



SCHOOL NEWS

The University High School Newsletter

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

End of year arrangements

I urge all families to make themselves aware of our end of year program. With tests, camps, reports, enrolments 2008 days, study days etc it is a very busy time.

During test time for years 8, 9, and 10, students are only required at school for the tests. Those students who wish to remain at school may work in the library. Any unapproved student absence or early departure must be accompanied with a note to the Sub-School.

All relevant dates are published in the newsletter and the test schedule is included in this newsletter. Any further information can be provided by the Sub-School if required.

Musical Breakfast

Congratulations to all concerned for the wonderful Musical Breakfast we all enjoyed last Sunday. It seems to me the standard of students performances are getting better and better each year. Thank you to Johanna Verberne, Eddie Dorn and their team of music and instrumental teachers and our administration staff who all contributed to the smooth running of the morning.

Valedictory Evening

This night is a highlight of the school year for me and I'm sure many of my colleagues. Together with their parents we are very proud of our students and who and what they have become while with us. We wish them all the very best in their exams and the future. We were honoured to have our local member and the Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development Bronwyn Pike attend and present the Commerce prize which she generously donates each year. Thank you to Kevin Campbell and his VCE team for their organisation of a wonderful night.

Catering

Both the Musical Breakfast and the Valedictory Supper were catered for by our Canteen staff. I'm sure those that attended either function that we are very lucky to have such a wonderful canteen team. On your behalf I would like to publicly thank Kate Haussegger and her team for the wonderful job they do in the canteen and at our special functions.

CAN YOU HELP US??

Parents Association News

SECONDHAND BOOKSALE FOR 2007

The Parents' Association is pleased to announce the Secondhand Booksale for 2007 will be held on Saturday December 15, 2007: 9:00am-12:00pm. The purpose of the Secondhand Booksale is twofold: firstly to raise money for the school (approximately \$9000 each year) and secondly to offer text books at discounted prices. We need lots of helpers for this fundraiser as follows:

· Processing of books: Monday December 10, Tuesday December 11 and Wednesday December 12, 6:00pm-9:00pm.
Please meet outside the library.

· Sale of books: Saturday December 15, 8:45am-12:30pm.

If you can assist please email booksale@unihigh.vic.edu.au. Please also direct all enquiries to this email address.

Next Booksale Meeting Date: Monday November 12 at 7:30pm in the UHS Staff Room. Interested parents are welcome to attend.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Monday 12

Instrumental Music Assessment week (until Fri 16)

Monday 19

Year 12 Orientation Program (until Thursday 22)

Year 10 Testing Program (until Thursday 22)

Friday 23

Enrolment day for year 12 (in 2008)

Year 10 Test catch up day

Monday 26

Enrolment Day for Years 9 & 10 (in 2008)

Year 11 Orientation program (until Thursday 29)

Year 7 Assessment (no interruptions) Days

Tuesday 27

Year 8 Camp at Philip Island (Until Friday 30)

Year 9 Adventure Camp (Until Friday 30)

Friday 30

Enrolment Day for Year 8 & Year 11 (in 2008)

DECEMBER

Tuesday 4

Orientation day for Year 7 (in 2008)

Enrolment day for students new to UHS in 2008

Years 8 & 9 study day

Wednesday 5

Year 9 Assessment Days (Until Friday 7)

Year 8 Assessment Days (Until Thursday 6)

Thursday 6

Connecting Cultures, Whole School Twilight Picnic 6:30pm

Friday 7

Year 8 Health Day

Wednesday 19

Years 7, 8 & 9 reports issued

Thursday 20

Planning Day. Student interviews by appointment only

Friday 21

Pupil Free Day

SCHOOL NEWS PUBLICATION DATES

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

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

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

Next Meetings: Monday November 12

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The UHS School Council meets in the GTAC conference centre at 7:30 pm.

Next Meetings: Wednesday November 14

BELATED YEAR 11 ECOLINC EXCURSION San-Kean Au, Year 11

In Term 3, all of the Year 11 Chemistry teachers and students went on an excursion to Ecolinc, the science and technology innovations centre at Bacchus Marsh. Although it began with a cold harsh morning, everyone was abuzz with excitement to get to Ecolinc. As soon as we got there, we were amazed by the breathtaking facilities and environment; Ecolinc was truly a state-of-the-art horticulture facility. There was so much to see and do.

