



The University High School SCHOOL NEWS

Number 4 June 2005

AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION RESULTS

In March, 70 students sat for the Australian Geography Competition. This took the form of a multiple choice paper full of general knowledge and data analysis questions. It was really HARD!!

Congratulations to all participants on their fine performance. University High School achieved the following results:

34 Participation Certificates, 9 Credit Certificates, 14 Distinctions.

The 13 High Distinctions were awarded to: Year 12 Callum McDonald, Year 9 Stefan Genat, Zain Matin, Elizabeth McMillan. Year 8 Andrew Adorno, Matthew Krelle, Joshua Weberuss, Jonathon Schlossberg, Gilbert Hwkins, Alison Browning, Alice Liu. Matthew Krelle from 8S1 achieved the highest score of any UHS student on the paper and was in the top 0.02% of the country. Congratulations, Matthew.

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SHARMAN NEWS

WELCOME TO SHARMAN EVENING

Katherine, Lauren, Alee, Lara, Annina, Yue,
Maddy, Will and Munya 7S1 & 7S2

On Tuesday the 3rd of May, all the Year 7 Sharman students and their parents were invited to the University High School to a social gathering for their families to get together and introduce themselves.

All the families bought a plate of food to share with everyone. We all ate great food, we even had some sushi, curry and fried rice. All the little kids, the brothers and sisters had a great time playing chasey. There was a buzz in the air as children mingled and parents talked.

Ms Bozyk made a welcoming speech about "Super Sharman!" and thanked everyone for coming. Everyone had a chance to meet the Principal. We all introduced our parents to other parents. We all had name tags to help us talk to each other.

It was a fun evening and this is what some of the parents said:

"Tonight's excellent!"

"Yummy"

"I think it's a great way to meet students and their parents."

We all think the evening was a fantastic idea because our parents got to meet and they felt more comfortable and we recommend it to all the sub-schools in the following years. By the way the night was going it was a huge success and we have all to thank: Ms Bozyk the Sharman Head; Ms Chetty, the Sharman Year 7 Coordinator; Ms Mathieson as well as Mr Naudi, who are all part of the wonderful Sharman staff; and our Principal, Mr Newton.



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

June

Monday 20 Year 10 work experience week begins

Friday 24 Year 7-12 reports issued
Last day of term 2, 2:30pm dismissal

July

Monday 11 Term 3 begins

Wednesday 13 Musical rehearsal camp begins

Friday 15 Musical rehearsal camp ends

Check the school website for the latest update on the full year calendar: www.unihigh.vic.edu.au

SCHOOL NEWS PUBLICATION DATES

Your next copy of School News should arrive in your letter box Mid June 2005.

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 July 11 (First day of term 3) **(Cancelled)**
Monday August 27

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 Meetings: Wednesday May 18
Wednesday June 15

THE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Rob Newton

I would like to commence by thanking the Parents' Association and Graham Coles for organising the "Building Resilience in Children" evening with Chris Daicos. It was a very informative night and far too much information for me to précis here, however I have reproduced the "15 elements of resilience" that Chris left us with. It is a good check list for us all.

A number of our staff changes will occur for next term. Pam Newton-Brown will take maternity leave following week 3 for the remainder of 2006. Rod Watson, Helen Rose, Andrew McIntyre and Helen Chenoby will be leaving us and we thank them for their assistance. Also Anne Ross and

Suzie Hafey will be on Long Service Leave for Term 3. We will welcome back Claire Watson, David Mills, Neil Coombe, Helen Stagoll, Jindra Stary and Kerry Svalbe. Also new staff joining us include Martin Lyons and Chris Knowles.

While it is always difficult, we naturally have tried to minimise the disruption to the students learning with the required staff adjustments.

Term 2 has been a very busy term for me as well as the students, particularly the VCE students who have just completed exams. I hope all University High School families have a safe and enjoyable semester break.

* * * * *

FIFTEEN ELEMENTS OF RESILIENCE

To overcome adversities, children, youth and adults draw from three sources of resilience.

I HAVE

1. People around me I can trust and who love me, no matter what.
2. People who set limits for me so I know when to stop before there is trouble.
3. People who show me how to do things right by the way they do things.
 4. People who want me to learn to do things on my own.
5. People who help me when I am sinking, in danger or need to learn.

