



The University High School SCHOOL NEWS

Number 8 November 2003

VET MUSIC RADIO CLASS

Ms K Svalbe

On the 23rd of October, three of the certificate 1 VET Music students were part of a 'live' broadcast from the SYN FM studio at the Melbourne Museum. The station requested that an elite team of students from Uni High be involved in a broadcast from the museum, which was hosting the inaugural Expo on Innovation in Education. Jenny Coles, Charles Bien-Stephen and Adrian McMillan were chosen on past performances. As part of the show, Adrian interviewed the Victorian Minister for Education and Training, Lyn Kosky. Most of the class has been presenting radio shows from the SYN FM studios at RMIT University in the city. Some of the students have enjoyed presenting their radio shows so much that they now have their own programs.

Jenny Coles, Tomas Dalton, Emma Muiznieks and Chloe Sesta-Jacobs were broadcasting on November 13. Jenny and Emma ran the program from the SYN FM studio and crossed 'live' to Tomas and Chloe at the Melbourne Museum. The National Awards for Mechanical Masterminds were presenting \$60,000 worth of prizes. Tomas and Chloe interviewed several people. Brendan Nelson, Channel 10 personalities, and students from around Australia were present.

Much thought and energy has gone into these programs and congratulations to all the VET Music students who have been involved.



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COMPUTERS FOR SALE

Ms L Fedeli

University High School is offering approximately 40 computer systems for sale. The bulk of the computers will be PII with 3 ½ inch floppy drives, 3GB HDD, 64 MB RAM and CD drive selling for \$75 each.

There will be other computer systems of various configurations along with printers and monitors. The monitors are ideal for using with your laptop at home.

All computer systems will come with keyboard, mouse, monitor and an operating system only. All in working order.

The computer systems are to be purchased with the understanding that they are to be provided on an "as is" basis and without warranties of any kind either express or implied.

The systems can be viewed from the beginning of December and purchased from December 12th to 18th. You need to pay at the office and then proceed to the IT office to collect your purchase.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

November

- Mon 17 - Sun 23: UHS Art Show.
Mon 24 - Thu 27: Year 12 (2004) Orientation Week.
Mon 24 - Fri 28: Year 8 Adventure Camp.
Wednesday 26: "Creating Conversations" - an evening for all years 9 and 10 students and their parents. See page 4 for more details. Starts 7:00pm. (They're really there this time!)
Friday 28: Re-enrolment for 2004 years 8, 10 and 12.

December

- Monday 1: Student free day - Report writing.
Tue 2 - Thu 4: Year 11 (2004) Orientation days.
Friday 5: Re-enrolment for 2004 years 9 and 11.
Mon 15 - Thu 18: End of year activities program.
Friday 19: Last day of term. Students attend by appointment only.

January 2004

- Wednesday 28: Term 1 commences. Teachers back at work!
Thursday 29: Students return for first day of scheduled classes.

SCHOOL NEWS PUBLICATION DATES, 2004

The first edition of School News for 2004 should arrive in your letter box around about February 20 and I expect approximate publication dates for the rest of 2004 will be included therein.

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 February 9, 2004

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The UHS School Council meets in the school staff common room on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

Next Meetings: Wednesday December 10
Wednesday February 18, 2004 (I'm guessing here!)

THE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms Bronwyn Valente

Congratulations to the year 12 students who have successfully completed their secondary education. The school wishes these students well in future years and encourages them to continue learning in their chosen field.

Thanks to the various parents who supported the Musical Breakfast by assisting with preparation for the event. The morning program was excellent with fine performances from students. Thanks and congratulations to the music staff who have worked with groups during the year.

I hope many parents will be able to attend the Art Exhibition, which will display the range of students' visual work.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

A small working party of Council has proposed a vision statement for University High School. This will be published for comment by parents, students and staff early next year.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee has prioritised a number of minor work projects for 2004. The GTAC building continues "on target" and expected completion date is early February 2004. The two basketball courts will then be available for students as well as the undercover area located under the new building.

The Finance Committee has been busy planning budgets for all program areas for next year.

