



Principal's Report

Year 7 Camps

It seems that these were a great success following feedback from students, staff and parents. We do value these camps as part of our transition process for new students to The University High School. It is a great opportunity for them to get to know other students and their teachers on a more personal level. Many thanks to the Sub School heads and the teachers who gave up their time to attend.

Study Skills Sessions

The Year 11 and 12 students along with their parents have been involved in this program recently. Many students gain from learning from successful students who have recently completed VCE and how they balanced their time around sleep, study, leisure and work. I also hope that the parents who attended the evening session for them found the program worthwhile. Thank you to the VCE staff for their support of this program.

New Parents Night

It was a great pleasure to meet so many new parents to The University High School on Wednesday March the 5th. Our hope is that this night allows for an informal meeting of parents with parents who will support each other as their children move through secondary schooling. It was great to hear so many positive stories about how their children were enjoying their time at The University High School.

Second Hand Books

A big thank you to all the parents who helped with the second hand book process. This is a great service provided by the Parents Association that saves families money, not to mention planet trees! A special thank you to Lou Benincasa (an ex parent) who has been a tireless worker for the School and given his children have well and truly graduated has decided to pass on the baton! Any profits from the sale will be used by the Parents Association to provide for student programs.

Industrial Action

It appears we will have a number of interruptions during the year due to Industrial Action. Parents should be aware that we will always provide a letter from the School confirming which students will be excused. A number of parents have asked me how they can support Principals and Teachers in their dispute. While I can't necessarily provide any answers for you we genuinely do appreciate your support and thoughts.

VCE Parent and Student Information Evening

Thank you to all those families who attended this evening and to the VCE team who organised it. Understanding the VCE process is very important and for those parents who couldn't make it please read the literature provided by Bryce House.

Mid Year Concert (May 21st)

This is really an early advertisement for our fantastic concert which will again be held at the Hamer Hall. Keep this date free and start inviting your extended family and friends.

Year 8 Camp and Year 10 Surf Camp

I hope that the year 8 students enjoy their camp at Phillip Island. Dr Janson and the staff have developed a fine and adventurous program and I understand a record number of students are attending. I also hope the surf camp for our year 10's is a success and thank Ms Klopstiens for her organisation of the surf camp.

Rob Newton

Calendar of Coming Events

Monday April 7th

First day of Term Two

Thursday April 10th

Parent/Teacher Interviews for VCE Students only
School dismissed at 2.30p.m.

Interviews from: 3.30p.m. to 5.30p.m. and 6.30p.m. to 8.30p.m.

Friday April 11th

Late start for School at 10.40a.m. (Except Senior Sport Students)

Senior Sports Day

Wednesday April 16th

School Athletics Carnival

Monday April 21st

Year 10 Fast Track (Stage One) (Session 1 & 2)

Tuesday April 22nd

School Open Day and Public Tours 1:45p.m. - 3:30p.m. and 7.00p.m. to 8.45p.m.

Wednesday April 23rd

Parent/Teacher Interviews for students in Years 7 - 10
School dismissed at 12.45p.m.

Interviews from: 1.30p.m. to 4.30p.m. and 5.30p.m. to 8.30p.m.

Thursday April 24th

Late start for School at 10.40a.m.

Friday April 25th

ANZAC Day Holiday

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The UHS School Council meets in the GTAC conference centre at 7:30 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday March 19th

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The UHS Parents' Association meets in the school staff common room at 7:30 pm. All parents are welcome.

Next Meeting: AGM, Monday, April 14th

SCHOOL NEWS PUBLICATION DATES

Your next copy of School News should arrive in your letter box late April.

Brookes On Camp

From Monday 11th to Wednesday 13th of February Year 7 Brookes students enjoyed an action filled Orientation Camp at Camp Gundiwindi in Wandin. Students participated in a variety of enjoyable and challenging activities that encouraged teamwork, planning and cooperation. The students were fantastic in all aspects; they participated enthusiastically in activities and they performed their duties promptly and without reminders. The staff at Camp Gundiwindi were impressed and commented often on the politeness and the resourcefulness of the children. Many thanks to the staff who attended, Mr Paatsch, Ms Patterson, Ms Tarr, Ms Shukroon, Ms McCracken, Ms Rosvoll and Mr Bickham. Below are some photographs of the camp and some students' comments about the camp and the first of school. More photographs of the camp are on display near the Brookes Office.