I AM

6. A person people can like and love.
7. Glad to do nice things for others and show my concern.
 8. Respectful of others and myself.
 9. Willing to be responsible for what I do.
 10. Sure things will be all right. (Optimistic)

I CAN

11. Talk to others about things that frighten or bother me.
 12. Find ways to solve problems that I face.
13. Control myself when I feel like doing something not right or dangerous.
14. Figure out when it is a good time to talk to someone or, take action.
 15. Find someone to help me when I need it.

MID YEAR CONCERT

Rachel Stanyon and Benita Champion



Another year, another mid-year concert and sadly for us, our last. The last time we will give up countless lunchtimes and hours after school, the last time we will be berated on countless occasions for missing rehearsals. No more

scrambles to find missing black folders, no more walks on and off stage, on and off, over and over again until we have satisfied Ms. Svalbe with our straight lines. The tears are welling in our eyes, but wait! A bright light is dawning on the horizon, for lo and behold: the musical breakfast awaits.

This year saw some changes: high-tech sound and lighting; the use of the stage. While these innovations did not go off without a hitch and without Ms. Svalbe and her lollipops, the high standards of organisation were not quite up to scratch, the night was a roaring success. There was, of course, the occasional wrong note, false start and total collapse of functionality, but this is immaterial.

It is a chance for the student body to look respectable for one night a year, and for parents to beam and close their eyes as they watch the spectacle that is, was, and will continue to be the mid-year concert.

GETTING YEAR 11'S

BLIND

Phil Johnston

The day started in the performance centre with the viewing of *Proof*, a thought provoking Australian movie about the experiences of a blind man with a passion for photography. The film starred the now famous Russell Crowe and Hugo Weaving.

After a short recess we were joined by a lecturer, Gary Simmons, from ACMI (Australian Centre for the Moving Image) who discussed the various themes and undertones that ran through the movie.

Then we jumped on a tram down St. Kilda road and arrived at The Dark Side of 604; a restaurant where you eat in complete darkness where we had a glimpse into the world of the life of a blind person.

The following interview was conducted by Sam Reiher on Oscar Birtley III's experience at The Dark Side of 604:

S: What did you think the darkside would be like?

O: I thought it would be dark, but not as dark as it was. We couldn't see a thing.

S: What were your first impressions once you were in?

O: It was very disorientating, I felt around to see what was around me, then listened to everyone shouting plus the occasional singer here and there.

S: Did you enjoy your meal?

O: Not that much, although it was quite interesting eating in the dark. I eventually had to resort to my hands; as did everyone else.

S: Overall, was it a good experience?

O: Most definitely! I would like to go back again one day. I might order a different meal though! It helped put us in the shoes of someone who is blind for an hour.

S: Have a good day Oscar!



AN INVITATION TO ALL STUDENTS

From and by Kerry Leung and Hannah Layman of 8B2

Two brave, adventurous, audacious, ballsy, courageous, daring, dashing, defiant, fearless, forward, gallant, gutsy, heroic, intrepid, nervy, plucky, resolute, spirited, spunky, strong, unabashed, unafraid, undaunted, valiant, admirable, alluring, angelic, appealing, bewitching, charming, classy, cute, dazzling, delicate, delightful, elegant, excellent, exquisite, fascinating, fine, foxy, gorgeous, graceful, handsome, ideal, lovely, magnificent,

marvellous, nice, pretty, pulchritudinous, radiant, splendid, statuesque, stunning, sublime, superb and wonderful girls from opposite sides of the universe have come together to create ***the game of the century***

On completion, the game was three feet high! (see photo of said "brave, adventurous, audacious, ballsy, courageous...etc" girls with this game)

This game is **the** game to capture the spirit and adventure of *Holes* (a book by Louis Sachar). An interactive, 3D replica of the setting of *Holes* this game gives groups of up to 6 the opportunity to relive their favourite moments and test their knowledge.

This arresting, brilliant, commanding, elegant, elevated, exalted, excellent, fine, glittering, gorgeous, grand, grandiose, impressive, magnificent, majestic, outstanding, palatial, plush, proud, radiant, regal, rich, royal, smashing, splendid, standout, striking, sublime, superb, superior, superlative game is one small step for two women but one big step for human kind.

