



Principal's Report

Galileo Project

The Galileo Project is a new Year 9 program for 2009. An information evening will be held on Thursday, October 16th at 7pm. I would like to encourage all current year 8 parents to attend. We are very excited about this initiative that has been planned over the last two years by a team of our staff.

Girls Soccer (football) Team

Congratulations to our intermediate girls soccer team who were state runners up. A marvellous effort. The team was coached by Mr Peter Nero.

Ski Camp

I understand the ski camp was a great success and the attitude and behaviour of our students was exemplary. Thank you to Mr Paul Batters and his staff team for their organisation. Due to an avalanche they arrived back at 3am.

Subject Selections 2009

Thank you to all those parents who have attended parent teacher and other information evenings recently and assisted their children in choosing their subjects for next year. It is quite a maze and making your way through this maze requires a great deal of information together with some crystal ball gazing. We have now started the allocation process which is a mammoth task in a school of our size.

Walkathon (Wednesday September 17th)

Please support our walkathon (see attached letter), as this is a major fund raiser for the bridge link we hope to build between our two tallest buildings. Our aim is for all students to raise \$50 or \$5 per kilometre walked.

Rob Newton

Principal

Calendar of Coming Events

15 September

Yr 7 Sport Day

16 September

Parents' Association Meeting 7:30pm

17 September

"Build A Bridge" Walkathon Years 7 - 11, Sessions 1 - 6

17 September

School Council meeting at 7.30pm

19 September

Last day of Term Three, early dismissal at 2.30pm

06 October

First day of Term 4

08 October

Year 12 English Practice Exam from 8.45am to 12.00pm

14 October

Parents' Association Meeting 7:30pm

16 October

Year 8 Parents' meeting for Galileo Project Information Night, 7:00pm

21 October

Last Day for Year 12

22 October

School Council meeting 7.30pm

22 October

Year 12 BBQ

26 October

Sunday Musical Breakfast

29 October

Year 12 Valedictory Assembly

31 October

Year 12 Exams Commence

03 November

Pupil Free Day for Report Writing

04 November

Pupil Free Day for Melbourne Cup

05 - 14 November

Year 11 Exams

17 - 20 November

Year 12 Orientation Program

17 - 20 November

Year 10 Assessment / Testing days

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The UHS School Council meets in the GTAC conference centre at 7:30 pm.
Next Meeting: Wednesday, 17 Sept.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The UHS Parents' Association meets in the school staff room at 7:30 pm. All parents are welcome.
Next Meeting: Tuesday, 16 September

SCHOOL NEWS PUBLICATION DATES

Your next copy of School News should arrive in your letter box in October

Flute Quartet Performs at National Music Awards

The University High School Flute Quartet was invited to perform at the presentation ceremony for the 2008 National Awards for Excellence in School Music Education at University House, the University of Melbourne on Friday 22 August 2008. The awards are funded by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations for four years (2007-2010) and are an outcome of the National Review of School Music Education (2005). They are administered by the Australian Society for Music Education under the Australian Government Quality Teacher Program. Dr Amanda Watson organised the invitation for the quartet.

Professor John O'Toole, Chair of Arts Education at the University of Melbourne welcomed the guests invited to this prestigious event. Dr Jennifer Rosevear, National President of the Australian Society for Music Education, announced the winners of the Awards, which were made to eleven teachers and two school leaders from across Australia. Many of the Award winners were able to be present at the ceremony. A presentation was made to the school leader and teacher who each received a special commendation for their contribution in promoting excellence in school music education. Ms Carolyn Grace conducted the members of the UHS flute quartet. Hayley Jach, Anusha Brett Rogers, Sandy Yao and Sarah Tarrant Kuang performed as the guests arrived for the celebration cocktail party and after the Awards were presented.

Carolyn Grace and Amanda Watson
Woodwind Teachers

Photos have been removed for Privacy Law reasons

2008 Mid Year Concert Hamer Hall

The packaged DVD is now available from the General Office as a memento of the Concert

\$5.00 per DVD



State Cross Country Finals

On Friday, 1st August, six students represented University High School at the State Cross Country Finals, held at Bundoora Park. In windy, cold conditions all students ran to the best of their ability, with most recording personal best times. Congratulations to all students for the way they conducted themselves, and a special thank-you to the parents who braved the icy conditions to support the athletes. A special mention to Joshua West for smashing his 'P.B.' and finishing 2nd in the State. An amazing result!