At first, we toured their storm water wetlands; a natural ecosystem used to turn dirty, disgusting storm water into relatively clean water through a series of filtrations by the variety of plants present. Next, we measured the numerous different qualities of a range of different water samples, e.g. the turbidity of bottled water, the phosphate content of rainwater, etc. It was all very exciting as get got to use an assortment of very high-tech equipment and discover the various characteristics of water that enables it to be drinkable. We also explored the range of environmental and man-made factors which had influenced the result of the quality of the water.

After lunch, we continued to complete more prac. work. However, this time, we tested the qualitative amounts of certain metals, such as sodium and magnesium, with the use of flame colours and metallic solutions. Then we examined another set of different water samples to learn more about their sodium content and obtain a clear idea of how drinkable each sample was. Again, the equipment of this activity was equally sophisticated and the smiles on everyone's faces continued to grow.

At the end of the day, it was clear that everyone had greatly enjoyed themselves at Ecolinc; not only did we learn more about sustainable environmental development practices, but we also had a whole lot of FUN!!! Ecolinc was truly a worthwhile experience.

RADIATION IS ALL AROUND US (AND ALSO IN US)!

Mr Kneale

SCIENCE NEWS

Justine Hamilton

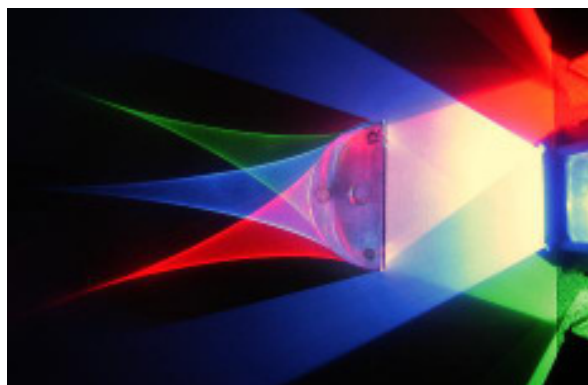
Australian National Chemistry Quiz

Damian Pavlyshyn in year 7 and Blake Riley in Year 11, have received a plaque and a certificate of excellence for their achievement in this competition. Plaques are awarded to the top 800 students across Australia. Certificates of excellence are awarded to students that achieve a perfect score.

Paul Lau Year 7, Chunfai Lu Year 7, Anna Zeng Year 7, Daniel Nguyen Year 9, Kevin Ko Year 10 and Joshua Weberrus Year 11 were all awarded plaques. Congratulations to all students who participated in this challenging competition.

Science Olympiad qualifying exams

Over three weeks in late August, early September an enthusiastic group of Year 10's and 11's spent their Wednesday afternoons in the VCE centre sitting two hour exams. Four Uni High students achieved High Distinctions in these qualifying exams, David Leitinger and Gabrielle Butera for Biology and Peter Giannopoulos (Year 10) and Joshua Weberrus for Physics. David Leitinger has been invited to attend the scholar training school in Canberra in January so has progressed to the next stage of the competition.



Bill Mathew, a resident of Parkville, worked for the CSIRO in his special field of nuclear physics. He has negotiated with the CSIRO who have donated the radiation detection equipment for the University High School. The equipment includes a radiation detector, nuclear electronics including a multichannel analyser and an oscilloscope to view the radiation pulses. Bill is an inventor and a scientist and his research at CSIRO resulted in the development of a number of nuclear radiation based instruments to assist grade and quality control in the mining and agricultural industries in Australia and overseas. One of the new technologies he has developed to monitor the impurities in newly mined coals and ores is based on natural radiation. All geological materials contain radioactivity due to the presence of traces of uranium, thorium and potassium. These are naturally occurring radioactive elements which emit alpha, beta and gamma rays.

We are constantly bombarded by radiation from space and the earth beneath our feet and from radioactive elements present in our body itself. An adult human body contains about 200 grams of potassium! Traces of radioactivity are present in the food we eat, water we drink and air we breathe.

