



# SCHOOL NEWS

## The University High School Newsletter

Email: schoolnews@unihigh.vic.edu.au  
Available online at: www.unihigh.vic.edu.au  
Editor : David Jones  
77 Story Street, Parkville, 3052

Edition 4 2009

Telephone (03) 9347 2022 Facsimile(03) 9347 2658

## Principal's Report

### Parent Teacher Meetings

These will be held in weeks 3 and 5 of this term. I believe this opportunity to meet with your child's teachers is very important for both you and us. Each student will have a booking sheet so please encourage them to get organised early.

### Reports

As you can imagine, a great deal of work goes into our reporting program - my calculation is more than 3,000 person hours or more than a year of full time work for one person! Please discuss the report with your child and use it as a foundation for discussions at the parent teacher meetings. Currently our Curriculum Committee is reviewing our reporting system (it is our lowest score on the parent survey, although still relatively high). Naturally part of this review will involve our parent community. You may be invited to a focus group session in the near future.

### Musical - Guys and Dolls

I look forward to your support of our musical this year. Our students and staff are very busy rehearsing and it promises to be a great show. A new system for arranging tickets has been introduced via the web. You can now choose your seats from the seating plan over the internet.

### Year 11 Health Seminars

We have engaged some key speakers for these seminars and they will be addressing health issues that confront our young people. If your child is in year 11 please make an effort to discuss what they learnt at the seminars and discuss the various issues they heard about.

### Creating Conversations

Following on from above, thank you to all the parents who attended this program and the positive feedback you provided. As I understand, it was a very valuable session for our parents. Also thank you to Kath Klopsteins and Vivian Sipsas and the students involved for their organisation and participation.

### The National School Pride Program

We have received \$200,000 from this Federal government initiative and the School Council has decided to use this money to renovate/rebuild our six student toilet blocks. Tenders close on the 28th of July and the work will be staged so that only one toilet block is out of action at any one time and interruption to our programs is restricted. The project will be concluded by the end of this year. We have included a large number of power and water saving options in the renovation.

### The Bridge

The School Council has accepted the tender from Cooper Morrison for the link bridge between the north and south wings. This third floor link will be of great benefit to our traffic flows around our busy school. All going well we will have access to the bridge at the start of November.

### Attendance and Lateness

To maximise the learning outcomes for your child it is paramount that they attend all classes every day of the school year. Of course there are times when you will decide to keep your child away from school - for illness, injury or for urgent family matters - however, we ask that you ensure your child attends school at all other times. Arriving at school on time (by 8.30am) will also enable your child to have sufficient time to be ready for session 1. Students who are late to class not only affect their own learning, but also disrupt the learning of others when they enter the classroom once the lesson has begun. Please refer to the attached document for information about attendance and lateness.

Rob Newton

Principal

## Calendar of Coming Events

### July 30th

Year 7 to 9 Parent/Teacher Interviews

### July 31st

Late Start, Session 3

### August 5th, 6th and 7th

School Musical - Guys and Dolls, Sharman Hall

### August 11th

Parents' Association Meeting, 7:30pm

### August 12th

Year 10-12 Parent/Teacher Interviews

### August 13th

Late Start, Session 3

### August 13th

Intermediate Sports Day

### August 16th to 21st

Ski Camp, Mount Hotham

### August 19th

School Council Meeting, 7:30pm

### August 25th

Year 7 immunizations, HepB and HPV

### September 8th

Year 7 Sports Day

### September 8th

Parents' Association Meeting, 7:30pm

### September 16th

Year 8 Sports Day

### SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The UHS School Council meets in the GTAC conference centre at 7:30 pm.  
Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 19th

### PARENTS' ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The UHS Parents' Association AGM in the school staff room at 7:30 pm.  
All parents are welcome.  
Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 11th

### SCHOOL NEWS PUBLICATION DATES

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

# Music Faculty Report

The first half of this year has been incredibly busy for the Music Faculty. The addition of the European Tour and our involvement in the Richard Pratt State Memorial Service to our already significant performance calendar, found us more than usually committed. The Mid Year concert (reviewed in the last School News) conducted at the Melbourne Recital Centre was also a highlight. I wish to thank our Music students for their diligence and dedication in allowing us to participate in events that showcase our students' talent and to acknowledge the commitment of our staff to facilitate these activities.