With over 100 competitors in each race, results are as follows:

	Position	Time
U13 Girls		
Lydia Distefano	80th	13'23
U13 Boys		
James Mackey	46th	11'02
U14 Girls		
Evelyn Burry	69th	13'04
U14 Boys		
Joshua West	2nd	9'21
U15 Girls		
Ruby Grounds	63rd	12'31
U21 Girls		
Julia Gorman	23rd	11'33

Nathan Wallace
Inter-school Sport Coordinator

Training String Group

All Year 7 students who began learning a string instrument this year started coming to Training Strings at the beginning of this semester. Students rehearse after school until 4.00pm on Wednesdays. The group has about 28 members and boasts a sea of eager young violinists, seven viola players, three cellists, two double basses and one very brave piano player. Our repertoire is catchy and cute. Currently we are working on "Fancy Fiddles" and "Stringasaurus". We hope to perform these pieces at The University High School Annual Musical Breakfast on October 26th. Students are learning all sorts of new playing and ensemble skills and hopefully having fun at the same time. I certainly am!

Janine Lancaster
String Teacher

History at the Shrine

A few weeks ago, 9C2 and 9S1 went to the Shrine of Remembrance to learn about the historical events for which it stands. It was an important excursion as the Shrine represents many memories and aspects of our history. It is to remember the brave men who fought in all the wars, mainly the Great War.

We saw a reenactment of the light going across the 'Greater Love Hath No Man' stone which was a great experience. It was a remarkable view from the top of the Shrine as you can see the city and the Bay.

"Its amazing how the Shrine is located in amongst the City life (sky scrapers and of-fices)" - Dan Spiteri.

We would like to say a special thank you to the teachers who took us. Thank you Mrs Seeger-Snowden, Mr Henry and our TC, Mr Coppik.

Sarah Alihos and Dan Spiteri

Secondhand Book Sale

The Parents' Association will be holding its annual Secondhand Book Sale at the end of Term 4, 2008. The Book Sale raises approximately \$10,000 each year for the school. To ensure this is successful, parent volunteers are needed. Please keep an eye out for information in Term 4 in the newsletter and on the UHS website to find out how you can assist or attend our next meeting on Tuesday September 16 at 7:30pm in the staff room.

Parents' Association

Literacy Week

Last week was Literacy Week, and once again it was an excuse for much fun and frivolity with words and language; from lunchtimes playing word games in the library to Target Word competitions in the daily bulletin, from 'gettin' down' to Literacy inspired songs at lunchtime to entering the creative writing blog on the intraweb. I have set up below a summary of what literacy is, what is happening at Uni High and what you can do to support the literacy development of your kids.

Lisa Shukroon - Literacy Coordinator

WHAT IS LITERACY?

In contemporary society and especially education-speak, literacy is very broadly anything that helps a person effectively understand and participate in communication. This can include visual literacy, technological competency, even social literacies (the capacity to understand unspoken communication like a frown). For practical purposes however, at the core of most effective communication is reading, writing, speaking and listening. Reading and writing are not important for their own sake but they are important as tools to help people participate meaningfully in an increasingly literate world. I am yet to find a student at University High School that cannot read or write in basic terms but there are students that have significant literacy problems.

HOW HAS LITERACY SUPPORT DEVELOPED AT UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL?

Literacy has been and continues to be a central focus for educational policy - both federally and on a state basis - in public education. As it should be. In recent times Uni High has put greater emphasis on a two pronged approach to developing literacy. Firstly by providing intensive support for students in years 7-9 identified with literacy needs, secondly by developing a whole-school approach to literacy in every classroom. So what does this mean?

We now have the Learning for Life program. This provides 3 sessions a week of small group support for students who may have difficulties with reading, written expression, a limited word bank, extracting required information, grammar/syntax etc. The program helps students identify the areas they need to focus on as well as helping them identify their strengths. There is time allocated for intensive language skill development as well as time to get support to complete task required in other subject areas. It is heartening to note that many of these students have experienced greater success and burgeoning confidence since their involvement in the program.