When I first started high school I was scared. I was afraid that I would get lost. I was nervous about making new friends. I saw all the other students and they looked so confident. I felt really wobbly and longed to be back at my old primary school with all my friends who are now studying at different high schools. We were welcomed by the principal of the school and we went off to a classroom where we were given our student diaries and ID cards. We copied our timetables into our diaries and for the rest of the day we attended class like the rest of the school. At the end of the day I felt like I had settled in. I didn't feel like an outsider anymore and all of a sudden, high school didn't seem as daunting. I was really glad that I went on camp. At first I didn't want to go but I was persuaded by Ms Watson, our coordinator, to go. We arrived at Gundiwindi Lodge where we given a long lecture by Tracey the manager at the lodge and by Mr Nero. On the first night we played a trivia game. It tested both our minds and bodies as we had to answer mathematical questions, sit up against a wall with our legs in straight sitting position, answer trivia questions etc. I found that really fun and that wasn't just because my team won. We also did a range of different activities such as bushwalking in the dark, bush dancing, giant swing (that really did wonders to combat my fear of heights ... NOT) ropes course, archery and more. Camp was really fun. (Emily)

My first day was really confusing and I got lost a couple of times. After a few days I started to feel in place. I knew where things were and how to find the classrooms. On the Brookes camp I made two new friends on the bus and by the end of the day I was really happy with myself, I had made many more friends.... On the second day our first

activity was the giant swing. I went straight to the top but I couldn't find the release rope to let myself fall. Everybody was yelling at me, I finally found it and pulled hard. The first few seconds of free fall were the best. You felt like you were flying. (Louis)

Three weeks have passed and I'm getting along just fine and the camp was the best. There were only four people in my cabin so we got plenty of sleep. The activities were initiative teamwork, damper cooking, giant swing, yabbing, ropes course, archery and survival hut making. We had a trivia night in which our team won, go Warrior Intellect! I came third in the hoola hoop contest. The team worked together brilliantly to solve the questions. (Anna)

The sun livened the place up and there was laughter erupting everywhere. On the first night at dinner (while celebrating Darcy's birthday) a teacher took down the arachnid; this was followed by spectacular bush dances. That night also consisted of a Trivia Night which went on till pretty late. Many irritating voices projected outside that night as some students could not get to sleep. (Elton and Kevin)

Upon arrival at the camp the students were briefed on the camp program and what they were to do. The canine population also rolled out the welcome mat. Following the briefing the students disbanded to their cabins and soon the cool country air rang with cries of students quarrelling over their bunks. The initiatives consisted of several activities which involved a colossal amount of teamwork and logical thinking. Each activity was met with range of emotions from frustration, good humour and enjoyment. Besides the group activities Camp Gundiwindi provided other recreational facilities. The trampolines were by far one of the most popular activities with lots of people including Ms McCracken having a go. The other highlights of the camp were Ms Rosvoll's spider slaying, the wacky bush dancing, the night walk and the movie. From the dinners to the giant swing Camp Gundiwindi was successful in its mission to create friendships. (Justin and Cameron)

**Peter Nero, Head of Brookes
and Year 7 Brookes Students**

**PHOTOS HAVE BEEN REMOVED FOR
PRIVACY ACT REASONS**

Super Sharman Camp

It was 8:30 in the morning and the bus was parked outside Uni High and the kids were entering the bus to leave for camp. As the engine started all the Year 7 Sharman kids started chit-chatting about what awaits us. An hour into the drive and everyone is restless.

Finally the bus stopped and everyone saw the sign saying "Gundiwindi". We all ran out of the bus to see what's before us. Everyone sat down and listened to what cabin number they were in, mine was 6. We all settled in and got right into activities. I reckon the best activity was the "Giant Swing", 18 metres high. I think a highlight of the camp was when everyone, even the teachers (except Miss Clarke) went on the "Giant Swing".

Some memories I will remember are the cold pool that was meant to be heated because I kept on getting out to have a hot shower and the volleyball court because Esther, some other people

and I used it as a rugby court. I liked that so much I took some sand home as a souvenir. All the activities were fun. We had the "Giant Swing", yabbing, swimming, survival skills, damper making, archery, teamwork skills and much more. I think everyone enjoyed it.

On the way home we stopped off at Healesville Sanctuary. We got to watch a bird show called "Birds of Paradise". After lunch we went to the gift shop to buy souvenirs. When we finished, everyone was tired and wanted to go home to see their families.

