



### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to all our new families and students and a reminder about our evening on March the 8th, I hope to see you all there.

#### Staffing

Following retirements, transfers, LWOP, LSL and maternity leave we have 11 new staff starting with us this year. On your behalf I have warmly welcomed them to our school.

Heather Thompson, Assistant Principal;

Melanie Carroll, English;

Matthew Cotter, Arts/Tech;

Phoebe Jackson, Science/Physics/Maths;

Rob McArthur, English;

Nikki McCracken, PE/ Health;

Andrew McLean, Physics/Science/Maths;

Naomi Schwartz, Art/Tech;

Nick Parellis, Maths;

Nathan Wallace, PE/ Health;

Claire Watson, Drama/ESL/English.

#### How can you help your child have a good start to this school year?

Here are a few suggestions:

Start each day smoothly and peacefully - with kind words, smiles and a hug.

Listen - Spend a little time each day listening to your child, while you are not being distracted by anything else

Breaky - Make sure they start each day with a proper breakfast that includes protein, fruit and good carbohydrates

Sleep - Growing brains and bodies need adequate sleep (Pull the TV/computer plug out the wall)

Organisation - Model good organisational skills with your children and help them to be organised

Teachers - Talk with respect about teachers and learning. If there is a problem approach the school to solve it in a positive frame of mind

Responsibility - Encourage them to take responsibility for their own learning

Love them - Let them know every day how much you love and value them.

I wish all students the very best for a successful start to the year. My often repeated expectations of all University High School students are:

1. Do the best you can in everything that you do.....
2. Take full advantage of all the opportunities offered by the school (Don't wait for someone to ask you to join in, or have a go).
3. Treat each person you meet and interact with, with dignity; treat everyone the way you yourself expect to be treated by others.

#### School Council

Following the closure of nominations for the 2007 School Council I declare the number of nominations equals the number of vacancies for the parent positions. Thankyou to those people who have been elected.

Parents: Nora Sumberg and Ereyadi Masli  
DET: Yet to be appointed

Can I also take this opportunity to publicly thank the retiring members for their contribution to our council.

Dr Ric Benson	(20 years)
Jan Reiher	(2 years)
Haydn Moyle	(3 years)
Suzie Orzech	(7 years)

#### 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 5

#### 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 March 14

### CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

#### MARCH

##### Monday 12

Labour Day

##### Tuesday 13-Friday 16

Surf Camp for Year 10 Students

##### Tuesday 20

Pupil Free Day for Staff PD on Mentoring and Transforming Learning

##### Thursday 22

Year 12 students to attend Drama Performance about University Admission, Sessions 5&6

Parent/Teacher Interviews for VCE students. School dismissed at 3pm. Interviews from 3:30pm-5:30pm and 6:30pm-8:30pm.

##### Friday 23

Late start for School at 10:40am

##### Tuesday 27

Parent/Teacher Interviews for students in Years 7-10. School dismissed at 12:45pm. Interviews from: 1:30pm-4:30pm and 6:30pm-8:30pm.

##### Wednesday 28

Late start for School at 10:40am

##### Friday 30

Last day of Term One, early dismissal at 2:30pm

#### APRIL

##### Monday 16

First day of Term Two

#### SCHOOL NEWS PUBLICATION DATES

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

## NEW STUDENT REPORT CARDS FOR YEAR 7 - 10

The Victorian Government is introducing the new Report Cards in all schools in 2007. Consequently the Semester One reports that your son/daughter will receive will appear significantly different from those of previous years.

Below are excerpts from the DET Blueprint Website that answer a number of common questions regarding the introduction of these Report Cards.

### What are the New Student Report Cards? What exactly is changing?

The New Student Report Cards are report cards that will be used in all Government schools to report student achievement in Years P-10. The only exception to this is where schools offer programs for students with disabilities.

All Government schools are required to issue report cards to parents twice a year and to offer interviews to parents to discuss their child's progress. This will not change. The way student achievement in the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL), and any other accredited post compulsory curriculum will also not change.

### Why are the New Student Report Cards being introduced?

The New Student Report Cards are being introduced to address concerns raised by parents in Victoria and across Australia, about the degree to which reports are clear, consistent from one school to another and easy to understand.

