



## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to all students and a special welcome to our Year 7 and new students starting at University High School in 2006. I would also like to welcome our new staff who are starting with us this year:

George Andrews, Instrumental Music, Percussion;  
Jonathon Bam, Instrumental Music, Classical Voice;  
Jane Beattie, Term 1 Geography;  
Tania Berezin, Instrumental Music, Oboe;  
Christian Bickham, History/Geography;  
Emmanuelle Dupart, LOTE/French Language Assistant;  
David Garner, Instrumental Music, Oboe;  
Hannah Kelly, VET Music, Voice;  
Susan La Marca, Library;  
Eric Phillips, Term 1 Music;  
Fred Sandt, LOTE/German;  
Tom Sheehan, Instrumental Music, Percussion;  
Dona Uahwatanasku, Mathematics;  
Rod Watson, Term 1 Maths/Physics.

We also welcome back after leave:  
Maureen Cooper - English;  
Pam Newton-Brown-Humanities.

At our opening assemblies, I not only asked the students to set goals and develop dreams, but using the Marcos Bagdatis analogy, I asked them to do the hard work to achieve them.

It seems they got the message as we have started with a great deal of purpose across the school and much learning seems to be taking place.

### Year 7 Camp

Our year 7's have had their induction camp which on my visits and reports back from staff and students were a wonderful success. Thank you to Sub-school heads and staff for your efforts in contributing to the success of the camps.

### Council

I have sent a separate letter earlier in the year regarding the nominations for School Council. Please call me if you have any questions regarding what this involves at University High School.

### Materials and Services Charges

Thank you to all families that have paid already and especially to those who have contributed to the Library and Building funds. Our breezeway project is dependant on Federal Funding from the "investment in our schools program" which we should hear about in April.

### Short Term 1

While this year will be different with the interruption of the Commonwealth Games, we believe we have planned well to foresee problems and addressed them. We don't envisage any of our student studies to be disadvantaged.

### Boys Education

If you have adolescent boys at home, the information evening on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2006 is a must. I'm sure you will find it very beneficial. (More information on page 3 of this edition.)

### 2006

As Principal of University High School, I look forward to this year with a great deal of enthusiasm and confidence that it will be a year for our students and staff.

In closing I thought you might enjoy reading a letter I recently recieved from a parent:

"My daughter has had an easy and enjoyable transition from secondary to university, as have many of her friends. This is, I feel, directly attributable to the efforts put in at UHS by the teachers and the school. Students there are encouraged to be independent learners and be internally motivated. They are also in an environment conducive to learning (although I realize not all students maximize this opportunity!). The wealth of extra curricular activities also helps broaden the offerings.

However, your efforts are not just confined to obtaining good academic results. The diverse and multicultural environment at the school also promotes an awareness and acceptance of different viewpoints. This, I feel, equips the students well to deal with people from all walks of life, where ever they go.

This is quite a belated thank you but I waited until I had news of my daughters' outcome. Although she achieved a great ENTER score, she had her heart set on doing Arts/Law at either Melbourne or Monash University, and was 1.5 points short (as a HECS student). So she decided to go to Monash and do Arts and transfer after first year; as Monash have a program of allowing 40% of those wishing to transfer with a credit or above average after first year. This put some pressure on her last year but luckily she has now been successful in gaining entry to Arts/Law for 2006 at Monash. Thanks again for your efforts and best wishes for a successful year in all respects."

## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

### MARCH

#### Thursday 2

Entries for the Maths Challenge due.  
Entries for Maths Enrichment due.  
Year 7 & 8 Boys and Girls Cricket.

#### Monday 6

Intermediate Boys and Girls Cricket.

#### Tuesday 7

Year 7 Hepatitis B immunisation.  
Year 10 Adult Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis immunisation.

#### Wednesday 8

District Swimming Carnival.

#### Thursday 9

Welcome function for parents of all new students, 7:00pm.

#### Friday 10

Entries for the Australian Mathematics Competition Due.  
Last day of Term 1 - 2:30pm dismissal

### School News publication dates

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

### PARENTS' ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

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

Next Meeting: Monday March 27, Planning meeting.

### SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The UHS School Council meets in the GTAC conference centre on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 15 March 2006.

## **CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION UPDATE Mr Glenn Marchant CCE Facilitator**

The SOSE Faculty has a strong and enduring commitment to Civics and Citizenship Education at UHS. Each year the faculty revisits the way that CCE is taught and implemented according to curriculum and student needs.