## France Belgium ANZAC Music Tour 2009

On the 10th of April, 19 music students from The University High School, 22 students from Strathmore Secondary College and eight teachers (Ms Verberne, Mr Coles and Mr G Campbell from UHS), met at Tullamarine Airport to travel to Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris for the trip all of us would remember as an amazing, 'once in a lifetime' experience. The tour consisted of three main parts. Firstly, we participated in three services to honour the unknown soldiers of the First World War and soldiers without a grave. These were conducted at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, the Menin Gate at Ypres, Belgium and lastly, and of the greatest significance, performance at the ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Villers-Bretonneux. Our students were the first Australian school students to have been awarded such an honour.

As part of our rehearsal schedule, we prepared concert programs featuring our students as orchestral, choral and solo items. These were presented at La Madeleine Cathedral in Paris, and in two villages on the Somme; Peronne and Dernancourt. We were also invited to participate in a joint large-scale production of the 'Oratorio for Peace', commissioned for the 90th anniversary of the War (2008) and performed at Villers-Bretonneux for the second time. We combined with 12 choirs from the surrounding areas and the Amiens Brass Band. The group numbered around 200 participants and came together in a stirring performance after the Dawn Service. Please see the photos on the School Portal.

We also undertook many tours through memorable museums in the area and some of our group were able to locate graves and remembrances of relatives who died in the conflicts. This was without doubt a powerful and memorable trip for all involved.

## Retirement of Professor Suzanne Corey - Flute Quartet

On Wednesday 10th June, the Flute Quartet performed at the retirement function for Professor Suzanne Corey, the director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. The quartet members, Sandy Yao, Sarah Tarrant-Kuang, Elissa Robustelli and Chen Chen Bian performed several pieces welcoming the guests. Well done to those girls.

## West Side Arts Festival Hamer Hall, Friday June 19th

The West Side Arts Festival is a celebration of music, dance and theatre from schools in the western suburbs. This year, The University High School was involved in the program with our flute students participating in a joint ensemble of sixty students under the direction of Ms Carolyn Grace (UHS flute teacher).

The France and Belgium Anzac Music tour group of University High School and Strathmore Secondary College was also presented to the audience. Atlanta Townsend performed one of the Edith Piaf songs she sang overseas as our vocal soloist, accompanied by Ms Johanna Verberne, and the combined orchestra performed one work each under the direction of Mr Graham Coles (UHS) and Mr Tim Fisher (SSC).

Mr Andrew Smith, Post Compulsory/Later Years Consultant, Western Region, described the major performance venues of the tour to the audience and this was followed by a video of some the highlights accompanied by music recorded at several of the concerts.

## Richard Pratt State Memorial Service University High School Sinfonia and Cantabile Choir

On Sunday 21st June a State Memorial Service was held to celebrate the life of the late Mr Richard Pratt. The University High School Sinfonia, conducted by Mr Graham Coles, was invited to provide music as part of the official service, conducted at Hamer Hall in the morning.

In the afternoon, celebrations continued at a Family Day at Visy Park (formerly Optus Oval) where the Cantabile Choir sang with Bruce Woodley (a member of The Seekers) and his daughter in their presentation of 'We are Australian'. Thanks to Mr. Robert Stewart, our voice teacher, for organising and accompanying the students. Special thanks to the 35 students for donating their time in rehearsal and the professional way they conducted themselves and represented our school.

Richard Pratt was a student at UHS from 1951 - 1952 and had many interests and contributed to the wider school program through his involvement in the school football and swimming teams as well as the school choir.

Johanna Verberne  
Performing Arts Co-ordinator

## SPORTS PERSON PROFILE

Damian Azzollini - Year 9B3, 2009

### Sport: Karate

Congratulations to Damian on being selected to represent Australia at the WKF Youth World Cup in Chalkida, Greece this July. Damian will spend three days at a training camp with world class coaches followed by a two day tournament.