The New Student Report Cards will follow a common format and they will be written in plain English. They are being introduced so that no matter what Government school your child attends, you will receive a clear picture of your child's progress that is reported on in the same way, and against the same state-wide standards.

### What are the key features of the New Student Report Cards?

The new report card will have:

- A chart with an A-E rating, showing your child's current progress against the expected state-wide standard as well as the progress they have made since the previous year
- A chart showing levels of effort and class behaviour
- Details about attendance
- Easy to understand comments from teachers outlining what your child knows and can do, any areas in which your child needs to be given further help or extended, and how this will be done.
- Suggestions on how you can help at home

### Why are there A-E ratings on the New Student Report Cards?

At present, schools report students' progress in a range of different ways. Some schools use marks, others use letters or words ('B', 'C', 'E' or 'beginning', 'consolidating', 'established'), others use descriptive paragraphs. Some schools already use an A-E scale to report to parents, but the way the A-E ratings are allocated, and the meaning attached to them can vary from one school to another.

Parents have told us in state and national consultation forums that the different reporting scales currently used by school are confusing. They want a clearer and more consistent indication of the progress their child has made against common state-wide standards.

The introduction of the A-E scale on the New Student Report Cards will mean that all Government schools (with the exception

of some specialist setting schools) will be using the same approach to reporting student progress. The A-E ratings will have the same meaning from school to school, and they will be used to report student progress against the same standards.

The use of an A-E scale is also one of the conditions set by the Commonwealth Government for the provision of funding to schools. All schools in all states and territories will be moving to reporting student achievement using an A-E scale.

### What exactly do the A-E ratings mean?

The report card's A to E scale will tell you how your child is progressing against the expected state-wide standard. No matter which Government school a child attends, the A-E ratings they receive will carry the same meaning. In every school:

- A 'C' rating will mean that a child is at the expected standard at the time of reporting and that his or her learning is on track.
- A 'B' rating will mean that a child is above the standard expected for their year level at the time of reporting.
- An 'A' rating will mean a child is well above the standard expected for their year level at the time of reporting.
- A 'D' rating will mean a child is below the standard expected at the time of reporting, and an 'E' rating well below.

### What do you need to be clear about in relation to the A-E ratings?

There are four key aspects to the new A-E ratings that it is essential that you as parents are clear about:

- If your child receives a 'C' it does not mean their achievement is 'just adequate'. It indicates that your child has met the state-wide standard expected of children of their age at the time of reporting and their learning is firmly on track.
- Initially these changes may be confusing for parents but it is hoped that the teacher comments on the report card will make your child's progress and achievement clear.
- Not all students will make significant progress or meet all of the standards expected for their year level all of the time. It is not unusual for students to make better progress in some areas than in others. Some students may be achieving at the standard, but have made little progress over the year. Others may not be achieving at the standard, but may have made significant progress since the previous year.
- The New Student Report Cards are premised on the principle that it is essential for the school, the student and the parent to have as clear as possible a picture of the progress made over a year, as well as current achievement.

## THE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL REPORT CARD, 7-10

As a result of these changes, the assessment scale for all graded work at UHS will be altered in order to avoid confusion. Please find below the new descriptions to be used in all core and elective subjects in years 7-10 (as well as in all year 11 and 12 subjects) from this year onwards:

### Level of performance in UHS graded work Equivalent numerical %

Outstanding	90+
Excellent	80-89
Very good	70-79
Good	60-69
Satisfactory	50-59
Meets minimum requirements	40-49
Unsatisfactory	Below 40
NA	Insufficient work submitted to be assessed.
NY	The work to be graded does not appear in the course of study for this semester



## **DIPHTERIA, TETANUS AND PERTUSSIS VACCINATION FOR YEAR 10 STUDENTS**

**M. M. Janson**  
**Assistant Principal**

On Wednesday 7th March, 2007, the City of Melbourne Immunisation Team will be at University High School in the morning to provide vaccination for Year 10 students against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (Whooping Cough).

The Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis vaccine is a free vaccine funded by the Commonwealth Government. Parents and Guardians of Year 10 students should have received a consent card and information letter.