CCE ensures that students are equipped with the knowledge and skills that enable them to fully participate as citizens in an ever-changing world. The curriculum needs ensure that each year level incorporates core values that equip students to be tolerant and informed citizens in relation to school, Australia and, as human beings, on the world stage. These core values are built around Democracy, Individualism, Community and Initiative.

2005 saw a team including: Ms. Sue Khoo; Mr Pat Convy; Ms. Marie Garra-Riley; and myself, prepare a unit of work for Year 9 History. The unit engages and challenges students by utilising a wide range of resources from the local community such as the Shrine, Immigration Museum, Trades Hall Council, Art Gallery and Parliament House.

Ms Garra-Riley organised an excursion based on the theme of 'reflection', which enabled students to appreciate the reasons for war, the contribution of the English to our beautiful parks and gardens and the contributions made to Australia by various waves of migration. The excursion was a culmination of a History Project Professional Development Course to ensure that staff and students are clear about the key values needed to encourage respect and tolerance in an increasingly diverse society.

## **OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY Mr. Marchant OHS Representative**

We would like the co-operation of all members of the school community to ensure that the safe environment practices at UHS, are understood by all students.

Please be aware that thongs are not allowed at school; they are a dangerous type of footwear particularly on stairs and for general movement in crowded spaces. We would ask parents to ensure that their children do not wear thongs; they should wear strong footwear at all times.

We would also recommend that students wear appropriate hats and sunscreen when the weather necessitates protection against UV damage. Please remember to drink plenty of water during the hotter months to ensure adequate hydration at all times.

Please remember the potential dangers when crossing roads and be particularly careful around busy intersections by obeying traffic signals and taking care at tram stops and train stations.

## **MATHEMATICS EXTENSION PROGRAM 2006**

### **A. Donoghue Mathematics Coordinator**

In 2006, there will be a program of extra-curricular activities in mathematics. Parents may wish to note the following details.

#### **1. *Australian Mathematics Competition***

- A multiple choice paper at three levels of difficulty (Junior, Intermediate and Senior)
- The final Entry Date is by **Friday March 10th**
- The cost is **\$5** per student
- The date of the Competition is **Thursday July 27<sup>th</sup>**

The Australian Mathematics Competition for the Westpac Awards (AMC) is for all standards. Students are asked to solve twenty five multiple-choice problems and five questions requiring a number answer in 75 minutes. Unlike formal mathematics testing, many of the problems are set in situations to which students can relate, showing the relevance of mathematics to everyday life. Above all, the competition is designed to be a fun event removed from the pressures of formal assessment with problems designed to be of sufficient interest to stimulate discussion with friends, parents or in the classroom. All students receive a certificate showing their level of achievement and a detailed report showing how they went on each problem with comparative statistics.

#### **2. *Maths Challenge***

- For Years 7 to 10
- A paper in which complete solutions have to be written for approximately six problems at Junior (Years 7-8) and Intermediate (Years 9-10) levels over a three-week period during May.
- The final Entry date is **March 2nd**
- The cost is **\$16.00** per student

The Australian Mathematics Trust conducts Maths Challenge in a three week period between April and June each year. Each student receives a Problem Booklet at the start of Maths Challenge. Students are required to solve up to six problems and clearly explain in their solutions the process they used to solve the problems.

#### **3. *Maths Enrichment***

- For very able mathematics students in Years 7 to 10
- Students are required to write out solutions to problems, which are based on the supplied Notes. There are four levels of difficulty
- The final Entry Date is **March 2<sup>nd</sup>**
- The cost is **\$28.00** per student
- The solutions are worked on during April to September

Maths Enrichment goes for sixteen weeks between April and September. Students are supplied with Student Notes and a Problem Booklet containing twelve problems. Students are required to solve up to twelve problems. Teachers will be available to help students during this time.

The aim of Maths Challenge and Maths Enrichment is to motivate, stimulate, encourage and develop mathematically interested and talented students.

**Please note that if any student wishes to participate in any of these activities they need to complete the payment proforma which was provided in class or download the form from the school website or the school intranet and return to the General Office.**

If you have any queries re any of the above activities please contact me on 9347 2022.

## MUSIC NEWS

### Mr E. Dorn

For those who haven't caught up with the latest news in the music faculty, Mrs Svalbe decided at the end of last year not to continue in her role as Head of Instrumental Music. As the new Instrumental Music Coordinator, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Svalbe for the outstanding work she did over the last eight years, and to wish her the very best in her role in the Brooks sub-school. Any queries about instrumental music can be directed to Mr Eddie Dorn by email (preferred option) at [edorn@unihigh.vic.edu.au](mailto:edorn@unihigh.vic.edu.au) or by phone on 347 2022, ext. 282.

