



# VUSC News Issue Seven

Dear Families,

I hope all of our staff, students and families had a restful break during the holidays. We are unfortunately in a similar situation now to last term with the current lockdown in place and remote learning for some students. I sincerely hope that you and your loved ones are safe and well.

Our VCE and VCAL students have started the term well, and our Year 11 students will be completing their mid year exams this week. I wish them all the best and encourage them to study and revise their work as much as they can. All other Year 7-10 students will commence their remote learning on Monday 20 July. All staff are on-site at school.

The following students are able to attend school for on-site supervision, but will also undertake the remote learning program:

- children of parents/carers who cannot make suitable arrangements to supervise children at home, including children of teachers in government schools who are required to return to work on-site;
- vulnerable students.

We will follow similar arrangements to those we put in place for remote and flexible learning in Term 2. As I mentioned on Compass, all students who come to school will have their temperature tested before entering the school. This applies to visitors as well. Of course if your child is unwell, please keep them at home and seek medical advice.

## **VET Class Arrangements**

Please take note of the following arrangements at VUSC and the Trade Training Centre for students attending VET classes:

- Students are to arrive at 1:20pm (no earlier) and wait at the front gate in full VET uniform.
- Students will have their name ticked off at the front gate and their temperature taken.
- Once students have had their temperature checked they are to proceed to the front office (one at a time) to sign in and then proceed to their classroom.

Attached are the documents I have published on Compass; please take the time to read these and make yourself familiar with the arrangements in place.

We have also updated our Guide to Flexible and Remote Learning for Term 3, which is on Compass and attached below. Teachers will end their lessons 10 minutes early to enable some non-screen time for students and themselves.

A reminder that this newsletter can be translated to another language by clicking on the Google 'Language' function at the bottom of each page. Letters to families from the school can also be translated if required.

## **Student Free Day - Wednesday 5th August**

The College Board has approved this day as a student free day for staff professional development. On this day staff will collaborate as a whole school team to improve the teaching and learning programs at the College. There will be no classes scheduled online or at school.

## **Course Counselling for 2021**

Year 9 Course Counselling for 2021 subject selections will take place on Thursday 6th August and the Year 10 Course Counselling for VCE/VCAL will take place on Thursday 30th July. Students will receive an electronic Subject Handbook via Compass this term as the Later Years Expo has been cancelled.

Year 10 course counselling will take place via Teams and all students will receive an appointment time. A parent/guardian must be present in the appointment with the student. **Year 10 classes will not run on this day and Year 10 students enrolled in Year 11 subjects will not attend class on this day.**

## **Breakfast Club Program - Senior Campus**

Our school has partnered with Foodbank Victoria to deliver the School Breakfast Club Program beginning in week 3 this term. Unfortunately due to remote learning, this will only run at the Senior

Campus until further notice. The program is fully funded by the Dept of Education and will comprise fresh apples and non-perishable foods such as cereal, muesli, baked beans, fruit cups and long life milk. The breakfast will be available each Monday from 8.25am - 8.40am in classroom A9, and will be run by the Wellbeing team, VCAL students and staff volunteers. Students are warmly invited to take advantage of this opportunity!

### **Premiers' Reading Challenge**

Congratulations to Fatima and Tushar, both of 7B, who have successfully completed the Premiers' Reading Challenge! Well done to you both! The PRC ends on 4/9/20, so I encourage all students to keep reading and recording your books.

### **School Review**

Our school review will take place over several days from Tuesday 25th August to Wednesday 9th September. The review will involve some classroom observations and staff and student focus groups which will be determined by the reviewer. On the final day of the review we will be looking at what our school goals should be to further improve teaching and learning in our school over the next four years. This will inform our new Strategic Plan which must be completed by the end of this year.

Please take care and stay safe,

***Elaine Hazim***

*College Principal*

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## 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

## **Term 3 begins - VCE/VCAL (at school)**

Monday 13 July

## **Term 3 begins - Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 (remote learning from home)**

Monday 20 July

## **Year 11 Exam Week**

Monday 20 - Friday 24 July

*Year 10 mid year exams will not run this week.*

## **Year 10-11 Course Counselling for 2021**

Thursday 30 July

*Families of Year 10 students will soon receive further information about the subject selection process for VCE/VCAL. The Later Years Handbook has been published on Compass. Year 10 students will not attend classes on this day.*

## **Staff Professional Development Day (student free day)**

Wednesday 5 August

*No classes will be held online or at school.*

## **Year 9-10 Course Counselling for 2021**

Thursday 6 August

*Families of Year 9 students will soon receive further information about the subject selection process for 2021. Keep an eye on Compass for this and the Year 10 Handbook.*

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



# Do you hold a current Health Care Card?

If yes, you will qualify for CSEF (Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund).

**The CSEF Payment amount for students in Secondary schools is \$225 per year.**

**The deadline for applications has been extended to Friday 24th July.**

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards the cost of camps, sports, sports uniforms and/or excursions for your child.

New students to Victoria University Secondary College (excluding new year 7's) or new Health Care Card or Pension Card holders are required to complete the application form held at the general office to receive the funds. The Health Care Card or Pension Card must list your child's name to be eligible. Current students already receiving CSEF need not apply, as their funds will populate automatically.

Please call or drop into your campus general office for more details.





# Doctors in Schools Program

## Doctors in Schools - phone consultations available!

Our Doctors in Schools clinic is still available for students to access over the phone consultations. The day for these appointments has now changed to a **Monday**. If you feel that you need to speak to a Doctor or a Nurse, please follow the process below:

### Procedure in assisting a **STUDENT** to access a DiS appointment:

1. Student to call IpcHealth clinic on **0491 174 821**.
2. Student should ask to speak with Jessica (nurse).
3. Nurse will triage and then link in with GP over the phone consultation.
4. If student requires a certificate this can be emailed to the student and prescriptions can be emailed directly to the student's preferred pharmacy.