Signed consent cards must be returned to sub-school offices no later than Tuesday 27th February, 2007. Cards will NOT be accepted after this date.

The immunisation is also available from Community Health Centres for those students who do not return the card by the due date.

## **HEPATITIS B VACCINATION AND VARICELLA (CHICKEN POX) VACCINATION FOR YEAR 7 STUDENTS**

**M. M. Janson**  
**Assistant Principal**

On Wednesday 7th March, 2007, the City of Melbourne Immunisation Team will be at University High School in the morning to provide vaccination against Hepatitis B and Chicken Pox. Participation in the program is voluntary, and only students who have returned a signed consent card will be given the immunisation.

For the Hepatitis B vaccine to be fully effective, two doses are required 4 to 6 months apart. The second immunisation will be given on Wednesday 10th October, 2007.

The Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccine has been introduced for any Year 7 student who has NOT previously had:

either, the chicken pox 'wild' virus

or, the chicken pox vaccine

Both the Hepatitis B and Chicken Pox vaccinations are free fully funded by the Commonwealth Government of Australia.

Signed consent cards have been distributed and must be returned to sub-school offices no later than Tuesday 27th February, 2007. Cards will not be accepted after this date.

The immunisations are also available from Community Health Centres for those students who do not return the card by the due date.

## **NEW IMMUNISATION PROGRAM AGAINST THE HUMAN PAPILOMA VIRUS FOR GIRLS ONLY IN YEARS 7, 10, 11 AND 12**

**M. M. Janson**  
**Assistant Principal**

The City of Melbourne Immunisation Team has received confirmation that the Commonwealth Government of Australia will fund a new program to immunise girls against the Human Papilloma Virus.

To be fully effective, three doses of the vaccine must be given. Please note that the School has set the following dates for the three doses:

Tuesday 1st May, 2007

Monday 4th June, 2007

Tuesday 9th October, 2007

Consent forms and information will be sent home during the first week of Term 2, 2007.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

**Glenn Marchant**  
**Student Leadership Co-ordinator**

The Student Leadership Program involves a number of activities that encourage students to become involved in leadership and empowering based programs. These include:

The SRC- Student Representative Council - for STUDENTS to be represented around the school; it is their 'voice' as a representative body.

SMAD - Students Making a Difference - a social justice based group linked to local, national and international activities.

Students can also become involved in a range of other activities during the year such as Melbourne City Council Charity Fund, Amnesty International, local, State and National Constitutional Conventions, Rotary activities and other leadership activities related to local, state and federal initiatives.

The SRC for 2007 is fully operational. Thanks to English staff who assisted with the election process; your contribution has been invaluable. This is a critical part of VELS and Civics & Citizenship Education. Please note that students who miss out on being elected have always been welcome to attend SRC Meetings and/or get involved with other activities. This is how SMAD (then CAG) was originally set up. There are at least two students on the current SRC who missed out on being elected and who have continued to be involved. We have always encouraged students to participate regardless of the election result.

Please note that the SRC is the STUDENT body- for STUDENTS. They already have a busy schedule and commitments to a number of activities and committees. This involves meetings, written reports and an action plan for the year. SRC Reps will report to their classes during the year.

If you have a suggestion for any of the groups or would like to learn more about the various activities, I'd be pleased to meet with you to discuss your questions and/or ideas. We can then discuss your proposal at an SRC Meeting.

## **MATTHEW STANTON SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS 2007**

Congratulations to Beatrix Huynh-Vu (Year 12) and Michael Amhaz (Year 12) who have been awarded Matthew Stanton Sharman Scholarships. These are new awards as a result of a large bequest made to the school by Matthew Sharman's relatives George Stanton and Mary Meadley. The awards are made to scholarly students who excel both academically and musically.

## **ACCELERATION PROGRAMME TESTING FOR 2008**

Testing for the 2008 AP cohort will take place on Saturday April 21st at UHS. Application forms can be obtained by ringing the General Office on 9 347 2022. Students in their final year of primary school are eligible to apply, regardless of their home address. Further enquiries may be made by contacting Jenny Tarr on 9 347 2022.

