



SCHOOL NEWS

The University High School Newsletter

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

District Swimming Sports

Congratulations to those individuals who performed so well in representing the school at the district swimming recently. More importantly well done to the teams who did so well. We were first in the following: overall aggregate; intermediate aggregate; junior girls; and senior boys. Thank you to Mr Lee who managed the team.

Staffing

Next term Christine Bozyk (Head of Sharman), Louis Scacciante (Domain Head of English) will be on long service leave. Paul Beekman (Head of Sharman) and Maureen Cooper (Domain Head of English) take up these positions of responsibility while they are away. We are still interviewing replacement teachers for their classes. I trust Christine and Louis have an enjoyable long service leave break which includes overseas travel.

VCE Study Centre

The new centre is working well and the students are making the most of the flexible spaces available. The previous rooms used for Bryce house staff and careers guidance are now being converted to general purpose classrooms.

Select Entry School in North Melbourne

As many parents may be aware the Department of Education are establishing a year 9-12 Co education select entry school in North Melbourne which is due to open in 2009. The School Council and school administration have had some contact with the Department of Education regarding this new school and we will be seeking parent input and feedback probably in term 2.

Parent Teacher Nights

I trust that those parents who met with teachers at the end of term found these sessions productive and meaningful. If you were unable to attend and would like to meet up with some of your child's teachers please contact the sub-schools to arrange meeting times.

New Parent Evening

Thankyou to all the "new parents" who attended this evening. It was great to meet so many of you and welcome you to the University High School family. I hope you enjoyed both the formal and informal part of the evening. Thankyou to Ms Christine Bozyk and her team for their organisation.

Mid Year Concert

Just a reminder that the mid year concert will be in the Hamer Hall this year on Tuesday May the 15th. Line up your "extended family" to attend as we will have plenty of room and it will be a great night.

Term 2

I look forward to seeing all our students return from a safe and refreshing holiday break on April the 16th.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Helen Cooney
Parents Association

"The AGM of the Parents' Association will be held on Monday May 7 at 7:30pm in the staff room of UHS. All interested parents are welcome to attend.

If you need further information please contact Helen Cooney on 0412 156 817"

SCHOOL NEWS PUBLICATION DATES

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

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 May 7 (AGM)

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 April 18

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

MARCH

Sunday 25

Daylight savings ends

Tuesday 27

Parent/Teacher Interviews for students in Years 7-10. School dismissed at 12:45pm, Interviews from: 1:30 - 4:30pm and 5:30 - 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

Monday 23

Year 10 Fast Track (Stage One)

Tuesday 24

School Open Day and Public Tours 1:30 - 3:30pm and 7:00 - 8:30pm.

Wednesday 25

ANZAC Day Holiday

Friday 27

School Athletics Carnival

MAY

Tuesday 1

Years 7, 10, 11 & 12 Human Papiloma Virus Vaccinations (1st dose)

Wednesday 2

Melbourne University Maths Competition

Thursday 3

Photograph Day for VCE students and Staff

Friday 4

Photograph Day for Year 10 students and Music Performance Groups

Monday 7 (until Saturday 12)

Education Week

Tuesday 8

Year 8 AIM Mathematics Assessment

Wednesday 9

Year 9 AIM English Assessment

Thursday 10

International Science Competition

Year 10 Fast Track (Stage Two)

Monday 14 (until Thursday 24)

Year 10 Fast Track (Stage Three)

Tuesday 15

Mid-Year Music Concert at Hamer Hall

Wednesday 16

Photograph Day for Students in Years 7, 8 & 9

PARENTS AS CAREER TRANSITION SUPPORT (PACTS)

A program for Parents of Year 9 students

Making decisions about career transition can be a confusing time for both parents and young people. Research, both in Australia and overseas, has found that parents are one of the most commonly consulted and influential sources of career information and advice for young people. Research into what parents and young people thought about parental involvement in career transition, found that:

- 100% of parents think it is important to be involved their child's transition
- 80% of young people said they would help from parents in making decisions
- Only 20% of parents feel they currently have sufficient knowledge of employment and training options to help their child make a decision about what to do after leaving school

Many parents are keen to help but are unsure about what they can do, and more importantly, they frequently base information or advice on their own experience of career transition, which is usually more than 20 years ago. The PACTS (Parents as Career Transition Support) workshops have been developed to bring parents up to date with practical strategies and information about career transition by way of the information in this handbook. They aim to provide parents with general career transition knowledge, resources and ongoing support, so they can help their teenager to access information about career transition, therefore, any decisions can be based on fact.

The program involves 3 two-hour workshops:-

Workshop One - Beginning to explore

Workshop Two - Career and transition services

Workshop Three - Jobs

In 2007, one PACTS program will be offered in each of Term 1, Term 2 and Term 3. Groups are limited to 15 parents. The program will run on Tuesday evenings, 7-9pm (Term 2 dates May 22, May 29, June 5)

Complete the slip below to indicate your interest, and return to Ms Moylan by Friday April 20.