Damian has been doing Karate for 5 ½ years and is 1st Kyu (Brown belt). He will also be representing Victoria for the second year running and will be competing at the National Championships in Adelaide in August.

Damian won a Gold Medal earlier this year competing at the Victorian State Championships in both Kata (forms) and Kumite (sparring). He really enjoys karate and finds that it focuses him and gives him self discipline in all things he does.

We wish Damian good luck in all his competitions!

Hannah Wilson  
Sports Assistant

We would like to acknowledge students' sporting achievements. If you are competing in an elite sporting competition, and would like us to report on your achievements, please see Mr Wallace in the PE Office.

Nathan Wallace  
Inter-school Sports Co-ordinator

**Photos have been removed for  
Privacy Law reasons**

## Year 7 Sports Day

Well done to all the teams who went out and competed brilliantly on Year 7 Sports day in the last week of term 2. Special congratulations to the girls and boys badminton teams and the boys football team who won the day and qualified for Northern Zone finals. We wish them luck as they compete in the coming weeks.

In other results, the girl's netball came 3rd in their Pool, as did both the girls and boys soccer. Students should be commended on their behaviour and excellent level of sportsmanship on what was a beautiful, sunny winters day.

We'd love it if students would provide feedback and write reports after their sports day to be submitted in the newsletter. We're looking for news reporters, even photographers.

If you're interested in writing something, or have written something, come and see Mr Wallace or Miss Wilson in the PE Office.

Nathan Wallace  
Inter-school Sports Co-ordinator

## Year 7 Netball

The year 7 Girls Netball teams should be commended for their efforts on Year 7 Sports day. All four teams in the B competition finished well and were strong contenders in the competition.

The A team won two out of their three games to make the runner's up final.

Their defensive pressure and great team work helped them hold Melbourne Girls to only 10 goals.

The girls finished strongly, coming 3rd over all.

Game 1  
UHS = 7 v Princes Hill 2 = 2  
Goals; Jardine 6, Clare 1

Game 2  
UHS = 2 v Melbourne Girls College = 10  
Goals; Jardine 1, Alice 1

Game 3  
UHS = 22 v Glen Eira 0  
Goals; Clare 9, Jardine 9, Eva 4

Runners up Final  
UHS = 11 v Princes Hill 1 = 7  
Goals; Jardine 7, Clare 2, Eva 2  
Nathan Wallace  
Inter-school Sports Co-ordinator

## Focus on Wellbeing

### Year 11 Health & Wellbeing - Craig Harper - Mind-Body Health

On the 16th July, Craig Harper gave a lecture to the Year 11 students on mind-body health relationship. He had some fantastic philosophies and insights into life. Craig talked about CHOICES. How we choose our attitudes and our behaviours. We do have choice in the way we react to “stuff” and we have choice in the life we would like to lead. An extraordinary life takes planning. We have many opportunities, much potential, but how do we make our extraordinary life happen?

To achieve success, we need a purpose. People don't accidentally succeed. They think about it, and make plans. If you wish to live an existence that you enjoy, whether it be great relationships, a fantastic job or optimal health, you need to make the choice to have that and work out how you are going to do it. This requires reflection and planning. In all the amazing athletes and corporations that Craig has worked with, he has noticed something common in all successful people - they have the ability to get the most out of themselves. This requires change and the preparedness to get uncomfortable.

Craig briefly talked about “stress strategies”. What do you feel when you are stressed? What types of ways do you deal with stress? What is your personal response to stress that is occurring in your world? He talked about the fact that a stress for one person may be a really positive thing for another. For example, riding a motor bike around the Great Ocean Road may be great excitement for one person, but absolutely terrifying for another. It is important for us to recognise our stresses, and develop positive ways in which we deal with them.

Craig has a great website with further insightful life philosophies that you may wish to access. ([www.craigharper.com](http://www.craigharper.com).) Another good website on Health and Wellbeing is: [www.reachout.com](http://www.reachout.com).