If you have any questions relating to the Doctors in Schools program, you can email Kimberley - [kimberley.charles@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:kimberley.charles@education.vic.gov.au).







# Year 10 Scholarships

Scholarship applications are now open

Scholarships valued at \$450 are available in the following categories for entry into Year 10 in 2021:

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

Please see the brochure and application form below, or on Compass or on our website [here](#). You can also pick one up from your campus office. **Applications are now open and will close on Friday 21 August 2020.**

Applications can be submitted to the general office or via email to [victoria.university.sc@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:victoria.university.sc@education.vic.gov.au).



# Community News

## Drummond Street Services in Brimbank

### *Support for Families and Individuals during COVID-19*

Drummond Street services (available in Brimbank and other municipalities) is still supporting families during this very challenging time. They provide a range of services and programs to support children, young people, families, relationships and communities.

Give them a call and chat with their staff about what's going on for you and your family. Interpreting services are available including multilingual staff, please ask if this is required. Appointments can be made to fit in with the needs of you and your family via telephone or the online platform Zoom.

You can access the following free services:

- Relationship and family counselling and support
- Family mental health support
- Parent coaching and support
- Groups and seminars on a range of parenting and relationship issues
- Individual counselling, for children and adults (a fee may apply)
- Specialist support for families who are expecting a baby and for those with a baby up to 1-year-old
- Support for stepfamilies

During COVID-19, we want to make sure that you, your families and our staff can stay safe and well, so currently we are offering our support by either telephone or Zoom.

Online information and video clips for your family are also available at [www.ds.org.au/info-for-families-in-isolation](http://www.ds.org.au/info-for-families-in-isolation).

Drummond Street Services are also running a few parenting courses in relation to COVID and how to deal with the current circumstances. There are a couple of programs aimed at parents/carers who have children attending Secondary School.

All programs are free and will run via ZOOM. Please see the flyers below for more details.

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## Headspace

Headspace for young people -- together, we've got this - is a new digital campaign to support the mental health of young people and their parents during the COVID-19 pandemic and period of significant change. The campaign aims to increase the mental health literacy of young people and their parents by:

- Acknowledging how COVID-19 has changed lives and the impact on the mental health of young people
- Providing proven tips and tools on how young people and parents can build a healthy headspace as they move through COVID-19
- Raising awareness of services available to young people e.g. headspace website/account and the headspace Work & Study service to assist young people who may be seeking support in their job search journey.

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## Westgate Community Initiatives Group (WCIG)

WCIG offer a number of online sessions, assistance to people with disabilities, youth training courses and employment services to the western suburbs community.

### **Virtual Yoga – Calming Zen (every Wednesday & Friday 9.00am )**

Join as via online streaming in daily morning yoga sessions with our qualified yoga instructor, Annalisa. Annalisa will run a daily yoga class and support individuals through the basics. The first half hour or so will be to teach you the correct postures of each pose and then straight into a 1 hour Calming Zen

class. This class is a great combination of slow-paced Yoga combined with meditation. Suitable for people with varying abilities.

**Virtual Meditation - Pure Presence (every Monday & Wednesday 4.30pm)**

Meditation can be a great way to relax. Listen in to our experienced meditation practitioner and find your inner calm. It's a great way to start the day. Join us for a guided, mid-morning 30-minute meditation session online. This is a great opportunity to unwind, escape to nothing less than laid back sounds of stillness.

**Virtual Social Café'- Gather Café' (every Tuesday 2.30pm)**

Keep in touch with people from the comfort of your own home. We are offering various social groups for people to join in have a chat and a cuppa together, a great way to stay connected while ensuring a very safe social distance. We will be offering groups of mixed gender, a men's group, a women's group and a group for the young people we support to mix and meet new people and find a connection. Build friendships and widen your social circle.

**Employability & Motivational Skill building**

Kick Start your life – a new online workshop giving you the ammunition to set and achieve goals. If you are currently being supported with Finding and Keeping a Job or School Leavers Employment Support, we have opportunities for you to continue to receive support through online streaming. We will be contacting all of you about this process in more detail shortly.

**Clean Cooking Online**

Let's get clean & cooking – right in your very own kitchen!!

**Stepping Forward via Zoom** Take that next step, please see attached flyer.

**Craft for a Cause via Zoom** So much fun & all for a great cause, please see attached flyer.

**Learn online photography**

Capture that special moment and create amazing pics. See flyer attached.

**Essential Services provided:** Employment, disability, youth and training services across Melbourne and Geelong. Keep safe and take good care of one another!

**ALSO:** introducing WCIG registered NDIS supports and Disability Employment services specialising in mental health. WCIG is committed to supporting NDIS participants to meet their potential and achieve

their desired goals while focusing on the individual's needs, wants and interests and has done for the past 33 years.

We are providing all supports listed in the Western Suburbs of Melbourne, Barwon region and soon to come into the Northern region. We are ready to support participants with minimal waiting list.

Our current supports include:

- Development of Daily Living and Life Skills
- Support Coordination
- Assistance to access and maintain Employment or Education
- Participation in Community, Social and Civic Activities
- Group and Centre Based Activities
- School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES)
- Finding and Keeping a Job

See <https://wcig.org.au/> for more information or call 9689 3437.

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## 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>.

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## 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](mailto:TommyLe48@hotmail.com).

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# 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.