## PARENTS OF YEAR 12 STUDENTS - CAREERS E-NEWSLETTER

When re-enrolling at the end of last year, students and parents were asked to provide a current email address so that they could receive the weekly Careers E-newsletter. The newsletter is normally sent each Wednesday. If you are not receiving these emails or would like to be added to the list, please contact Angela Moylan - amoylan@unihigh.vic.edu.au

## TAX FILE NUMBER (TFN)

Tax File Numbers are unique numbers issued by the Australian Taxation Office to identify individuals and others who lodge income tax returns with the ATO. If you have a job and do not quote your TFN to your employer you will have tax deducted at a higher rate.

A TFN is also necessary if you wish to defer the cost of tertiary studies, receive government assistance payments etc. The easiest way for students to apply for a TFN is through the school. See Ms Moylan in the VCE Centre.

## VE&T

Vocational Education and Training (VE&T) is a growth area at University High School. VCE students are able to choose to study one VE&T course alongside their VCE. This year we have 75 students enrolled in the following VE&T programs:-

Certificate II in Hospitality, Units 1 & 2 at Princes Hill SC, Units 3 & 4 at William Angliss TAFE;

Certificate II in Arts (Interactive Multimedia) Units 1& 2, Swinburne Senior SC, Units 3 & 4 Hawthorn SC;

Certificate II in Clothing Design & Production, Kangan Batman TAFE,;

Certificate II in Community Services, University HS;

Certificate II in Community Recreation, Melbourne Girls' College;

Certificate II in Broadcasting, Swinburne Senior SC;

Certificate I in Engineering, Kangan Batman TAFE;

Certificate II in Make-up Artistry, Headmasters College;

Certificate II in Furnishings, RMIT;

Certificate III in Music Industry (Performance), University HS

Certificate III in Music Industry (Tech Prod), Swinburne Senior SC.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Parents of all Year 10 students should recently have received information in the mail outlining the Careers program that their son/daughter will be involved in this year, including information about the work experience program

The dates of the work experience program are:

June 25-29, 2007

NB - It is essential that bookings are secured before the end of March. Please give details to Ms Moylan so that the necessary paperwork can be completed.

## WELCOME TO NEW PARENTS FUNCTION

Dear Parents

The University High School Council and Staff invite you to attend an evening function, Welcome to Parents New to The University High School.

This will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Sharman Hall Foyer on Thursday 8th March.

You will be introduced to the Sub-School teams who care for and manage the academic and pastoral care of your child.

Light refreshments will be available and it is envisaged that the evening will end at 9:00 p.m.

Looking forward to meeting you on the evening.

Ms Christine Bozyk

Head of Sharman Sub-School (on behalf of School Council)

## OUTSTANDING VCE RESULTS IN 2006.

University High School achieves very high results. The results for the 2006 students were excellent. Of the 224 students who were eligible to complete, 99.6 % were successful in gaining their VCE.

Seven students received ENTER scores over 99.

They were: Tatiana Brodskaia, Jasmine Zhu, Rowan Habel, Anna Orzech, Chris Loo, Annabel Brady Brown, and Wen Li.

Congratulations to these students on their outstanding results.

Overall the results obtained were of a very high level.

In 2006, 3.1 % of the year level gained an ENTER score over 99. Also 39.1% of the students obtained an ENTER greater than 90.00 while 60.0% gained an ENTER greater than 80.00.

All students are to be congratulated on their efforts throughout the year.

These are excellent results and they reflect the tremendous commitment of the students to their studies, the expertise and dedication of their teachers as well as the considerable support that each student has received from their families.

Another indication of the high level of results was shown by the fact that 16.0% of all the subject scores that students obtained were 40 or above.

This places a student in the top 8% of any subject.

The maximum score for any subject is 50. This is an outstanding result as only a small number are granted in each subject.

In 2006 the following students obtained this maximum grade.