In Year 11 Physics students study radiation and the nuclear fuel cycle. Students will be able to bring soil or rock samples from home and measure the radioactivity levels of the environment they live. We will also be able to measure the radioactivity levels at the school including that emitted from the bricks and concrete around us.

The photograph shows the equipment and the lead-shielded detector. Samples are placed above the detector inside the shield. The shield prevents background radiation from the environment reaching the detector.

LOTE NEWS

S.Rosvoll & F.-O.Sandt

L.O.T.E. photo competition

This has been a busy semester for L.O.T.E.. For the first time we conducted a L.O.T.E. photo competition where students had to find traces of French/German/Latin at home, in their local neighbourhood, in the street or in their shopping centre and take a creative photo. The competition received strong interest and numerous entries were submitted. Congratulations to Matilda Neylan and Bonnie Tran (French), Michael Kurtanjek and Brett Riley (German) and Joanna Bloore (Latin) who won this year's LOTE photo competition.

Alliance Française and German AGTV Competition

Last term's LOTE activities also included the French and German poetry competitions held by the Alliance Française and the AGTV. Eight German students from years 7 to 9 qualified for the German AGTV regional final. Jasper Johnson and Emma Zammit secured a place in the state finals and represent The University High School competently. Well done Jasper and Emma!

The annual Alliance Française de Melbourne 'Berthe Mouchette' competitions took place in Terms 2 and 3. Approximately 300 students of French participated in the various options at different year levels. Those in Years 7-10 concentrated on the recitation of a poem and some completed the optional written test. Those in the VCE levels participated in an Oral Test and a rather gruelling two hour Written Test. The students, together with their teachers, put in a great effort to be prepared for the examinations. We were thrilled when 20 students were chosen as state finalists in the competition, some for the poetry recitations, some for conversation and others for the written tests. We are now very proud to announce the following prize winners:

Year 7	Tracy Lay	1st prize Poetry Recitation
Year 9	Bonnie Tran	2nd prize Written Test
Year 10	Zorro Maplestone	Prix hors concours Poetry Recitation Prix hors concours Written Test
Year 11	Elizabeth Forrest	1st prize Oral Test
Year 12	Jack Faine	2nd prize Oral Test

Our warmest congratulations go to these winners!

Germany Tour 2008

There are now 15 students who have committed to our tour to Germany next year. Preparations have started and students sent their profiles in German to Hamburg in order to find a suitable host family. Everything is working out smoothly so far, however, there is a change of dates in regards to the return visit of the German students. We anticipate that the students from Hamburg will come to The University High School in October 2008 and that they will stay with us for just under 3 weeks.

MUSIC

Johanna Verberne

The Year 11 Drama No Exit production was held recently and received a warm reception. The concept of a show in three different spaces was as novel as it was intriguing. Congratulations to Anna Newbold and her class for their terrific work in putting this production together.

The Music Faculty staged their Musical Breakfast on Sunday 28th October and what a feast of music making it was. From beginner woodwind and brass, through charming strings and flutes, choral items aplenty, to the professionalism of all senior groups, the Stage Band, Jazz Ensemble, Senior Band, Senior Choir and highlighting the Symphony Orchestra's glory of the Viennese waltz. The food was splendid, the coffee superb and the atmosphere electric at times. Uni High students were superb in their conduct and performances. Congratulations to all staff for their dedication in the preparation of our wonderful ensembles, and to our parents and friends in the community for their support and encouragement.

We wish to acknowledge our Year 12 music students and wish them well in their future pathways. Many have made an enormous commitment to the vitality of our program through participation in many ensembles and the Musical.

Instrumental Music - Re-enrolment for 2008

Students learning a musical instrument at school this year should have already received a 2008 enrolment form in the mail, which needs to be returned to the Music Faculty by November 16. If you didn't receive a form and feel you should have, please pick one up from the General Office. Any students who are interested in taking up Instrumental Music lessons at school in 2008 are invited to collect an enrolment form from the General Office and return it to the school by November 21.

LIFE AFTER HARRY

Mr Castles & Ms Marquard.