That was the Super Sharman Camp.

I would just like to say thank you to Ms Bozyk, Ms Clarke, Mr Wallace, Mr Beekman and Mr Hurford for helping us at camp. I would also like to say a special thank you to Mr Newton for coming down to see us

Brooke
Year 7 Sharman

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Annual General Meeting of the Parents' Association

The Annual General Meeting of The University High School Parents' Association will be held on Monday April 14th at 7:30pm in the social staff room.

The Principal, Rob Newton, will be attending. All interested parents are welcome to attend.

For further information, please contact Helen Cooney on 0412 156 817.

Chapman at Gundiwindi

It's the 13th of February, it's the day of camp! All Year 7 students from the Chapman Sub School go to Gundiwindi Lodge! We were all excited. When we arrived at the lodge we had our lunch and went to our separate activities. There were many activities at the lodge which were fun. Some of the activities included the giant swing, damper making, survival skills, a ropes course, archery and a night trail. A lot of the activities taught us to cooperate with each other and work to build good friendships. It was a really fun time for all the Chapman students and teachers. We enjoyed the camp and returned to school on Friday afternoon.

Ben Chiu
7C1

Inter-school Debating is Back

Our motto is 'Aim to win but lose with grace!'.

The teams are organised. We are at a new venue, Ivanhoe Girls Grammar and we really encourage parents to come along. There are cafes, restaurants and even a library within a few steps of the venue. The topics are stimulating and the speeches are lively. Debate Dates are:

Thursday 10th of April Tuesday 6th of May
Monday 26th of May Thursday 19th of June
Thursday 7th of August

Debates are either at 7pm or 8pm depending on the draw.

Jennifer Unger
Debating Coordinator

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After School Activities

The General Office staff have activity forms and will take new registrations and payments on a pro-rata basis. The following activities will be running in Term 2:

Monday - Yoga & Badminton & Soccer
Tuesday - Martial Arts Fitness & Release It
Wednesday - Theatre Sports & Netball & Aussie Rules
Thursday - Dance & Indoor Soccer (Yrs 9-12)
Friday - Athletics

Two of the activities did not have sufficient numbers to run: Guitar Jam and Volleyball.

The notice board for After School Activities is located at the driveway end of the North Wing. Students should check this board regularly and read the bulletin notices as it is their responsibility to stay informed. If they are lost at any time they should ask at the General Office.

It is not possible to chase up those students who do not attend their activity. Parents should check with their child if they have been attending.

Kim Patterson
Student Welfare Co-ordinator

Gifted Students' Acceleration Program Entry to Year 7, 2009

Applications are now available for the Entry Examination to
The University High School Gifted Students' Acceleration Program for 2009

Applications close April 9th, 2008

The Examination is at The University High School, April 19th, 2008

The Application Form can be obtained from the School General Office
or can be downloaded from the School web site:

<http://www.unihigh.vic.edu.au/enrolments/acceleration.htm>

Student Leadership

UHS has a very strong commitment to a range of Student Leadership activities. We encourage all students to become actively involved in as many leadership roles as possible. These include:

- the SRC - Student Representative Council - which enables all classes and VCE levels to be represented on the student body run by students for students. This is a great body for students to learn leadership skills, a forum for debate and the importance of accountability and democracy in action.
- SMAD - Students Making A Difference - this group has a strong commitment to social justice issues and is currently supporting a project for Amnesty International and the promotion of human rights.
- YiP - Youth in Philanthropy - UHS is a founding member of the Melbourne City Council Lord Mayor's Charity Fund; working as a team with mentors and helping to distribute funds to charities in conjunction with the mentor.
- State and National Constitutional Conventions - The University High School is very proud to announce that Ben Mobilio, Ceallachan and Olivia Koh have been selected to attend the 2008 National Convention in Canberra. They will spend three days in the National Capital meeting with about 125 students from across Australia discussing legal and political issues.

We encourage your child to participate in all leadership activities as they are offered throughout the year. They teach valuable skills and core values that enrich a student for life.

Glenn Marchant
Student Leadership Co-ordinator

Year Nine Advance Program

All Year 9 students have been given the opportunity to nominate for the 2008 Advance Program. Parents must sign the nomination form and then the nominees will be considered by their Sub School. Students will be notified before the end of term if they have been successful. There will be a Term 2 group and a Term 3 group. The major component of the Advance Program is Community Service and so it is very pleasing to see such a great deal of interest shown by the students to volunteer in the community.