Student	Subject/s
Yung Jie Lim	Information Technology
Annabel Brady Brown	Literature
Ellen Buckley	Physical Education
Anna Orzech	Philosophy, Music performance

## STUDENT DESTINATIONS

This is a summary of Year 12 (2006) student destinations:-

University of Melbourne	81 students
Monash University	23 students
Latrobe University	20 students
RMIT	33 students
Swinburne University	5 students
Deakin University	8 students
Victoria University	8 students
Australian Catholic University	4 students
TAFE Institutes	25 students
Private Providers	2 students
Seeking Employment/other	12 students

## GO FAR WITH GEOGRAPHY!!

Is our climate changing?

Where is the best place in Melbourne to buy a new house?  
How does the drought affect prices of vegetables in the market?

These are all questions that can be answered by Geographers. All of us need geographical skills to make decisions about our lives and the world around us. Geography helps us to make sense of the world around us. In Geography, we study interactions between and change within both natural and human environments.

Starting this year at UHS.

Coming soon to a classroom near you.

## IT's Geography Club.

Geography Club is open to any student in Years 7 & 8. We will be involved in a number of fun geographical activities including food from around the world, puzzles, competitions and action projects. Why not give it a go?

Geography Club takes place on Tuesday lunchtime in Room 619 starting at 12:45 starting on Tuesday 6th March. See you there!!

## SCIENCE

### Justine Hamilton

There are an enormous variety of science competitions and extension activities on offer.

Two of these to highlight are the International Competition for Assessment in Science (ICAS) and the National Chemistry Quiz. Both competitions are one hour in duration, consist of multiple choice questions and are open to students from Years 7-12. The ICAS competition tests for science literacy, thinking and analytical skills. The cost for this competition is \$6 and payment is due by Friday March 23. The Chemistry Quiz requires more background knowledge as well as the skills mentioned for the ICAS test. The cost is \$4 and payment is due Friday April 27. Students need to obtain a copy of the payment form from the intraweb and take this with their payment to the general office by the due dates.

Other opportunities that will be made available to selected students are

Year 10- Extreme Science Experience

Years 7-12- Science Talent Search

Year 11 and 12- Harry Messel International Science School

Years 11 and 12- CSIRO Student Research Scheme.

Year 11- Stars Science School.

Students are advised to check the intraweb, the science noticeboard and to talk to their science teacher for details.

Congratulations to Harry Jennens in Year 12 for being selected to attend the Chemistry Olympiad Scholar Training school in Canberra in January. With the other 24 students from around Australia who were selected by examination for the training school he will be sitting two examinations in March that are designed to select the team to represent Australia at the international competition later in the year. We wish him well.

## LOTE NEWS

### R. Rosvoll / F.-O. Sandt

We welcome to UHS 2 students from our sister-school, Graf-Münster-Gymnasium (GMG) in Bayreuth, Germany. They are in Australia until the end of March. The German students are Andreas Ziegler and Felix Thiem. They are hosted by the families of their exchange partners, Lewis Strating and Oliver Mispelhorn. These UHS students will leave for Germany in April and spend three months at GMG.

Thinking back to the end of 2006 and the Year 12 LOTE results, many students were very happy with their ENTER scores as LOTE is marked up considerably due to the scaling process and the special LOTE bonus. For example, a student who received a raw score of 29 in French could expect to receive 41 as the scaled score (the score that contributes towards the ENTER). The top subject score of 50 can be exceeded depending on the raw score.

## HOMEWORK SUPPORT:

### Tuesday and Wednesday after school

Ms Barbara Phillips, a retired English teacher, has made herself available to provide after school homework assistance to students. Students who need support with their English or SOSE (History or Geography) homework can go to the Library on Tuesday and/or Wednesday after school until 4pm.

## RELEASE IT!

### Stretch and strengthen class

Male and female students in Years 10, 11 & 12 are invited to this class on Tuesday afternoons 3.10 - 4.10pm. There is no charge for this class as it is offered as part of the Student Wellbeing Program.

## AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY PROGRAM

A number of parents and students have enquired about the after school activity program. Term one is the term for students to settle back into school life after the summer holidays. The higher temperatures experienced in February and March can leave students quite exhausted at the end of the school day so it was decided to start the after school activity program in term 2. A booking sheet for this program will be provided in the next newsletter.

For those keen to participate in the interschool sports program there are many sports trainings in term 1. Students need to watch the bulletin for these training times.