And the winner is...

Anyone who wants a game! Come down to the library with a couple of others and play it at lunchtime.

NB (editor's note) It may be because this piece was created as part of an English assignment the descriptions are so eloquent, wordy, detailed, intricate, expressive, verbose, effusive, loquacious, exhaustive etc.

STAGE 1 ENGRAVED PAVERS
COMPLETED
Haydn Moyle
Building and Grounds Subcommittee
Enquiries moyleh@unihigh.vic.edu.au

In 2004 the School Council strongly supported the fundraising proposal to pave the strip of bare ground between the Technology Building and the basketball court with professionally engraved signature pavers. We received orders for 264 pavers plus a number of donations.

The pavers have now been set in place and contributors are welcome to inspect Stage 1 of the finished project.

Members of the School community who wish to order a paver can still do so!

Stage 2 will close at the end of 2005. Order forms are available on the school website or from the school office. We have space for about another 250, so do not miss out.

I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. George Hatzis and the school office staff for their assistance with this project.

Mr. Brian Stevenson from the Gene Technology Access Centre in conjunction with the School Council have set about improving the appearance of the paver location by erecting planter boxes which will protect some Australian native trees to be planted in the area. The School Council would like to express the school's appreciation for his efforts in organising this beautification project.

On behalf of the School Council I would like to thank all those members of the present and past school community who supported this project

Thank you again for your support and we look forward to this project continuing in 2005.

Order forms are available at the school office, or you can download the forms from the school website: <http://www.unihigh.vic.edu.au> Contact information can be passed onto Haydn Moyle via letter, phone message, or email.

Please do not leave your orders to the last minute. Support your school. Place an order today!



UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL
PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

PA Matters

The recent Annual General Meeting elected the following Office Bearers:

President: David Gurr
Secretary: Helen Cooney
Treasurer: Matina Loutos

Future meeting dates are published on the school website and in the school newsletter. All parents are welcome with meetings conducted from 7.30pm to 9.00pm in the Staff room.

One of the programs of the PA is the Small Grants Program. Students and staff in the school are encouraged to apply for money to fund a small program/activity/equipment purchase or to begin a larger program. There is a formal application form that can be collected for the General Office. Recent examples: microwave for year 12 room; printing of the year 7 Anthology of Writing; backstage communication system for Drama.

On May 5, the PA helped with the Resilience program presented by Christine Daicos. Nearly 40 parents attended what was an excellent evening. One of the activities was reflecting on how parents can support children in three areas: care and support; high but realistic expectations; participation and involvement. Some comments from the evening for each area:

1. Care and support. Ask about their day. Eat together. Use reflective/active listening.

Respond to requests for help. Get involved in their activities. Be non-judgmental. Use praise and positive encouragement. Give them time with you when they need it, even if it means stopping what you were doing.

2. High but realistic expectations. Congratulate and acknowledge success. Reflect positively on effort and behaviour. Encourage a 'have a go and see how far you can get' attitude. Support their success. Find what excites them. Help them to try challenging activities or things that they normally wouldn't do. Build their self-esteem. Be open to options such as career choice. Instill in them a sense of trust and belief. Model appropriate behaviour. Acknowledge that whilst a task may be difficult it is still worthwhile trying.

3. Participation and involvement. Assist with transport. Share household responsibilities such as cooking, shopping, and care of pets. Ask for opinions. 'How can we work together to achieve.' Share decision making (e.g. choice of holiday). Make time to have regular conversations. Establish special times together. A special thank you to Graham Coles for inviting the PA to be involved in this.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES @ UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

Glenn Marchant

gmarchant@unihigh.vic.edu.au

Students are encouraged to participate in a range of leadership activities at UHS. These include (but are not restricted to):

1. The SRC. The SRC has been totally revamped by the students; all classes in Years 7-10 have a representative. VCE students have multi-member representatives. The SRC is based on Australian Electoral Commission guidelines and includes a revamped Constitution. The SRC has representatives on a number of Committees including the School Council and Curriculum Committee. Please encourage students to use the SRC and help to make it more accountable by encouraging representatives to report to their respective classes. Tomas Dalton, Celeste Macleod, Anastasia Hatzis and Sahrah Ayan are key members of the SRC.