The final 'Booktalkers For Teenagers' at the Centre For Youth Literature at the State Library on Wednesday, 24 October was an event featuring leading Australian writers of fantasy and speculative fiction. Booktalkers is a great opportunity for students to meet authors both familiar and new to them and broaden their reading experience. Twenty of our Book Club members were able to hear Carole Wilkinson, Michael Pryor and Penni Russon discuss their views about the Harry Potter series and books they have valued in this genre that they read as children and what they have read since. Their comments were very thoughtful as well as being entertaining. The students were also treated to a spectacular science performance by Chris Krishna-Pillay of the CSIRO Education Unit and a Harry Potter quiz with books as prizes.

The Book Club has also been busy helping us celebrate International School Libraries Day which was on the 22 October. We were lucky enough to become involved in a project set up by a Teacher/Librarian in Canada who came up with the idea of schools making bookmarks and swapping them with other schools around the world. We were teamed up with Govan High School in Glasgow, Scotland. The students worked very hard on producing some weird and wonderful bookmarks all beautifully decorated with rather a lot of glitter (much to the cleaners' delight!) Govan High School has reciprocated with some fantastic bookmarks of their own. The activity was lots of fun and hopefully we can continue the association with Govan High School next year.

FUTSAL INDOOR SOCCER

Junior Futsal development program and competitions in Carlton North

- Junior development training sessions take place on Tuesday's/Wednesday's from 4:30pm-6:00pm.
- Competition matches take place on Sunday's between 10:00am-2:00pm.
- Catering for children/students aged 7-15 years old.

Interested? Call us and come on down and give it a go!

Venue: Princes Hill Sports Stadium, Corner Paterson & Arnold Streets, Carlton North. (Melway Map 27 H11).

Enquiries: Website: www.vicforce.org.au,
Email: info@vicforce.org.au,
Phone: 0406 472 471

YEAR 9 ADVANCED MATHEMATICS CLASS 2008

Ms. A. Donoghue

Current Year 8 students are invited to sit for an entry test for the "Advanced Year 9 Maths class. The class is designed to complete both the Year 9 and 10 Maths courses in 2008 with the aim of students sitting for VCE General Maths Units 1 & 2 in 2009. The test will be held on Monday 19th of November.

Students should give their names to their Maths teacher if they wish to seek entry into the Year 9 Advanced Maths class. Other entry criteria such as the Australian Mathematics Competition results and Maths Challenge will be used to decide whether students are recommended to do the course. If you have any queries please contact me on 93472022.

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Jack Lewis, Year 11

In the past few weeks the International Studies classes have received two talks on 'Australian foreign policy' and 'China'. Our guest speakers were Professor Bruce Jacobs from Monash who helped consolidate our knowledge on China, as well as Dr Damien Kingsbury from Deakin who talked to us about Australian foreign policy. Both talks were extremely informative and gave a very good overview of their topics, making them easier to follow. A huge amount of research and information was crammed into the lunchtime talks which made it difficult to talk about all topics, however we did as well as we could. At the end of each of the talks we were able to ask questions to the experts on something discussed in the talk, or a topic that we did not have time to cover, furthering our knowledge of the world. We emerged from the talks much wiser and would like to thank Professor Jacobs and Dr Kingsbury for their kind contribution to our education.

8B1 ANTARCTIC FOOD CHAIN

Madeleine Harling, Year 8

On Wednesday 8th of August, in history and geography 8B1 showed there remarkable understanding of the Antarctic food chain by personally making their essay topic as food. The food chain ranged from phytoplankton (bottom of the food chain) made out of fruit, Penguin cakes and biscuits, Antarctic sea birds made into cakes and biscuits, seal cakes, whale cakes and at the top of the food chain were humans (Ernest Shackleton) as gingerbread men. As we nibbled on our homemade pieces of art we watched an educational film called 'The march of the penguins.' It was fantastic to have everyone bring in there specific animal but as a food, to create the Antarctic food chain. It certainly made learning fun!

BRINGING US TOGETHER UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL TWILIGHT PICNIC THURSDAY 6TH DECEMBER, 6-9.30PM "CULTURAL FEAST" CELEBRATING OUR RICH DIVERSITY.

Come and join this evening of "feasting" on food, dance, music and all things cultural. Please bring along your family and a picnic basket. There will be a sharing of 'Multi-cultural desserts' so please bring a 'cultural dessert' to share. Students will be performing and it will be great for families and various groups to put on performances.