Kim Patterson
Student Welfare Co-ordinator

Interschool Golf Championship

I had the great privilege to attend the Interschool Golf Championship at the Greenacres course in Kew on what was a truly perfect day. The University High School representatives were Jack Bade and Matthew Di Petta from Year 11 and Rodger Paul from Year 8. Each of the boys was truly impressive on the course, not only in the manner they hit the ball but also in the way they conducted themselves within the small group of players they hit off with. Jack, Matthew and Rodger have played a lot of golf and are members at Greenacres where they are being groomed in a Junior Development Program. Jack had an excellent round hitting 73 off the stick, scoring 69 with his handicap. I thought Rodger and Matthew played brilliantly too but they were not as satisfied as Jack. Can I just say that I would certainly have been proud with their scores! Look out for these guys in the golf section of the news as they each have a great future in this sport.

Kim Patterson
Student Welfare Co-ordinator

Sports Report

It's been a hectic start to the year with many sporting events already having taken place. Senior cricket, senior rugby and intermediate teams have all experienced inter-school competition, with the Year 8's going out on Friday 14th March, followed by the Year 7's Sports Day on Wednesday 19th March. Congratulations to the Intermediate Girls Cricket and Tennis teams for progressing through to the Northern Zone finals. Term 2 continues the busy sports program with Senior Sports days, Northern Zone swimming finals and the School Athletics Carnival

Unfortunately, the Swimming Carnival was cancelled due to inclement weather. Swimming trials were conducted on the afternoon of Wednesday, 27th February to select a squad to represent the School at the District Swimming Carnival on Thursday 13th March. Congratulations and best wishes to the 40 students selected.

The calendar of future Sports Dates can be found on the School intraweb by clicking on the following links: 'STUDENT', 'SPORT', 'INTER-SCHOOL SPORT', 'SPORT DATES FOR 2008'. For more information or any queries, please contact me through the School.

Nathan Wallace,
Sports Co-ordinator

Occupational, Health & Safety

The University High School has a strong commitment to the Health & Safety of all members of the school community. We have a pro-active approach to safety issues and try to anticipate and prevent incidents, wherever possible. The school has an OH&S Committee that meets regularly and conducts regular audits on the School grounds. We are backed by a supportive Principal Class team and encourage input from all members of the School community.

We ask your assistance to help make The University High School an even safer environment by ensuring that:

- students always have sturdy footwear - thongs are NOT permitted under any circumstances
- students use the bins, including recycling bins, to ensure our environment is both eco-friendly and the risk of slips and falls are minimized
- students do not participate in anti-social behaviour such as the making and throwing of water bombs
- all members of the school community feel safe from bullying and offensive behaviour
- all members of the school community understand and respect the diversity of our school community
- students need to act responsibly near trams, trains, traffic and roads at all times

- students understand the need to take extra care near renovation / construction sites
- we all understand the school Code of Conduct; we encourage you to discuss its contents with your child
- animals are not permitted on the school grounds under any circumstances; please keep your pets at home (guide dogs excepted)
- all members of the school community understand the seriousness of any Fire Evacuation Drills and Lock-down Sessions that occur. We hope that these precautions are never needed but we must always be well prepared in the event of an emergency
- only fully tagged electrical equipment is permitted on the school premises
- that students wear clean and appropriate clothing to meet various requirements such as sport, excursions and general classroom activities.
- That students DO NOT use spray cans on the school premises; these can be extremely harmful to people with respiratory problems

Please feel free to discuss any OH&S concerns you may have with either Dr Janson or the OH&S Representative, Mr Marchant. We welcome items for discussion at the OH&S Committee Meetings.

Mr. G. Marchant
OH&S Representative

Oliver! Year 7 and 8 Massed Choir

Year 7 and 8 students have been invited to participate in a massed choral item for the Mid Year Concert to be held on Wednesday 21st May. Year 7 students accepted into the Instrumental Program must participate in this as their Ensemble requirement. After this, any Year 7 or 8 student who wishes to join is welcomed. However, as there will only be 6 rehearsals, we can only accept students who have attended all rehearsals. We will run a Wednesday lunchtime rehearsal each week in April (9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th). After this, there will be two 2 Session rehearsals - Session 1 and 2 on Wednesday 7th May, Session 3 and 4 on Wednesday 14th May. On the day of the concert (21st May), the students will spend a half day at Hamer Hall for a sound check. The concert will begin at 7.30 in the evening.