## Meditation Group

Meditation group for VCE students and staff will commence in Week 2 on Thursdays this term. Room 305. This is suitable for beginners and is a great way to chill out at lunchtime.

## Upcoming Topics

### Topic 2: Talking Sexuality

Speaker: Family Planning

Victoria

Date: Week 8, Monday August 31st, Sessions 3 & 4

A topic that is so talked about out of the classroom - but not so much in the classroom. The speaker from FPV will be talking about: Statistics on what young people are doing (am I “normal?”), same sex attraction (am I “normal?”), are you ready for sex (really?), sex and the law, building positive healthy relationships, contraception and sexually transmitted infections. Do not miss hearing this information from the experts in education about sexual health.

### Topic 3: Party Safe

Date: Term 4, to be announced

Spring time is a great time for parties, and what teenager doesn't want to get together with his/her friends to celebrate the end of the year (once exams are over of course)? This seminar will focus on having a good time, but being safe about it. If you're having a party or going to a party in the meantime - check out [www.partysafe.org.au](http://www.partysafe.org.au) for some “party safe” tips.

K. Klopsteins

Student Wellbeing Coordinator

## Science News

The Chem Quiz is on Thursday July 30, sessions 1 and 2 in the Hall. Students should check the lists on the science noticeboard in the 200's, in the VCE centre, the canteen and the library if they are unsure if they are participating. Students should bring a pencil, a ruler, an eraser and a calculator. Due to an English excursion, the Year 9 acceleration classes will be doing the competition on Wednesday afternoon instead.

### CSIRO scheme

We were very fortunate to be chosen for the CSIRO research scheme, as we got to spend the second week of the mid year holidays working at the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute, learning what life as a research scientist would be like (essentially like work experience). We were assigned to the Cardiac Hypertrophy Lab, headed by Dr. Julie McMullen. Dr. McMullen's primary research goal was focused on identifying the various genes or proteins which mimic the protective effects of exercise (i.e. physiological increase of heart mass). If successful, this means the good genes could be activated in people so they will have the "athlete's heart", with much less work involved! We participated in many of the experi-

ments they needed to undertake. This mostly consisted of work with DNA, such as PCR and gel electrophoresis. We also did various experiments with genetically modified mice, giving them ultrasounds to measure their heart performance and then dissecting them (to get the heart and lungs out for further analysis). During the week we learnt many new scientific skills, including how to use a variety of sophisticated scientific instruments which cannot be seen in high schools.

Most of the Lab staff consisted of PhD students and research assistants who were friendly and willing to answer many of our questions! We also had to attend various seminars and staff meetings where scientists from different labs shared information/results about their current research projects.

This experience has given us a good idea about the ups and downs of being a research scientist. It has been a truly enjoyable and rewarding experience which will certainly help us in choosing between various career pathways, and also in subjects like Biology and Chemistry at school. We can definitely recommend any students interested in a science career to apply for work experience at a place like Baker Institute.

Cedric Antolis and Yvonne Zhang

Year 11

## Year 10 VCE Expo and Information Evening La Trobe University

Wednesday July 29th, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

La Trobe invites Year 10's and their parents to find out about La Trobe courses, prerequisite studies, selection processes, scholarships, pathways to university and the school to university transition.

For more information and to register:

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/vceexpo>

## EMA SEMESTER 2

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS WHO DID NOT APPLY FOR SEMESTER 1 CAN NOW APPLY FOR SEMESTER 2 ONLY.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS is 4pm, August 7, 2009

EMA application forms are available from the school office, NO LATE APPLICATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED.

Parents with continuing eligibility, who were paid the first instalment of 2009 through this school, will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment. Applicants who have changed address, direct debit banking details or Centrelink pension allowance or benefit details have changed or expired; please notify Mrs Lane of changes. Parents who transfer children to another school after 27 February 2009 and prior to or on 7 August 2009 must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children.

To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; and
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 or be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner or be a foster parent.