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I _____ (Parent/Guardian) of

_____ (Student) in _____ (Class)

would like to participate in the PACTS program.

My contact details are:

Home Telephone _____ Work or Mobile _____

Email _____

CAREERS AT WORK

Careers at Work programs provide hands on experience in a number of industry areas that have been identified as skill shortage areas. Parents will have the opportunity to explore competency based training to assist them in exploring vocational options for their child. Each session will include information on the industry and career opportunities. Programs available to parents for 2007 include:

Saturday, 5 May - Cookery At William Angliss TAFE
(555 La Trobe Street, Melbourne).

The session is scheduled to commence at 10.00am and conclude at 2.00pm and will cover career opportunities that exist in Hospitality, with an emphasis on "back of house" opportunities. Parents will also have the opportunity to sample their own cooking. Cost NIL.

Other details to be confirmed upon registration. Interested parents should contact Linda Snoxall on 9686 2354 or lsnoxall@imvc.com.au

August Wine Appreciation at William Angliss TAFE.
(555 La Trobe Street, Melbourne)
(Date to be confirmed)

Anticipated time 6.00pm - 9.00pm . The session will include a professional industry wine specialist, tasting notes, selection of fine wines and nibbles.

Information on the Hospitality industry and career/training opportunities that are currently available will also be covered. Cost NIL. Other details to be confirmed upon registration. Interested parents should contact Linda Snoxall on 9686 2354 or lsnoxall@imvc.com.au

CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK AT UHS

WE ARE DIFFERENT BUT THE SAME.

WE ARE ALL VICTORIAN

Monica Chetty.

17-23 March was cultural diversity week. During this week Victorians come together to contribute to community harmony and to promote mutual understanding and respect.

The Week also marks the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination affirming our belief in the opportunity for all Victorians to live freely without fear of discrimination and vilification.

To mark this week staff and students were encouraged to wear the colour orange to show their support for the elimination of racism. Students made posters and put up displays to promote the Week. This Cultural Diversity Week finished with a parade of cultural costumes.

Thank you to all staff and students for your participation.

CONNECTING CULTURES AT UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

Kim Patterson, Clare Ryan & Monica Chetty

As you are already aware Vichealth is currently sponsoring a project called 'Building Bridges' the aim of which is to promote mental health and wellbeing. One way of achieving this is by bringing together people from diverse backgrounds to increase understanding and positive interactions between members of the school community- students, parents, teachers and community groups.

We have called our project 'Connecting Cultures'. This project will conclude at the end of 2007.

We are taking a whole school approach with three priority areas to build cultural bridges: student leadership, student participation in music and sport, and parent participation in school life at UHS.

Phase one of the project, 2006, focussed on whole school immersion with many student led assemblies and activities. This year the student activities will continue but we are now embarking on Stage II which will focus on community involvement.

A brochure detailing Stage II of this project will be mailed to you with the after school activities information. Please contact us and register your interest in the various parent and community based activities that we have outlined in this brochure.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT UHS.

Kim Patterson, Clare Ryan and Monica Chetty

To mark this special day a group of 40 students visited the Royal Women's Hospital and presented flowers and cards to the staff in appreciation of their fabulous work for women. The students also had the opportunity to see some of the work that the staff do in the daily care of women by visiting the nursing stations and patient wards and presenting flowers and cards to some of the patients as well.

The aim of this project was to strengthen the students' appreciation and understanding of community services and the multifaceted roles that women play. As well as this we are encouraging our students to see the importance of acknowledging the work of others. We see whole school initiatives like this as integral in developing a sense of what it means to be a citizen.

YEAR 7'S PERFORM THE LION KING

On Tuesday 15th May, The University High School Music Faculty will hold the Mid Year Concert at Hamer Hall As part of the program, we intend to stage a large-scale production of a Lion King medley sung by all Year 7's. Also included in this number will be the Senior Choir and around twenty members of staff. The item will be accompanied by an impressive percussion ensemble and is sure to be one of the highlights of the evening.

During the day of Tuesday 15th May, students will be accompanied to Hamer Hall for a dress rehearsal prior to the concert beginning at 7.30pm. Excursion forms will be sent home closer to the day.

MID YEAR CONCERT TICKETS

Tickets for the concert will be available from the general office from the beginning of Term II. They will be \$20 for adults and \$15 concession. Hamer Hall has a designated seating plan, so parents and friends will be able to select their preferred seats. It would be advisable to purchase tickets early.

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR AUDITIONS

Auditions will take place during the Term I holidays. Dates and times will be released to students before the end of term. Families who already have holiday plans will not be excluded from the process - alternative times will be arranged.

8B1 ON THE WEB! (ALONG WITH THE SPIDERS FROM THE DANDENONGS!)