This is a wonderful opportunity for all students new to the school and those that took part last year to enjoy being a part of a musical group on such a world class stage. The sign up sheet is on the notice board outside Room 151. We look forward to students' enthusiastic participation.

Ms. Johanna Verberne
Performing Arts Co-ordinator

International School Libraries Day Bookmark Project

When looking for an activity to help us celebrate School Libraries Day last year we were alerted to a bookmark project being run by the International Association of School Libraries. Co-ordinated by Rick Mulholland, a Teacher/Librarian from British Columbia, the idea involved schools from around the world making bookmarks to swap with other schools. We provided Rick with our School details and were eventually matched up with Govan High School in Glasgow.

Our Library Book Club were keen - any excuse to throw around a bit of glitter! We provided all the materials they needed as well as several packets of biscuits and they got to work. They came up with a whole range of bookmarks in various shapes and sizes.

We had a number of very funny sessions with the group as they designed and made their bookmarks and chatted about books. They loved the idea of sending their own bookmark across the world to another student and knowing they were going to receive one in return. A lot of excitement and anticipation was generated amongst the group while they waited for the Scottish bookmarks to arrive and they loved receiving them when they finally did. We also really enjoyed the email contact we had with Govan High School organising the details of the project. It's a contact we both hope can be continued again this year.

This was a very positive experience in many respects. Our Book Club had a great time and we made a valuable contact with a similar school in another part of the world. And, of course, it helped us celebrate International School Libraries Day

Rob Castles
Library Manager
Kate Marquard
Information and AV Specialist

Intermediate Girls Cricket Team Outclass Opponents

On Thursday the 28th of February the Intermediate Girls Cricket team took on Melbourne Girls College and MacRobertson Girls' High School at Fawkner Park, South Yarra. The team consisted of the following students;

Georgia Nanscawen	Rasangi Desilva
Julia White	Elysia Coade
Diya Soman	Annina Nowak
Yen Yi Lim	Oindrilla Das
Dunya Ahmed	Munya Ahmed
Georgia Egan	Yvonne Zhang

In their first match, The University High School team set a huge target of 114 runs. Georgia Nanscawen made 74 not out, and was supported by a good batting innings from Dunya Ahmed and Elysia Coade. Some great bowling and outstanding fielding saw the girls limit MacRobertson Girls' to just 28 runs. In their second match, The University High School team quickly made 52 runs, with some great shots played by Julia White. The team was on a roll and again, with some superb bowling, kept Melbourne Girls to 33 runs.

After defeating all competition, the girls now progress to the Northern Zone finals. A fantastic team effort girls, well done! A big thank you to our two student umpires, Rodger Paul and Nick Gibbons.

Nikki McCracken
Sports Staff

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The University High School Council Election Results

The number of nominations for both for both the Parent and DEECD positions equalled the number of vacancies. Thank you to the following people who nominated.

Parent Representatives

David Gurr George Hatzis Matina Lontos

DEECD Representatives

Andrew Nicholls Kim Patterson

Visual Communication and Design Top Designs 2008

Former Year 12 student (2007), Sophie Parker, recently had her hard work, talent and commitment to her Visual Communication studies acknowledged when her work was chosen to be part of the 2008 Top Designs exhibition program. Sophie's Unit Four folio will form part of a representative selection of high achieving students from across the state.

Sophie's "Dispatch" designs were developed with the intention of launching and promoting a fictitious art and design magazine. Her use of traditional techniques and innovative approach to digital image production were showcased throughout an outstanding design development folio. Finished presentations included a collection of four Avant cards (promotional postcards), a magazine cover and an environmentally friendly fabric carry bag intended as a promotional support to accompany the launch of Dispatch magazine.

Students currently studying, or considering future study in this discipline, are strongly encouraged to visit the exhibition. Top Designs provides the only 'hands on' collective summary of VCE design students' achievements. This rare opportunity can assist parents and students to develop an understanding of the process, techniques and structure of a range of VCE design studies. Many students have found viewing this collection of work a valuable experience. It can inform the selection of a course of study, with a view to a career in design.

The Top Designs exhibition can be viewed at the Melbourne Museum (Australian Gallery) from 10th April to 29th June 2008. Museum opening hours are from 10am to 5pm.

Bronwyn White
Art and Technology Staff

