our website or contact the school for a copy.

1. Commitment to Child Safety
2. Child Safety Policy
3. Child Safety Code of Conduct
4. Child Protection Policy and Procedures



Important Dates

First day of Term 2

Students commence Wednesday 15th April.

Year 7 Scholarship and AVID Applications due

Friday 15 May

Applications for entry in 2021 should be emailed to victoria.university.sc@edumail.vic.gov.au.

Year 7 Placement applications due to your primary school

Friday 29 May

Parents/carers must return the Application for Year 7 Placement 2021 form for their child to their primary school by this date.

To view a full calendar, please click [here](#).



Doctors in Schools Program

Doctors in Schools - phone consultations available!

IPC Health in Deer Park who usually run our Doctors in Schools program at the Senior Campus will now be offering our students the option of over the phone consultations. This service is available to all Junior and Senior students this term. They are doing phone consultations with their current patients and it is working well. To make an appointment the student will need to do the following:

1. Call IPC Health Deer Park clinic on [\(03\) 9219 7142](tel:0392197142).
2. Make sure to mention that the student is from VUSC and ask to speak to Danielle Siler. If Danielle isn't there, you need to ask to speak to Tania Napoli. Danielle is a nurse and will triage the student. The student will then get a time for when the Doctor will call back to have the over the phone appointment.

As you can imagine, the clinic is very busy at the moment so students might not get through to someone straight away, however by saying you are from VUSC and asking for Danielle, this will fast track you through. If Danielle and Tania are both unavailable, you will receive a return call to make an appointment time with the doctor. They are going to try and fit our students in, even if they have a full day.

If a student requires a prescription after speaking with the doctor, this will be faxed to the student's preferred pharmacy.

If you have any questions about accessing this service, please email charles.kimberley.k@edumail.vic.gov.au.





Wellbeing and Community News

How to contact the Student Wellbeing Team

Students may contact Gail or Harry during this term Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 4.30pm on the below numbers:

Harry (Junior campus) 0437 809 985

Gail (Senior campus) 0437 853 921

The importance of checking in with one another is always so important, and particularly so perhaps during this period of isolation and remote learning:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/feeling-it/201208/connect-thrive>

<https://coronavirus.beyondblue.org.au/i-am-supporting-others/family-and-friends/how-to-check-in-with-someone.html>

Support for Families

Join Brimbank Libraries Online

The Brimbank Library System covers 5 libraries, so if you are not a member it might be a good idea to get your parent/guardian to sign you up if you are under 18 (they have to join first and there is no cost involved). In this Stage 3 of lock down, it might be a good opportunity to grab an eBook or Audiobook that piques your interest.

Visit <https://www.brimbanklibraries.vic.gov.au/index.php/component/mtree/services/39-joining-and-borrowing>.

The Push-Up Challenge #pushforbetter mental health in support of Headspace - 11th to 31st May

Over the course of 21 days in May, a team of staff at VUSC will be competing in the challenge to complete 3,046 push-ups, representing the number of lives lost in Australia to suicide in 2018.

All funds raised through The Push-Up Challenge are supporting headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation who provide mental health support to young Australians aged 12-25 years.

Fundraising is optional but this challenge offers a great opportunity to support young people in our community. It might be something that you could consider doing as a family. Visit

www.thepushupchallenge.com.au for more information.

What's On At Home

From Brimbank City Council

Maths Tutoring Available

Tommy Le , who was a student at our school last year and is now at Melbourne University is available as a Math Methods and Physics tutor after hours and can be contacted on 0414051716 or on email

Tommyle48@hotmail.com.



Premier's Reading Challenge

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”

— Dr. Seuss

All students from Years 7-9 are enrolled in the **Premiers' Reading Challenge** which runs until early September. To successfully complete the challenge students must read 15 books in total, at least 10 Challenge sanctioned books plus Choice books.

Apart from the intrinsic benefits from reading, the practical byproduct is that students increase their vocabulary appreciably and thus can navigate other subjects and outside communications more easily. Additionally, there is the satisfaction and sense of achievement which comes from completing the Challenge. This successful completion can be listed on resumes and CVs demonstrating to future employers that the student is persistent and hard working.

We are asking that parents/guardians please ensure that students are reading for at least 20 minutes a night as a ritual, and to discuss with their child about how they are going with the Premiers' Reading Challenge and recording the books they have read.

Thank you for your support.

Kelvin Gallagher

Junior Campus Teacher/Librarian



Parenting Ideas

Our school is a Parenting Ideas School

Parenting Ideas was founded by Michael Grose, author of nine parenting books and parenting educator to over 1500 Australian schools.

Parenting Ideas features up-to-date research, timely advice and inspiration, providing parenting strategies on everything from sibling rivalry, teen health and creating resilience in kids, for children of all ages.

Parents and guardians can view articles published regularly in our newsletter and access free webinar vouchers valued at \$37.