### Payment Amounts

Installment	Portion	Secondary school	Primary school
One	Parent	\$ 155.05	\$ 77.35
	School	\$ 155.05	\$ 77.35
Two	Parent	\$ 66.45	\$ 33.15
	School	\$ 66.45	\$ 33.15
	Total	\$ 443	\$ 221

Consequently, parents/guardians are able to access the EMA if they have a valid Health Care Card or valid Pension Card. The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of Term 1 (28 January 2009 which is the first day for teaching staff) and Term 3 (13 July 2009). The EMA application must be submitted to the school by 27 February 2009 for the first instalment and 7 August 2009 for the second instalment.

The EMA provides an annual amount of \$221 for primary students and \$443 for secondary students and is paid in two instalments. This amount is split evenly between the parents/guardians and the school. Students turning 16 years in 2009 will be paid on a pro rata basis.

### New EMA payment option for 2009

Commencing in 2009, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will introduce a new payment option for the payment of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) to parents. Under the new system, eligible parents will have the option to receive the 50% 'parent portion' of the EMA payment directly into the parent's nominated bank account, or as a cheque payment.

The 2009 EMA application form includes a section for you to nominate whether you would like your EMA payment to be made to your own bank account or to receive your payment as a cheque (which is the current arrangement). The banking details required will include the BSB code and the account number.

## LOTE NEWS

### German Exchange

We welcome back our students who spent Term 2 in Germany. Simon Meehan, Maja Dunstan, Nyssa Watson, Helen Hodgins, Yolanda Krockenberger and Jasper Johnson lived in Hamburg and went to school at Gymnasium Grootmoor. Adriana Cannizzaro, Michael Haylock and Miranda Cross stayed in Bayreuth and attended the Graf-Münster-Gymnasium. They all had a most interesting time and we will make sure that they share their experiences with us.

The preparations for next years' exchange program are underway and there is an important information evening taking place on Tuesday, July 28th at 7:00 pm in the Performance Centre. The meeting will start with information on a three week tour to Germany and then at 7:30pm focus on the exchange program. Parents/guardians and students studying German in years 9 and 10 are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting.

### LOTE Photo Competition

Have a closer look at your local environment. Can you find traces of French/German/Latin at home, in your local neighbourhood, in the street or in your shopping centre? Do you come across street signs, people, places, objects or food that can be related to the French, German or Latin language? Then get hold of a camera and snap the image to enter this competition. See your LOTE teacher for further details.

### Germany Tour

We are also planning another three week tour to Germany for 2010. The tour is open to students currently in years 8, 9 and 10. Part of the tour is a two week home stay in Hamburg and a visit to Frankfurt and Berlin. An information evening will be held on Tuesday, July 28th at 7:00pm in the Performance Centre.

### AGTV Poetry Competition

This year's German poetry competition will be held at Westbourne Grammar School in Hoppers Crossing on August 3rd. We will have nine students from years 7-9 participating. They will prepare hard for their recitation and we wish them the best of luck!

Fred-Ole Sandt  
Head of LOTE

### Student Leadership

The following students generously gave up their pupil free day to attend a World Vision Leadership and Social Justice forum all day on Friday June 12th:

Gus Viola, Queenie Carling, Faseeha Hashmi, Georgia Kennelly and Mia Howe

Glenn Marchant  
Student Leadership Co-ordinator

## The School Appeal

A huge 'Thank You' to the School community for their spontaneous and generous response to this years' School Appeal. Current parents, teachers and students, as well as former students and teachers have responded magnificently, and the total this year stands at over \$50,000.

Together with previous years, we have now raised more than \$150,000 towards our dream of building a performing arts centre.

The strong feeling of commitment our community has for our school is extraordinary.

Thank you, everyone.

The University High School  
Presents



By  
Frank Loesser  
August 5th, 6th and 7th  
Sharman Hall  
University High School

Adults	\$26
Primary & Secondary Students	\$16
Concession & Tertiary Students	\$20

Tickets can only be purchased online at  
[www.trybooking.com/BEJ](http://www.trybooking.com/BEJ)  
(Secure Booking Site)