However it is the role of every teacher to support the literacy learning of their students in the

context of every subject. We have always done this but the school has embarked on making some of this more explicit and conscious. The focus for 2008/9 is increasing each student's active word bank. This will involve bringing attention to new language as it is introduced and ensuring that there is a cultural practice of teaching students to learn language in context. Importantly it will also include teaching students strategies so that they know how to make meaning from new language by drawing from its context (given the words around it, what might it mean) and/or breaking words down into parts and making meaning from these different bits.

As part of this approach, each week 5 words will be identified in the bulletin and consciously incorporated into classroom learning. This approach is based on international research into language routinely used in schools but only rarely explicitly taught.

WHAT YOU CAN DO AT HOME

What you can do:

- Have a go at the puzzles in the paper as a family activity. I've included one from Literacy Week to challenge everyone. Our kids managed to find well over 50 words in **this one!!!**

V	A	N
R	A	I
T	E	R

THE RULES OF TARGET WORD:

All words must include the letter in the centre square of the grid.

Only words of four letters or more count towards the tally. No proper nouns are allowed. No abbreviations are allowed. The letter S is not to be used to make plurals.

- Have family games of Taboo, Scrabble, Upwords - nothing like a hot chocolate and a games evening.
- Let them see you reading - the paper, Who Magazine, War and Peace, Harry Potter - it doesn't matter and it doesn't matter what language you're reading in, it's the act of reading that is important.
- Get them books on subjects of interest - even if that's graffiti art, heavy metal guitar riffs, etc.
- Read the books on their school list so that when they're working on them you can chat

about them and help with work tasks.

- Encourage them to read their own written work aloud - it's the best way to find mistakes in grammar or omission.

With all that said, if you're at all concerned with the literacy development of your child please speak with their English teacher, their subschool or myself.

Lisa Shukroon
Literacy Coordinator

First Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad

The team of Joshua Weberruss, Jack Lewis and Jonathan Schlossberg has won the First prize, and the team of Ilya Varfolomeev, Blake Riley, and Timothy Loh has won the Second prize in the First Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad (OzCLO) 2008!

The competition was incredible and we are pleased to report that the students seemed to enjoy the competition very much. All of the teams performed very well. The book All About Language by Barry J. Blake will be given to the members of the first prize team.

Congratulations to these students for their outstanding performance, and to all the others who participated.

Chris Ritter
Chapman Assistant

TEENS

Last week 190 of our Year 10 students attended the TEENS program run by the MFB Road Rescue Team. The acronym stands for Teaching, Encouraging, Enlightening and Nurturing Safe drivers. Students listened to members of the experienced Road Rescue team tell stories of their daily work, attended specific workshops, were able to view film and video clips on how to avoid road accidents and how to respond if they are first at the scene of an accident. Students put on "beer goggles" and "drug goggles" to experience how their sight, balance and perception is affected by these substances and how they seriously impact on their ability to drive or be a safe pedestrian. The day ends with a role play at a party where young people re enact a party scene with three different outcomes. The final outcome is a car crash. Students then volunteer to respond at the crash scene. Whilst the cars are covered by tarps at the beginning of the exercise it is clear that two cars have collided as they did in the role play. Once the tarps are removed, students are faced with a horrific scene. The driver of one car has gone through the windscreen and the second car has a driver with four young passengers, all seriously hurt, screaming very loudly and unable to be removed from the car until the road rescue team actually cut them out. The volunteer students are expected to respond according to what they had been taught earlier in the day. Each volunteer later discloses that they went into shock themselves and had a sense of panic that prevented them from thinking clearly. The audience too are placed in the situation of "what would I do"? This is what the road rescue teams face each day and why they have established the TEENS program. We take our students in the hope that they will become safer drivers and will make wise choices about with whom and when they get into a car.

Kim Patterson
Student Welfare Coordinator

Graduate Wins Harvard Scholarship

Andrew Fei, ex TUHS student, has won a prestigious full scholarship to study for his Masters of Laws at Harvard Law School. Andrew graduated The University High School with an ENTER of 99.85 and an Australian Students Prize. He went on to graduate from Cambridge University with a double First Class Honours degree.