The year has gotten off to a flying start with around 340 instrumental music lessons being given per week. There are also some staff changes this year. We welcome Mr George Andrews and Mr Tom Sheehan to the music department. They will each be teaching a full day of percussion. Ms Tania Berezin is teaching oboe and Ms Hannah Kelly is the VET voice teacher. Mr David Garner is the new cello teacher, and Mr Jonathon Bam the classical voice teacher. This term Mr Bam has also been taking some of Mr Coles' classroom music load as he is on his long-service leave. It has been wonderful to temporarily welcome Mr Eric Phillips back to UHS. Mr Phillips has been taking Mr Coles' VCE Music Styles class.

We have tried to get most of the ensembles started a little earlier in the year than we normally would. We have taken the policy that if a student was in an ensemble last year, they would stay in that ensemble this year, at least until we make adjustments through the ensemble directors and the instrumental music staff. Students who learn an instrument outside school are welcome to join an appropriate ensemble. Any student interested in doing this should see Mr Dorn for advice. On the subject of ensembles, our mid-year concert will be held on May 18. We would expect all instrumental music students to attend as performers, and invite the wider school community to attend this show case of talent at UHS.

On a logistical matter, the Music Instrument store-room will be moving at the end of first term. The new Music Instrument store-room will be room 252, and the existing store room will become an Instrumental Music teaching room. Security will be upgraded in 252, and we anticipate that the move will be beneficial to all.

The following table summarises when IM teachers are at UHS (current term 2):

## MUSICAL BUSINESS

### Ms. J. Verberne

The 2006 Musical was announced last week. UHS will produce *Les Miserables* this year. All parties, staff, students, backstage, will be presented with a huge challenge; one that we are sure will be eagerly taken up if the interest so far is any indication. This will be a large-scale production and will require an earlier start than in the past and a few extra rehearsals to get us on track. Therefore, the following rehearsal times have been organised. Please note that I refer here to the Term I holidays and not the customary Term II holidays - but they will be utilised as well.

The orchestra will be asked to attend a read-through of Act I on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March and Act II on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March. As this musical is through-composed, it is imperative that we understand the size and complexity of the work. Rehearsals will then take place at the normal time after the Mid-Year Concert.

There are over 30 singing roles in this show. Mr. Coles and Ms. Verberne will hold the auditions for these parts Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Students wishing to audition will be informed of the date and requirements later in the term. If parents have already made holiday plans, they should be assured that students would not be excluded from the process. We will find an alternative date. Again, we have had enormous interest from students across every level of the school, and again it will be a difficult task to select the final group of 85.

## BOYS, BOYS, BOYS

In conjunction with the University High School Parents' Association, you are invited to hear from Ian Illico, an authority on Boys Education. This two hour session will cover boys and their schooling. It will give parents strategies to help boys in their growth into adulthood. It also concentrates on ways to get boys to talk about their feelings.

When: Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2005 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Where: University High School

Ian will be working with the University High school staff on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2006 which is a pupil free day.

## WANTED : KIDS 10-16 years

**O.R.B.** is a new concept in contemporary music tuition. Play in a rock band from day one! If you've been learning bass, guitar, keyboard or drums OR if you have a really good singing voice, why not join the band. Vocalists must already have good pitch.

Sessions are held weekly, on Monday nights, in a high tech studio environment with video, composition and CD recording facilities. The Soundhouse studio is at 169-175 Mt. Alexander Rd, Flemington. O.R.B. starts Term 2, 2006.

If you play a wind, string or brass instrument, Soundhouse also has the C.R.A.S.H. big band program to suit you. For more information please contact Sue O'Brien on 0412 467 499 or email: [sue@soundhouse.com.au](mailto:sue@soundhouse.com.au)

## MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

### EDUCATION PASSPORTS 2006

#### Geoff Campbell

Students, staff, family and friends are welcome to attend the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Education Passport Series, which is especially designed for students in secondary school. A three-concert subscription offers a choice of any three concerts from a selection of nine Thursday evening 'Master Series' concerts. (Unfortunately the first concert - Nigel Kennedy - is excluded from the selections). The cost of the subscription is \$37 (ex GST) for students and teachers, and \$70 (inc GST) for parents for a three-concert subscription.