2. SMAD (Students Making A Difference). This student initiative meets regularly to promote and fundraise for an important cause (international, environmental, local issues). In Term 1 SMAD raised over \$900 for the Sudan Crisis to be donated to Oxfam. Katherine Clarke chairs the meetings.

3. Youth in Philanthropy Program. UHS was part of the pilot program 4 years ago and has been involved on an annual basis. Six students work with a mentor through the Melbourne City Council to assess applications for grants from a pool of \$15,000. The students have to deal with a range of difficult and challenging situations such as homeless children and life threatening illnesses. Students involved in this year's program are Chloe Sesta-Jacobs, Carmen Lim, Katie Amanatidis, Jesse Nankivell-Sander, Sophie Thomson and Rosemary Clark.

4. Fundraising Activities. This includes human rights

awareness campaigns involving Amnesty International's Candle Day held in May. Students research AI's activities through the website and sell candles and badges at school.

5. Student Forums. In 2004 a Student Forum was held on the Federal Election. In 2005, I'll be organising guest speakers from a range of political parties (including an ex student). I'm also organizing a speaker from DFAT- Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade to assist students traveling overseas about their rights and responsibilities as Australian citizens. These Forums are held at lunchtime, usually in rooms 613-615.

6. Rotary Sponsorship. UHS is very fortunate to have the assistance of local Rotary branches that sponsor students on overnight, Mini-United Nations Forums and a trip to Canberra.

7. Other Leadership Activities. These include Talkback Classroom where students are trained in interviewing techniques and flown to Canberra to interview politicians. UHS is frequently invited to attend a range of activities including Future Leader Forums and the Centenary of Education in Victoria - Students Take Over Parliament. (Pam Newton-Brown organized our involvement in this celebration on Friday 20th May). Celeste Macleod, Richard Clarke and Zak Hamer represented UHS at the National

Constitutional Convention in Canberra in March as part of the 25 member school team from Victoria. Students attend local and state conventions prior to the annual National Convention.

If you would like to know more about any of these Student Leadership Activities, I'm more than happy to assist. I would also point out that many staff are actively involved in numerous leadership activities as part of the Curriculum and/or specific needs of students and classes. If you are thinking of a fundraising activity please contact me to make sure it doesn't clash with another group.



TAKE HOME AN INTERNATIONAL BROTHER OR SISTER

URGENTLY needed, volunteer host families!

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange is seeking volunteer host families for International High School students from over 15 countries including Germany, Italy, France, Sweden, Finland, Spain, Japan and America.

- **Introduce your family to different customs, values and ideas**
- **Improve your language skills**
- **Make lifelong international friends**
- **Share Australian culture and lifestyle**

Students arrive in July 2005 for 11 weeks, 5 or 10 months.

All students are carefully selected, will attend a local high school, have their own spending money and can bring your family to life!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE PHONE NIKKI MEDWELL: (03) 9785 9534, TOLL FREE: 1800500501, nikki_from_scce@bigpond.com.au

LOTE NEWS

Ms S. Singh, Head of LOTE
Southern Cross Cultural Exchange
Scholarships

David Threlfall of Year 10 was one of 10 finalists in the Southern Cross Cultural Exchange Scholarship challenge, open to all Year 10 students in Victoria. Though he didn't receive a scholarship, he was awarded \$500 to go towards his exchange to France later this year. We congratulate David on reaching the finals and wish him well when he journeys to France.

Whilst talking about exchanges, I know that a number of students are away on exchange now to different parts of the world, not all associated with the languages we teach at UHS. I also know of some, such as David, who will be going on exchange later this year. Three of our students are currently in Germany at our sister-school, Graf-Münster-Gymnasium, due to return at the end of the coming school holidays. If you are interested in sending your child on exchange, I have some contact numbers available for exchange organisations operating in Victoria. Do not hesitate to contact me if you need some information.

I will also take this opportunity to tell you that we will be beginning preparations for our next exchange (to take place in 2006) to Graf-Münster-Gymnasium early in Term 3. If your son or daughter is currently in a Year 9 or 10 German class at UHS, you will be eligible to make an application. I will be sending initial letters of Expression of Interest to you via your child next term. If you do not receive one, give me a call. I will also be giving detailed information about our sister-school exchange program in the next newsletter, so stay tuned to this frequency. If, in the meantime, you would like to know more, I'd be happy to talk to you on the phone about it.