Soccer State Finals

Runners Up

On Friday the 29th August, the Intermediate Girls went to Darebin International Sports Centre to play soccer. It was a nice, sunny day and all the girls were excited to be playing at state level, especially the Year 9 girls because it was their first time representing the school at state level. The Year 10's were hungry for the title, seeing that they'd been to states three times previously without success.

The first match that we played was against Copperfield College. They were quite good but were no match to our strikers. Captain Georgia scored both the goals making the final score 2-0. Our second match was against a country team named Drouin. That match was by far the best because EVERYONE played so well. They scored the first goal in three minutes but we came back and ended up winning 2-1.

After winning both our games, we were nearly guaranteed to play finals. We just had to beat or draw with Wangaratta. All the girls were very tired from the first two matches but we managed to get through with a draw, 1-1.

The final was against the reigning premiers Mentone Girls School. They're the only team that have managed to win at every single year level but that didn't stop us from wanting to spoil their party. The match started late and Mentone Girls got off to a flying start. They scored their first goal early in the first half but our defence kept it at 1 until half-time. After a good talk with the coach Mr Nero, all the girls were hungry for our first goal but unfortunately it didn't come. Mentone Girls scored the last goal in the dying minutes of the game and it was over.

University High School had come second at state level for the first time since who knows when! All the girls played a wonderful four games and were very happy with what they had achieved. The team would like to thank Mr Nero our coach for training us up and doing such a wonderful job and also Khalid Sheikh for helping out on the day. Also a special mention to Georgia and Miranda, our fast paced strikers, Ellie and Anisa, our solid defenders and Katherine, the best diving goal keeper we've ever seen.

Munya & Dunya Ahmed

LOTE News

Students and staff enjoyed various activities in and outside the classroom during this year's LOTE week. Highlights were certainly the French food and the outing to the Cuckoo restaurant for year 8 German students. Thanks to all the LOTE teachers for making LOTE week special.

This term's LOTE activities also included the French and German poetry competitions organised by the Alliance Française and the AGTV. The German poetry competition was held at University High School. There were seven schools with more than 60 participants at our school and the event was very successful. The nine years 7 to 9 German students from University High School who qualified for the regional final were:

Year 7: Morgan Hirschfeld, Sam Huang and Sabine Johnson

Year 8: Alana Carlton, Alex Kuschel and Brett Riley

Year 9: Zane Blythe, Yolanda Krockenberger and Damian Pavlyshyn

**German AGTV poetry competition at
The University High School**

Morgan Hirschfeld and Yolanda Krockenberger qualified for the German state finals where Morgan secured the 2nd place for year 7 students and Yolanda the 3rd place for year 9 students. An incredible achievement. Well done Morgan and Yolanda!

There was an error in the previous Newsletter. The article about the German Tour 2008 named as the author Fred Sandt when in fact the text was written by Sarah Norton and Jasper Johnson. We apologise for the mistake (the error was mine - Editor).

Fred Sandt
LOTE/ESL Coordinator

The Alliance Française Competition

Each year the Alliance Française de Melbourne runs the Berthe Mouchette com-

petition for students of French. This year approximately 220 students from Years 7-10 participated in the Poetry Recitation competition and 20 students took on the challenge of the Written Test, which involved listening and reading comprehension tasks, as well as questions on French grammar. Both students and their teachers made a huge effort to prepare the poems for recitation. The VCE competition involved a gruelling two hour Written Exam, plus an eight minute oral interview. All 71 students of VCE French participated in both sections - a very daunting task!!

We are delighted to announce the students who were selected as Finalists in their year levels:

Year 7: Kenton Reeder and James Wong

Year 8: Emily Kruse and Tracy Lay

Year 9: Arthur Spirason, Gabriel Stibio, St John Ventress and Melissa Yoon

Year 10: Nicholas Brown, Oindrila Das, Georgia Kennelly, Andrew Nguyen and Grace Quealy

Year 11: Andrew Adorno, Zorro Maplestone and Sandy Yao

Year 12: Elizabeth Forrest, Sean Goedecke, David Leitinger, Louise Liu and Anna Tupicoff

The Year 7-10 Finals have already been held and the VCE Finals will take place on 13 September. All of these talented students should be congratulated for advancing to this stage of the competition. We have our fingers crossed that some will be awarded prizes. The results will be announced in October.