The Council endorsed changes to the Voluntary Contributions and Charges for next year. These will be included in the package posted home to all families. The details to confirm enrolments for next year are to ensure contact details for all families are correct.

The parent participation working party is seeking a response from all 2004, year 7 parents to encourage a greater involvement in the life of this school.

THONGS AND SANDALS

As the summer months approach, some students have been wearing thongs or sandals to school. I bring to your urgent attention that such footwear has been banned at University High School for safety reasons.

All major buildings of this school have at least two floor levels of stairs. The narrow stairs in the North Wing can become congested and consequently loose fitting footwear can provide inadequate grip on stairs. Sandals which are "substantial" are suitable for wear in general purpose classrooms, however, inadequately protected footwear in science laboratories, Art rooms, Technology work rooms and other practical classes represent a major potential hazard.

Parents and guardians are requested to support this requirement to assist with student safety.



Secondary School Students!!

LEARN A Language ON SATURDAYS at the VSL Brunswick Centre

- The VSL (Victorian School of Languages) is a Victorian Government School with a proud record in teaching Languages Other Than English since 1935.
- As a government school, we follow the Curriculum and Standards Framework and the VCE guidelines.
- As a government school, we have no political or religious affiliation.
- We use a communicative approach to language teaching, with languages taught in a cultural context.
- We charge a subject levy of \$47 per year.

**Secondary level Greek, Portuguese, Hindi, Chinese, Indonesian, Italian, Spanish, Japanese, French, Croatian, Bengali, Ancient Greek, ASLAN, Serbian & Arabic.
is offered at**

Brunswick Secondary College
&
University High School

**Parents of students wishing to study a
Language are invited to contact**

**Peter Shaw-Truex on 9348 1720 for further
details.**

DRUG EDUCATION @ UHS

Ms P Cheary

Nine enthusiastic year 10 students – Larissa Carrodus, Adele Cassidy, Nick Clarke-Tribe, Luke Davidson, Morgana Interlandi, Fiona McAlpine, Tanzeela Siddiqui, Emily Snow and Alex Speechley – presented a most successful evening for year 7 and 8 parents and students.

The students presented a variety of activities in which year 8 students participate in the *Rethinking Drinking* unit of Health Education. Role plays and 'hot seat' activities encouraged both adult and student participants to consider the varying perspectives of the two generations towards a variety of issues, including alcohol use. There were several activities in which adults and young people were able to compare their values, which were found to be quite similar. The students also used a pouring activity, which

highlighted the concept of a standard drink. The finale of the evening was a panel, where the year 10 students answered questions from the audience. The discussion continued over mocktails and savouries.

A big thank you to the students involved for your presentation and for your integrity when dealing with the questions posed. Thank you also to Ms Donohue, Ms Khoo, Ms Patterson and Ms Seeger-Snowden for your assistance with the programme.

There will be a further evening for year 9 and 10 parents and students on **Wednesday, 26th November, 7 pm**. *Creating Conversations* is a DE&T initiative, directed towards year 9 and 10 students and their parents, regarding the use of illicit drugs. The programme will include a number of interactive activities and a guest speaker, Bill Stronach, who is the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Drug Foundation. All year 9 and 10 parents will receive further information about this event.

YEAR 9

ACCELERATED MATHS CLASS FOR 2004

Ms A Donoghue

Current year 8 students are invited to sit for an entry test for the "accelerated" year 9 Maths class. The class is designed to complete both the years 9 and 10 Maths courses in 2004 with the aim of the student sitting for VCE General Maths Units 1 & 2 in 2005. The test will be held on Wednesday 3rd December. Students should give their name to their Maths teacher if they wish to enter. Other entry criteria such as Australian Mathematics Competition results will be used to decide whether students are recommended to do the course. If you have any queries, please contact me on 9347 2022.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Katherine Klopsteins

BOOKLISTS

We would like to remind all years 7 to 10 parents that students are required to purchase the Physical Education workbook on the booklist. The PE Faculty at UHS has produced this booklet so that we can keep the costs of materials low. The PE Workbook can be collected from UHS when you collect the rest of your textbooks.