## UHS Wellbeing Committee

This committee focuses on student and staff wellbeing. It is an informal meeting where staff, student and parent members consider the needs of the UHS school community. We meet in the Library as scheduled by the term calendar (usually 2 or 3 meetings per term. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 15th March.

In 2007, the committee has the task of contributing to a draft Code of Wellbeing for UHS. This will draw together the work of committee members over the last 3 years and expand on the current wellbeing issues facing staff, students and their families.

For further information please contact Heather Thompson (Assistant Principal) or

Kim Patterson (Student Welfare Coordinator) on 9347 2022

## UHS SECONDHAND BOOKSALE 2006

The Parents' Association would like to thank all the parents and staff of UHS for their much valued assistance with the 2006 secondhand booksale which raised over \$9000 for the school. Special thanks needs to go to Chris Jones, Lou Benincasa and Marc Sinatra for their overall organisation of the event and to Cheryl Kelly from the school office for her financial expertise.

The Parents' Association would like to say goodbye and thank you to Clive Jowsey and Gordon Sandor who have been very involved with the booksale over many years. Clive and Gordon will discontinue their association with the school as their children have now moved on.

## **MATHEMATICS EXTENSION PROGRAM 2007**

**A. Donoghue**

**Mathematics Coordinator**

In 2007, there will be a program of extra-curricular activities in mathematics. Parents may wish to note the following details.

### **Australian Mathematics Competition**

A multiple choice paper at three levels of difficulty (Junior, Intermediate and Senior)

The final Entry Date is by Friday April 20th

The cost is \$5 per student

The date of the Competition is Wednesday July 25th

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.

### **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 Tuesday February 27th.

The cost is \$17.00 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.

### **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 Tuesday February 27th.

The cost is \$29.00 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.

### **The University of Melbourne Mathematics competition**

For very able mathematics students in Years 7 to 12

The competition has three divisions, Junior (7 & 8), Intermediate (9 & 10) and Senior (11 & 12). Junior paper is 2 hours and the Intermediate and Senior is 3 hours.

The final Entry Date is Wednesday March 21st.

The cost is \$3.00 per student

The date of the Competition is Wednesday May 2nd.

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 intranet and return to the General Office.

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

## **PERFORMING ARTS NEWS**

### **The Mid Year Concert Goes To Hamer Hall**

After exploring a possible change of venue, the Principal, Mr. Newton, has booked Hamer Hall for this year's Mid Year Concert. This is amazing news indeed and has set all concerned a new benchmark to reach. But given the extremely high standard of the performing groups at UHS, this is a remarkable opportunity for all in the UHS community to perform and to hear (and yes SEE) the talents of our students on display. All Year 7 students will be invited to participate in a massed choral number for this event. Rehearsals will begin in the classroom and then move to the Performance Centre closer to the night.

The new date is Tuesday 15th May. There will be some changes to our usual preparation timetable, but parents will be informed through their children as we work through the details. Briefly, we would expect an extended rehearsal in the first week of Term II, the usual longer rehearsal in Week 4 and then to have up to a full day of rehearsal time in Hamer Hall during the day on Tuesday 15th May.

Ticket prices will be \$20 Adult and \$15 Concession for designated seats. So watch this space for details as they come. Please put the revised Concert date on your calendar.

### **Top Class and Top Acts**

Students who exhibited exceptional talent in Music Performance are invited to perform at the Iwaki Auditorium in March. Two students from UHS have been invited this year. Anna Orzech - cello and Donna Chung - oboe. Donna has also been selected to perform as one of the Top Acts - the very best in the state selected from the disciplines of dancers, singers, musicians and actors. This concert will be held at Hamer Hall on Friday 8th June. Congratulations to both girls for their outstanding achievements.

### **Margaret Schofield Memorial Scholarship**

This scholarship was awarded to two government school students in Year 12 Music Performance 2006. The students needed to demonstrate outstanding ability in Music Performance and be committed to continuing with tertiary studies in Music. One of the recipients for 2006 was Anna Orzech - cello. Warm congratulations Anna.