Sharon Rosvoll
LOTE Assistant Head

Baby Think It Over

The Year 11 Health and Human Development students are currently experiencing their parenting simulation. Each student must act responsibly to look after the computerised baby for three days and nights- handling it with care, keeping it warm and responding whenever it cries by inserting a key for as long as it takes for the baby to settle (anywhere between 2 and 30 minutes). It is an excellent experience...here are some quotes from our parents:- Serena Hui titled her reflective piece 'The Epic Baby Saga' - she encountered one of Ms Seeger-Snowden's 'Grandma moments' when she said "here, let me help you. You have to keep the baby's hands warm". Yen Yi reflected "It is such a good project to expose students to parenthood and responsibility not to mention teenage pregnancy. I became cranky, my arms were wasted and my energy levels drained!" Sarah Nolan-Legudi was surprised "almost all of the women who went past me gave me a bad look, but the males smiled or didn't even notice... next time I see a young Mum I will definitely give a polite smile because they deserve it, they go through so much hard work looking after their baby and as soon as they walk out the door they get hit with foul looks, it's not fair on them at all." Amanda commented "Getting to class and while working it was hard to juggle the baby, the books, the computers and writing tasks but it got easier and by the last day I was better at multi-tasking. When I was out in public, people were generally more interested in me, older women especially would look at me with disapproval on their face... this experience gave me a better understanding of the way society views teen mothers".

It is important to note that this experience and the course work associated with it follows on from a unit on sexuality, contraception and family planning. The baby experience certainly helps reinforce the content covered beforehand!!

Kim Patterson
Student Welfare Coordinator

Upcoming Event The Musical Breakfast

Sunday, October 26th
Breakfast from 8:30am
Music from 9:30am

Students Making a Difference

The University High School students are renowned for being active on issues of social justice and in helping others. I am reporting on just two of these instances that have been occurring lately.

YMCA Peer Support Program at Carlton Primary School. During terms 2 & 3 this year, a team of students have been picked up after school on a Tuesday and have provided homework tutoring for the students at Carlton Primary School. Most of the students come from non-English speaking background so it is difficult for parents to assist with homework. Our students help them with literacy, numeracy and ICT skills each week. Some of our students also attended a Saturday excursion at the Werribee Zoo. The teachers and parents at Carlton are most thankful of the support our students give to the students who attend homework club. Thank you to Grace Andrews, Katherine Fay, Paddy Lithgow, Yen Yi Lim, Chris Shaj, Jasper Johnson, Jono Cannon, Alice Berkeley, Sian Lee, Kim Mihajivak, Hannah King, Linh Nguyen, Bonnie Tran, Jackson Ives, Christopher Cadenhead, Atlanta Townsend, Sarah Katthagen, Freya Carbone and Sarah Patterson for taking the time to help others.

Alfred Hospital Annual Appeal

It was a big ask, especially for some not known to rise so early from the depths of sleep, to be at the Flagstaff Station by 7am on the 2nd September. Proudly, I can say that every one of the volunteer VCE students met their commitment and managed to do this to raise money and awareness for Men's Health issues as part of the Alfred Hospital Appeal. Not only did they get up early, but they did it with big smiles and amusing chants for the commuters. Our students helped collect \$4000 during the one hour tin shaking exercise. The money will go towards the Burns unit at the hospital. Interestingly, seventy percent of the patients in the burns unit are male! The students were Maya Amhaz, Anjelica Chang, Sarah Patterson, Amir Yonis, Max Ferdinands, Jade Frame, Alice Grounds, Serena Hui, Megan Thompson, Michael Kurtanijek, Liyan Gao, Jessica Martinez, Hannah Porter, Sarah Nolan-Legudi, Aisha Rodriguez, Canev Kizartic, Cordelia Woodhouse, Jeremy Cussen, Maddy Bellis and Gracie Finlay. On behalf of the Alfred and the school a big thank you for being outstanding citizens.

Kim Patterson
Student Welfare Coordinator