If you are interested you will need to pick up a form from Mr. G. Campbell in the Chapman office. Payment must be made to the school by Friday March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Room	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
154	Mr Dorn Piano	Mr Dorn Piano	Mr Dorn Piano	Mr Dorn Piano	Mr Dorn Piano
251	Ms Berezin (AM) Oboe	Ms Lancaster Violin/Viola	Ms Lancaster Violin/Viola	Ms Lancaster Violin/Viola	Ms Lancaster Violin/Viola
254	Mr Sheehan Percussion	Ms Gelok Dble. Bass	Mr Andrews Percussion	Mr Bell Tromb./Tru	
250	Dr Sugg Saxophone		Mr Tchebykin Clarinet	Mr Madden Trumpet	Dr Sugg Saxophone
153	Mr Bam Cl. Voice	Mr Bam Cl. Voice	Ms H Kelly (PM) VET Voice	Mr Garner Cello	Dr Watson Woodwind
256	Ms Kelly Violin	Mr Bell Tromb./Tru	Dr Watson Woodwind	Ms Grace Flute	Ms Grace Flute

## **BROOKES SUBSCHOOL NEWS**

### **Peter Nero and Anna Newbold**

Welcome back to all students and a very special welcome to the new students and parents in the Brookes subschool. The Brookes subschool team and the respective responsibilities are:

Subschool Head: Peter Nero Yr.9B1  
Coordinators:  
Anna Newbold Yr.10B1, 10B2, 10B3  
Steven Paatsch Yr.8B1, 8B2, 9B3  
Kerry Svalbe Yr.7B1, 7B2, 9B2

In Brookes we work collaboratively to provide a supportive learning environment for your child. We do this by monitoring your child's attendance, punctuality, academic process and general well being. Effective communication between home and school is an integral part of this supportive environment. The school diary is an important means of communication. The diary contains information regarding the school and there is space for your child to record school events and homework to be completed. It is also a way for you to communicate with your child's teacher by writing or attaching a message in the diary.

Punctuality and regular attendance are integral factors for learning. If your child is absent please provide us with a written note to the respective coordinator on your child's return to school. For extended absences, for example a trip overseas, we will endeavor to provide school work if we have early notification.

### **YEAR 7 BROOKES CAMPS**

The Year Sevens of Brookes in 2006 were packed and ready to go to Camp Gundiwindi within hours of their first day at High School. This orientation camp was a huge success. It is very important as it enables the students to really get to know each other before embarking on their years of study and personal growth together. They formed friendships, acquired new skills and drew on each other's strengths in a range of activities. Many of these activities, such as survival skills, the sensory trail, the ropes course and the trivia night, required the students to work together as a team. It was impressive to see a group of students so willing to try new things and to get to know new people. We would also like to thank all the staff who attended the camp - Ms. Jane Beattie, Ms. Suzie Hafey, Ms. Kim Patterson for their commitment and enthusiasm to making this a safe and enjoyable experience for the students.

We look forward to meeting all the parents of our new students on Thursday the 9th of March. On behalf of the Brookes subschool team, we wish all students a most successful year.

Below are excerpts of writing tasks the students completed in class on their return. The task involved the students writing to the Year 6s at their old primary school. The letters were both informative and full of advice for those who may venture to Gundiwindi in the future.

**Charlotte Barker 7B1:** "Each night we did something well...interesting. The first night was hell we had to do bush dancing, not only was the guy a li'l nutty but we had to dance with a boy. It was the most humiliating night of our lives. But after we went and watched "School of Rock" which was pretty good. The second night was better (because we didn't have to dance with a boy)."

**Martin Strasser 7B2:** "The survival skills is really cool just don't drop the logs on your feet!!! And in the ropes course remember to spot the people if you're not on the course. And when they ask if you want scrambled eggs say no!!"

**Miranda Cross 7B2:** "My favorite activity on camp would probably be hanging out and getting to know a lot of new and different people. Bush cooking was also a good activity as it allowed me to get to know my new principal Mr. Newton. For an old bloke he is pretty cool."

**Caleb Tong 7B2:** "The first activity that our group had was archery. It was really fun but the archery range was really small. Only one person in our group hit the yellow bulls eye. The closest I got to the center were the red circles. The archery room smelt like bad cheese, but the owner and our instructor said that it was just the wet carpet...the camp was great and I made heaps of friends so all of you should go."

**Kartik Iyer 7B2:** "The damper making was fun since we got to put chocolate in it, as there was no jam left. The only bad thing was that my damper fell off the stick into the fire when I was cooking it. Since it was my birthday, at the end of damper making, I got to eat three dampers."

**Georgia Meagher 7B1:** "On the last day we went to Healesville sanctuary and looked at some endangered, cute or very ugly animals. The sugar glider was really cute and furry. I love cute and furry animals. All up camp was pretty cool."