Monica Chetty, Kim Patterson and Clare Ryan
93472022
mchetty@unihigh.vic.edu.au
Connecting Cultures at UHS
Please complete the cut out slip below.

TWILIGHT PICNIC

Family Name _____

Student(s) Name(s) and class _____

Family Name _____

Total number attending _____

YEAR 8 SQUASH TEAMS INTO STATE FINALS!

Andrew B, Adriana C & Harrison S.

On Wednesday, October 31st, the Year 8 Boys and Girls Squash Teams travelled to Epping for the Northern Zone Squash Finals. Both teams played very well and defeated strong opposition to progress to the State Finals. Congratulations to Harrison Sinatra, Cameron Browning, James Fay, Philip O'Riordan, Andrew Basanisi, Adriana Cannizzaro, Adrienne Gyori, Georgia Koskinas, Tayla Silis and Lucinda Monagle. Good luck in the State finals held on Monday the 26th of November.

POETRY AWARDS

As part of the Poetry Week celebrations all students in Years 7-10 wrote poems as part of the English program. All poems were entered into the Poetry Week competition. The winners were as follows:-

YEAR 7

1. Azzam Thowfeek 7S2
2. Isabella Udovicic 7C1
3. Zhi Yan Cai 7S1

YEAR 8

1. Poppie Meagher 8S1
2. Phil O'Riordan 8C2
3. Ellie Bouras 8B2

YEAR 9

1. Linh Nguyen 9B2
2. Matilda Neyland 9S3
3. Rasangi De Silva 9C1

YEAR 10

1. Ellen Healy 10C3
2. Phoebe Quinn 10C3
3. Kim Mihaljevic 10B3

PUMPKIN

By Ellen Healy, 10C3

It's my first time to the city
I hold my dad's hand tight
I walk fast to keep up
Smiling with all my might

He tried to let go of me
But I wouldn't let him go
He started to get mad
And pushed me with a NO!

I fell to the floor
My backside throbbing
I stared at my dad running
Where was he going?

NOT A WORD

By Linh Nguyen, 9B2

It's so beautiful when the boy smiles
I want to hold him. Maybe I'll just write
about it.

Nothing is as sad as a love unrequited,
Neither received nor given
Flames that turn to smoke,
Always lingering, the question of what
if...

I see you everywhere
But you look right through me
Infatuation, my friends say
But my heart believes it not
You walk by
I smile and look away
So many things, I want to say
This is not a want or a need
It is nothing more than wishful thinking
A desire that grows inside of me
Yet I never let it slip

The lure of the forbidden fruit, never to
be tasted
So sweet and tempting,
It calls to me, beckoning,
I ignore the whispers, but they remain
persistent

In my mind I told you of these feelings
Then you grabbed me passionately
And whispered in my ear
All the things I wish to hear...
Laughing out loud my life is a mess
I'm too far in to pull myself out
It's easier to not say a word
And turn my heart to stone
It's easier to not say a word
And turn my heart to stone
It's easier to block it out
Never let anyone in too deep

But still I dream of you
When I'm asleep...

THE SPIDER THAT DIED

By Azzam Thowfeek, 7S2

As I was driving on a glary day,
I lowered the sun visor and found
A spider,
It jumped in my face,
Its eight legs spread
It quickly crawled up to
My head
I swirled and tossed
My hair around
And then
It fell to the ground.
But it wasn't finished yet
It found another place to get
Quickly it crawled up my pants
It felt like a platoon of ants,
My legs went up and down,
And I let out an awful groan
I slammed on the brakes
To stop the car
Leapt right out
Screaming "Yah!"
I ran in circles
Jumped in the air
Chased the spider
And I stamped on it!...

WATER POEM

By Poppie Meagher, 8S1

Love is like water
It flows and meanders
Not knowing where it will go next
Water is a mystery

The cool touch
The light playing on the surface
It has sorrow
That happy summer days
Don't last forever

The water was frozen
It hung like a chandelier
Cold and beautiful
It mystified

Water can make or destroy
Bring life or death
Drought or flood
Happiness or sadness