German Film Excursion by Mrs D'Adamo's Year 10 German class

On the 17th May, the Year 10 German class went to the Nova Cinemas to see the German film, *The Edukators*.

The movie was about three young people trying to make the point that wealthy people have too much money and only think about themselves. They called themselves 'The Edukators'.

After accidentally kidnapping a rich guy, they take him to the countryside and, after a time, become friends with him and gain his trust. About a week later, they return him home, after he had told them he wouldn't get the police involved. But they prove their point that 'some people never change' when he turns on them and calls the police.

This is a very interesting movie dealing with some political issues, but it was a bit long.

Year 12 French

On Friday, 12th May, Mrs Ritter and Dr Benson and their students in Year 12 French, attended a

performance of the Albert Camus novel, *The Outsider*, staged at the Stork Café. The novel was translated and adapted for stage by Professor Colin Duckworth of the University of Melbourne. They were joined by students from the Year 12 Philosophy class. A student commented that, "It made the book live".

The Stork Café is run by Mr and Mrs Madden, parents of Donald Madden, an ex-student of UHS, who continued to study French at university and is now a teacher in the French bilingual program at Camberwell Primary School.

A good time was had by all!

Indonesian

We were treated to another special day where satays were available at the school. Our regular satay man, who comes during LOTE Week each year, set up his stall in the Breezeway from morning until after lunch. He also made a financial contribution to the school as thanks. We extend a thank you to Ms Chetty for organising the stall and look forward to it once again during LOTE Week in Term 3.

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE CLAIMS – SEMESTER 2

The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is provided to assist eligible families with the costs associated with the education of their children. To be eligible for receipt of the EMA you must:

- be either a parent or guardian of a primary or secondary school student up to the age of sixteen; **and**
- be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 1986 **or** be a Veterans Affairs (TPI) pensioner **or** be a foster parent.

The eligibility criteria must be met as at the first day of **Term 3 (11 July 2005)**.

The EMA application must be submitted to the school by **5 August 2005** for the second payment.

Parents with continuing eligibility, who were paid the first instalment of 2005 through this school will not be required to complete a new application for the second instalment.

Parents who transfer children to another school after 25 February 2005 and prior to 5 August 2005, must reapply at the new school for the second instalment.

Application forms for new applicants are available from the school office.

2005 - OPEN DAY DATES

UNIVERSITIES

Name	Location	Date
Australian Catholic University	Ballarat Melbourne	21 August (Sun) 21 August
Australian Maritime College	Tasmania	14 August
Australian National University	Canberra	27 August
Deakin University	Melbourne (Burwood) Warrnambool Geelong	31 July 14 August 28 August
La Trobe University	Bendigo, Mt Buller Mildura, Shepparton Melbourne (Bundoora) Albury-Wodonga	7 August 14 August 28 August 21 August
Monash University	Gippsland, P'ville, Peninsula Berwick, Caulfield, Clayton	6 August (Sat) 7 August
RMIT University	All campuses	14 August
Swinburne University	All campuses	28 August
University of Ballarat	Mt Helen, Camp St	21 August
University of Melbourne	Burnley, Dookie Longerenong, McMillan Parkville, Gilbert Chandler	7 August 14 August 21 August
University of Tasmania	Hobart Launceston	14 August 28 August
Victoria University	Footscray Park (only)	14 August
TAFE INSTITUTES		
Name	Location	Date
Box Hill		7 August
Chisholm	Dandenong Frankston Rosebud	7 August 6 August 4 August
Gordon	East Geelong	21 August
Holmesglen	Chadstone Moorabbin Waverley	13 August 27 August 10 September
Kangan Batman	Every day - group tours on request	
Northern Melbourne (NMIT)		10 August
South West		7 August
Sunraysia	Mildura Swan Hill	14 August 8 August
William Angliss	City Wodonga	14 August 21 August
NOTE: Times are generally 10.00am - 4.00pm (smaller institutions 3.00pm)		

School News is a publication of The University High School, Story St., Parkville, 3052
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