## STUDENT PROFILE - AMIR YONIS - YEAR 9

### Soccer and my life

I don't know where to start, to talk about soccer and my life. It all began in Africa, when I was ten years old. My dream, my hobby, my everything was about soccer. At that time, I never thought I was going to become so popular - or a star, in the sport.

When I was ten I use to go to this boring primary school in Africa. My PE teacher used to hate me so much, because I always started fights or made someone else fight in her class. She always kicked me out off her class and made me pick up rubbish for more than two hours.

During that time I did not have anything to play with. Imagine: no music; no iPod; no games; and no friends. All of that did not matter to me. The thing that mattered most and that I wanted so bad was, not music, not games, not friends but a soccer ball! I had never seen or felt a real soccer ball in my whole life. I always wished and dreamed and prayed to play with a real ball. Because I had the love and the interest to play soccer, I used to collect plastic bags, take one sock, fill the plastic bags inside my sock, make it like a ball, and play soccer with bare feet. It was only because I have the love of playing soccer, I didn't feel the rocks, the stones, the broken glass...I'd play for hours.... By the end of the games I played, my feet would be bleeding so badly, that I couldn't even stand up properly. But I just never quit. The love I have for soccer was more important to me than the pain I had in my feet. Soccer, soccer, soccer was, and still is, my life!

### Soccer and Running in Australia

I came to Australia 4 years ago. My first team I played soccer with was Brunswick Zebras. While playing for them, I tried out for the under 12 State team. I made the Victorian team and we went to Adelaide to play in my first National competition. We came 3<sup>rd</sup> in

Australia. That was my first interstate competition. In the same year, I was the best runner in Victoria for my age, I went to Queensland with the Victorian running team and I came 1<sup>st</sup> in the 3km run and broke the record. From this, I made the National running team, I went to New Zealand and I came 3<sup>rd</sup> - that wasn't a bad effort.

In 2004, I had the biggest year so far. At the beginning of the year I made the VSF and went to Canberra for the Nationals. That year we were undefeated and won the trophy. Again I made the Victorian running team, and I went to Perth. This time I came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 3km.

In the same year, I made the National team for soccer, and went to the USA for 3 months. I went to New York, California and Colombia. I played in all three States. I got a soccer scholarship and offered US citizenship, but my mum disagreed. Anyway, I got a free holiday ticket to Toronto in Canada. I went there and stayed with my aunty. For my birthday present and a congratulations for my soccer, my mother bought me a ticket to visit my country, Ethiopia. I stayed their around 2 months and had one of the best times of my life, with my family and friends. When I got back to Australia in 2005, straight away I was called to try out for under 14 VSF, I made it and I went to Sydney to play in the nationals. We lost by 1 goal in the final so we came 2<sup>nd</sup>. In the same year, I got a letter from Victorian Athletics, they offered for me to go to the USA. I went to New York. I came 4<sup>th</sup> in the International competition for the 1500m. During the time in New York I stayed with my 18

year old cousin who is really crazy. I celebrated my birthday with him.

When I came back from all those competitions, big soccer tryouts were waiting for me. I tried out for the Victorian Institute of Sport. I have now been given a 12 month scholarship with Victorian Institute of Sport. I am going to Malaysia on March 30<sup>th</sup> to play against their under 17,18,19, 20 and 21 Malaysia National teams.

There is no doubt we will see and hear more about Amir in the future. We wish him all the best in his sporting career.

This will be a regular feature of the newsletter. Any student, friend or family member who would like to nominate a person to be in the newsletter please contact Kim Patterson. You may nominate someone for any reason, such as a contribution to community service or involvement in areas including music, drama or sport. The person will obviously have to agree to have their profile published. My email address is: [patterson.kim.m@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:patterson.kim.m@edumail.vic.gov.au).

### UHS-VU (AUSSIE RULES) FOOTBALL CLUB WANTS PLAYERS

UHS-VU is the Old Scholars football club of University High School. The club started an affiliation with Victoria University in 2002 as a way of strengthening our player base, hence VU has been added to the name.

We have a senior, reserve and U18's team, playing in the Green and Tan of Uni High. Our home ground is Brens Oval, in front of Melbourne Zoo.

We and will welcome any past, or current Uni High students who want to play, or be involved in football. Under 18's coach James Mitchell welcomes any interested current or past students of University High to attend training. The U18's side is a combined side with Flemington Junior Football Club, as an extension of their U9's to U16's age categories.

James Mitchell can be contacted at 0403 298 904, or email [James.Mitchell@mgc.com.au](mailto:James.Mitchell@mgc.com.au), or check our website: [www.uhsobvu.com](http://www.uhsobvu.com)





# UHS SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2006