### **Year 7 Music Recruitment Night**

All Year 7 students and their families were invited to attend this evening on Tuesday 20th February. Despite the incredibly hot night, we were delighted to have around 300 parents attend. Students are currently being placed into classes to begin lessons soon. Thank you very much to the Music staff who assisted with this evening and to parents and students for their enthusiasm and patience.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

**Katherine Klopsteins**

**Domain Head**

**Physical Education and Health**

The PE and Health faculty welcome Mr Nathan Wallace and Ms Nikki McCracken to the team in 2007. Ms Hafey has taken family leave this year and Mr Naudi has taken time to teach in the UK.

The PE team are:

Ms K Klopsteins (Me!!) - Health, Physical and Sport Education Coordinator (Anything that happens within the school)

Mr A Lee Inter-School Sport and Carnivals Coordinator (mostly anything outside of the school!)

Mr P Batters - Assistant Head Bryce

Ms R Anderson - Chapman Sub-school Coordinator

Ms N McCracken

Mr N Wallace

Ms K Patterson - Student Welfare and Year 12 Health

### PE Uniform

The University High School PE uniform consists of the green Uni High Sports shirt and black shorts or track pants. Shirts are available from the General Office. The PE uniform is compulsory for all PE and Sport classes and Inter-School sports days. Students need to be well organised with their equipment, particularly with the hot weather that we have been having. Remember to bring your hats, sunscreen and water bottles to all classes.

### Year 7 Physical Education

All year 7 students have made a great start at high school and are learning the meaning of permission forms, PE uniform and swimming gear! Some Year 7 classes have commenced their Swimming Unit at Brunswick Baths, whilst other classes are undertaking the Summer Sports Unit at school.

All year 7 classes have a "PE" class for 2 sessions during the week and a single "Health" class with the same teacher.

All year 7 students will have the opportunity to sign up for an Inter-School Sport day that will be held on Monday 26th March. Traditionally students sign up to participate in summer sports such as volleyball, cricket, tennis, softball and baseball. Due to the extreme conditions caused by the drought, we are having difficulty finding suitable venues to play all sports. However, students will be advised during classes as to what sports they can participate in.

### Year 8 Physical Education and Inter-school Sport

Year 8 students have a timetabled "double" of Physical Education and "single" of Health. Many classes are now completing their Swimming Unit in P.E.. In Health, most classes are studying First Aid.

As there are difficulties with Inter-school sport venues due to the drought, there will be a limited number of teams going out this term. However, we hope to be back to "normal" next term and have the whole of Year 8 out participating in Inter-school Sport.

### Intermediate (Year9/10) and Senior Sport

Year 9-12 students who wish to participate in any of the Inter-School sport competitions need to sign up and try out for a team. The Intermediate Sport Day is on Monday Friday 2nd March and the Senior Sports Day is on Thursday 22nd March.

If you have any questions regarding PE or Health, please contact me or one of the PE team.

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate  
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.  
It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us,  
We ask ourselves, who am I to be?  
Brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?  
Actually who are you not to be?  
You are a child of God.  
Your playing small doesn't serve the world.  
There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other  
people  
Won't feel insecure around you.  
We are born to make manifest the glory of God that is within  
us  
It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone.  
And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give  
other  
people the permission to do the same.  
As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence  
automatically  
Liberates others!

Nelson Mandela  
From 1994 Inaugural Speech

### UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL SKI CAMP

**Paul Batters**

**(Ski Camp Organiser)**

As we swelter through summer heat wave, it's time to start dreaming of the cool fresh mornings in the Alps and carving up the runs at the panoramic Mt. Hotham resort. Once again we are offering Year 9, 10 and 11 students a wonderful opportunity to learn how to ski and experience an Alpine environment.

This year the ski camp will be conducted from 12th to 17th August (Sunday - Friday). As part of the ski camp package students receive ski and helmet hire and a 5-day lift/ lesson pass with expert instructors. A highlight of the camp also includes night skiing on Wednesday night. Students will be staying at Bembooka Ski Club (5 nights) and have all breakfasts and dinners home cooked. This particular lodge has rooms with ensuite, TV and lounge room, and a spa and sauna.

The cost of the package in 2006 was \$695. We would expect a small increase in this price for the 2007 Ski Camp.