Max Chinn, 8B1

On Wednesday the 14th of March 2007, class 8B1 went on an excursion to the Dandenong Ranges national park along with two year 9 classes.

8B1 made their own fire safety and fire prevention t-shirts and wore them up to the Dandenongs. OK parents you can now see our great t-shirts on the Dandenong Ranges website. www.parkweb.vic.gov.au SOON!!!! We are famous at last!!!

We took the bus up to the ranges and met a park ranger who was qualified as an emergency firefighter; the ranger taught us about how the forest needed fire to survive and what it had done to the land. The ranger also showed us how animals survive bush fires.

Ms. Miles took us up the mountain and told us about the plantation and how it survives bushfires. We were also given activities to do up on the mountain like record information on three different sites.

Near the end of the excursion we drove up to the top of the mountain where there was a fantastic view of the city even though we could hardly see the city skyscrapers.

Another activity was given to us by the teachers; we had to rate five houses along a street on whether they were safe if a fire came in.

Overall we had a great day up at the Dandenong ranges national park learning about bushfires. 8B1 and the year 9 classes would like to thank the teachers for taking us up: Mrs. Miles, Mr. Bickham and Mrs. Seeger-Snowden.



SPORTING PROFILE: - ANOTHER CHAMPION....

Jerome Tseitlin of 10B3 is an international competitor in the sport of Taekwondo. Jerome started doing Taekwondo when he was just five years old. He had earned his Black belt by the age of eight. In the past three years Jerome has experienced fantastic success in State (10 gold and 3 silver medal), National (1 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze) and International competitions (1 bronze in the Japan Open).

Later this year Jerome will travel to Malaysia and Korea to compete in International Championships. In the meantime he is trying out for the national team to play in the Asian Open, also to be held later this year. Jerome has set himself some high goals for the future - in 2008, he hopes to win the World Championship. In 2010, he will be working hard to try to make the Olympic Squad for 2012.

Jerome's secret for success is training very hard and always trying his best. He also needs to be well organised as he enjoys doing other sports as well, especially soccer. Jerome does all this whilst maintaining a heavy workload of study as a student in the Acceleration program.

Jerome has many exciting years ahead and we wish him all the best for his future enjoyment in the sport of Taekwondo and his other pursuits. The opportunities for travel and personal enrichment through this sport are excellent. Jerome may well be the next UHS student to get to the pinnacle events of his sport - the World Championships and the Olympics. We look forward to seeing and reading more about Jerome in the media in the years to come.

We are currently trying to get some sponsorship for Jerome, if you are able to recommend a contact please email: patterson.kim.m@edumail.vic.gov.au.

INTERMEDIATE GIRLS VOLLEYBALL - CITY/YARRA DISTRICT RUNNERS UP.

On the 2nd March, twenty two Year 9&10 girls competed in the District Volleyball Championship at Melbourne Girls SC.

As members of the "A" team, Cherree, Kerry, Anjelica, Vinny, Hannah, Thao, and Emmanouella we were very proud of our never-say-die attitude and our outstanding performance, especially in the Semi and Grand final.

We had to play the notorious (for talent) MacRob Girls team in the semi, which we won quite convincingly. This allowed our team to move up a notch to play Melbourne Girls in THE GRAND FINAL. It was a very focused game with great rallies BUT we went down in the final set. This did not deter us girls, we felt like winners nevertheless! And... we were hot!

Team 2 Report

Our team played exceptionally well, with the group showing great team spirit and cooperation. We used a few strategies and tactics over the tournament and improved considerably. Our team had lots of fun and made the other teams work hard to beat us. Which they did! Our infamous team consisted of Amelissa, Faseeha, Serene, Angela, Katrina, Helen and Sandi.

Team 3 Report

Our team smashed the volleyball court leaving holes in the net and pits in the floor! The team that was considered the underdogs fought back to victory (4 wins from 5 games). The team consisted of Pule, Grace, Gina, Munya, Dunya, Evie, Alana and Alice. These eight chicks spiked, digged and volleyed to beat most that came and played them. We would like to thank Ms Patterson and Ms Klopsteins for coaching and umpiring.

REMINDER - AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY PROGRAM

Registrations need to be made by Friday 30th March at the General Office. Payment with registration form is required. Remember, eligible students can pay for their activities using their EMA funds.

The forms were mailed out to all families, however, if you need an additional form these are available from the General office.

STUDENT WELLBEING PROGRAM

Over the last few weeks of term 1 and the beginning weeks of term 2, all Year 7 classes will be participating in a series of activities that promote positive relationships with all members of the class. In these sessions, students are asked to look at their own personal strengths and to use positive affirmations every day. They also will practice complimenting others on their personal strengths and learning how to graciously accept compliments from others. Other activities include emotional charades and examining our emotional responses to events, with a view to improving how we manage our emotions. All in all it is a close look at how we take responsibility for our social interactions and how we can work together to be most inclusive and positive in the way we deal with everyday life at school.