Students that are undertaking the VCE Health Education course (Units 1-4) in 2004 will be advised of the text required for purchase during their orientation program later this term.

END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES 2003

Ms Amanda Watson
(UHS, Monday and Wednesday)

The End of Year Activities for all students in years 7, 8 and 9 will take place between Monday 15th and Thursday 18th December 2003. Students are reminded to bring their lunch and drink each day, as the school canteen will be closed. Students participating in outdoor activities need to bring a sun hat and sunscreen. Depending on the choice of activity, students may need a MET ticket for the day and appropriate clothing. Please remember that as all activities have been pre-booked and costed no refunds will be given.

SPORTS RESULTS

Ms S Hafey

UHS will be represented by 3 teams in next week's VSSSA State Championships: Year 7 Boys Squash, Year 7 Girls Hockey and Year 8 Boys Hockey. Congratulations to all students who have participated and helped their team make it to the finals. Good luck guys, I'm sure you'll all do a fantastic job!

Congratulations to Katherine Clarke of 10S2 on her recent performance at the VSSSA State Athletics Championships. Katherine braved the cold and wet weather to achieve 2nd in the 200m and 3rd in the 100m sprint events. Not a bad effort considering the girl who won broke records in both events. Well done Katherine, a fabulous effort!

Congratulations also to Will Walker of year 12 for his amazing efforts at the recent World Road Cycling Championships. Will competed in the U19 event and did a fantastic job to place 5th. Whilst Will was away on this trip he also won a tour event. Keep up the great riding Will!

SNOW CAMP 2004

Mr P Batters

The snow camp will take place at Mt Hotham during the week of August 15 to 20. The lodge ("Bembooka" - same as the past few years) has been booked, and planning is well underway. The cost will be about the same as this year (\$675 for skiers, \$730 for snow boarders) but will be confirmed later.

Notices will be placed in the daily bulletin inviting applications and a deposit from interested students in years 9,10 and 11 early next year. We usually receive more applications than the available 40 places so, unfortunately, some applicants may miss out. Students who miss out on an initial offer, and any late applicants, will be placed on a waiting list, and may receive a late offer at any time right up until the time of the camp.

*Note: Because of the hazardous nature of the alpine environment, only students who have demonstrated that they are cooperative, reliable and trustworthy can be considered, and the organising staff and sub-school Heads reserve the right to withdraw any place offers at any stage.

REPORT ON SUBJECT CHOICES FOR 2004

Dr R Benson,
Curriculum Coordinator

The last four weeks have been a very busy time as staff have worked to accommodate student subject choices for 2004. This has involved collecting information forms, interviewing various students and parents, evaluating different timetable scenarios, balancing teachers' allotments with areas of expertise.

The exercise has been very successful:

- Of the 44 VCE studies offered, all but two had sufficient students to run and those few students who did not receive the subjects of their choice were interviewed and helped to choose other subjects to their satisfaction
- Of the 17 electives offered in year 10, all but three had sufficient students; as well, some 75 students were placed in VCE electives of their choice. This unrestricted elective choice, which was outlined in the August newsletter, probably represents the greatest change to our curriculum in the past 20 years and it appears to have been a great success. Students displayed energy in choosing their electives and appeared to enjoy the adult connotation of negotiating with staff instead of being told what to do. Parent feedback to

date has reinforced this impression, with some parents contacting the school in order to get the necessary information to keep up with the interests and aspirations of their children in new curriculum areas like cinema, media and multimedia.

- In year 9, all four LOTEs offered at the school had sufficient students to run, and the other electives of Music, Drama, Technology Studies and Information Technology were all well represented.
- In year 8, French and German were the two LOTEs of choice. Hopefully, those 19 students who chose either Indonesian or Latin and who could not study them next year will have another opportunity to be integrated into year 9 classes in 2005 if sufficient students are available.

Please feel free to ring me on 9347-2022 or email me at bensonr@unihigh.vic.edu.au if you have any further questions about subject choices and procedures involved. The process is more complex than outlined here but I am very happy to try and explain it more fully if you want more information.



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