If students are interested in participating in the 2007 ski camp they must attend the information seminar at school or see Mr. Batters in the VCE office.

## **BROOKES SUBSCHOOL**

### **Peter Nero**

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 Year 8B1

#### **Co-ordinators**

Anna Newbold Year 10B1 10B2 8B2

Stephen Paatsch Year 9B1 9B2 10B3

Kerry Svalbe Year 7B1 7B2 7B3

You can contact us by phone or by e-mail. The e-mail addresses are listed below. The coordinators work collaboratively to provide a supportive learning environment for your child. We do this by monitoring your child's attendance, punctuality, academic progress and general wellbeing. 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 a school expectation that your child brings the diary to all classes and that the diary is used effectively. 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 co-ordinator on your child's return to school. For extended absences, for example an overseas trip, we will endeavour to provide school work if we have early notification.

#### **Year 7 Camp.**

From Monday 12th to Wednesday 14th February the Year Sevens of Brookes enjoyed an action filled camp at Gundiwindi lodge near Wandin. The orientation camp was a huge success, providing opportunities for the students to get to know each other and to interact with Brookes coordinators and some of their classroom teachers. The students 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 quiz night, required the students to work together as a team. It was impressive to see students behaving in a responsibly, courteous manner and willingly participating in all activities. Many thanks to the staff who attended, Ms Newbold, Ms Patterson, Ms Svalbe, Ms Tarr, Ms Shukroon and Mr Wallace. In the next newsletter we will have some excerpts from the students' writings and more photographs about the camp and the start of the year.

We welcome your inquires; please contact us to discuss any issues or about any aspect of school life at UHS.

nero.peter.p@edumail.vic.gov.au; anewbold@unihigh.vic.edu.au;  
spaatsch@unihigh.vic.edu.au; svalbe.kerry.m@edumail.vic.gov.au

## **LORD SOMERS & LADY SOMERS CAMP.**

### **Paul Batters**

During the January holiday three students from University High School attended two week long Big Camps, known as Lord Somers Camp for young men and Lady Somers Camp for young women. The participating students in these camps included Antony Harbor, Jenna Tellefeson and Anna Hodgins. These camps are the main programs of the not-for-profit youth organisation, Lord Somers Camp and Powerhouse association.

From all reports these students had an amazing time with many opportunities to establish new friendships, and experience many unique activities that were filled with fun, excitement and entertainment. The focus of the camp enjoys a very strong reputation and tradition for developing teamwork, self-confidence, self-worth, tolerance, and leadership skills of the participants. The context of the camp ensures that participants aged between 16-18 years are from a wide range of backgrounds - ethnic, cultural, economic, geographic etc. The camp also includes students from both the public and private education sector. In 2008, University High School will continue to support and encourage students to attend these camps.

Part of the success and tradition of the camps involves the students receiving very little prior knowledge of the structure and activities conducted. At the completion of the camp the participants are also 'sworn' to secrecy.

If you wish to learn more about Lord Somers Camp, Lady Somers Camp and Power House visit the website [www.lordsomerscamp.org.au](http://www.lordsomerscamp.org.au)

## **A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE!**

### **Jenna Tellefeson**

On Lady Somers Camp there is The rule - Play The Game

'By the end of our 7 days without phones, iPods, or a single familiar face, this rule became gospel. It had to, if you wanted to survive the slushery!

'Tear 'em down, you slushee warriors'

'Tear 'em down, you slushee Queens...'

Anna (Dark Blue Groupers)

I got out of the car that Saturday morning and saw a sea of girls dressed in assorted colours. They stood awkwardly and made polite conversations regarding school and favourite movies. There were long silent pauses between the chatter. I could see people frantically searching for conversation starters to put forward to the strangers before them. I wanted to get back into the car. I was petrified of spending a week with 20 strangers and on a camp I knew nothing about. Luckily going back home was not an option so I immersed myself in the chitchat. We all remained reserved until we got to camp and entered a strange new world. A world where we knew nothing of what was to come, or how to deal with it, and most definitely nothing about what we would learn. We entered this world of Lady Somers Camp knowing nothing and came out understanding much, much more!

# UHS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

