Term 3 is possibly the busiest of the year in some respects as the students prepare for the final exams and make choices about their future pathways. Interim reports are available on the Parent Portal this week. The reports will assist students supported by their parents to set their term 4 goals. As the term ends our senior students are preparing for their final exams. It is very important that they use their time well during the holidays. I know some of our staff are running some extra sessions in the holidays and there are also study lectures provided externally that students can attend.

Planning is well underway for the 2016 school year. All students should have submitted their subject selections for next year. I would like to congratulate the Pathways team for all of their hard work and guidance in supporting the students in making very important decisions about their 2016 course.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Thursday 10 September at the Senior Campus. Parents should have received a text with details about making appointments via the Parent Portal. The interviews are very important in terms of our partnership with you to create our student's futures. Please contact the school if you are experiencing difficulties to making your bookings.

Parents are reminded that classes are not run on this day and students are not required to attend however students are expected to attend the interviews with their parents. Here are some tips on making the most of the interviews.

PREPARING FOR PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
The focus of the conference is your child’s learning. We want to discuss how well your child is doing and what we can do to support even better learning. We look forward to meeting with parents to work in partnership to achieve excellent learning outcomes for our students.

PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (PSD)
Education Minister, Mr Merlino is calling for all Victorians to have their say on the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD). Parents, carers, students, principals, teachers, support and specialist staff and advocates are encouraged to submit their solution-focused ideas in writing to the PSD Review team by Friday 11 September.

Email your ideas to: psd.review@edumail.vic.gov.au before Friday 11 September and you can also register your interest in taking part in the online survey in September. To register, please see: PSD Review - Education Victoria.

MILL PARK RECOGNISES EDUCATION SUPPORT OFFICERS (ESO’S)
August was Education Support Staff Recognition Month. The ESO’s are very ably lead by Julie Wolfe. Their roles include office staff, integration aides, IT support, student welfare coordinators, the facilities team, library technicians, laboratory assistants, careers support team and many others. I know that staff, students and parents agree we have a fantastic team. The ESOs were invited to a special afternoon tea at a local cafe as acknowledgement of the very important work they do.

EARLY LEAVERS
Parents are reminded to give their child a note in the morning if their child needs to leave school early for an appointment. This ensures the student is ready and waiting for the parent when they arrive to collect them. If there is no note, it can take considerable time for students to be located and brought to the office.

DRUGS POLICY
Our School Council has been very busy reviewing our policies. Last month the Drugs Policy was updated and ratified. In accordance with the law, it is illegal for students to possess, use, distribute and sell illegal drugs or sell and distribute prescribed drugs at Mill Park Secondary College or at any function or activity organised by the College. The policy clearly outlines how we respond to drug related issues. We recognize that drug use has a significant impact on human health and that harm minimization and health education should be the guiding principles of this policy. I have included a copy of this policy in this edition of the newsletter.
SPRING HAS SPRUNG AND THE MAGPIES ARE SWOOPING!
The warmer weather is finally here, along with allergies and swooping Magpies. Swooping birds can be a frightening and even dangerous experience for any unsuspecting passers-by. August to December is the period when many areas become danger zones as native birds swoop to protect their nests, eggs and young. The Whittlesea Council has provided a fact sheet about swooping birds which I have included in this newsletter.

Trish Horner

PARENT SURVEY
(FROM THE COMMUNITY SUB-COMMITTEE)
We are aiming to build a stronger school community and we would like to hear your thoughts on how we could enhance connections between students, families and the College.

Please complete this short, anonymous survey to help us.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1CG_tZ9c1uUSc8h-k-s5AxWpcoNhkwCuW8jNYLZyk/viewform?usp=send_form

You can also access the link from the Sentral Parent Portal.

Kelli MacDonald, on behalf of the Community Sub-Committee

YEAR 12 OUTDOOR EDUCATION MURRAY RIVER CANOEING TRIP
Students have been eagerly awaiting our last camp for the year, a 90km canoe trip down the majestic Murray River. We have been planning over the past couple of weeks, discussing safety, learning strokes and working out how we were going to fit all of our gear into one barrel (no room for life’s luxuries on this trip)!

The day arrived and waiting on the banks of the Murray in the Barmah National Park we went through a thorough safety briefing and spent an hour on the water getting the feel for a heavy canoe in running water. Students learnt quickly that balance was required as even turning around to talk to your captain can result in you ending up in the water. A quick dip of the finger in the river sent a clear message to all; do not fall in otherwise you will be chilled to the bone.

Over 4 days we woke early to the sounds of kookaburras and cockatoos, rubbed the sleep from our eyes and the dew from our cooking gear. We floated and paddled down the path of the Murray, sometimes talking, sometimes singing, occasionally in silence admiring the natural beauty of the banks, the river red gums and the cockatoos evading the daily threat from the birds of prey.

As evening approached we would look for somewhere to set up camp, haul the canoes up the bank and set about finding the ideal place to pitch our tent. A fire would be started and we would all gather around, remarking on the new pains that have developed in muscles that we weren’t even aware that we had. There was no need for telling students it was time to go to bed, a 20-30km canoe trip each day is tiring work, students were in bed and asleep around 8pm each night!

No phones, no pressure, just rising and falling with the sun.

It was a privilege to run the camp, a huge thank you to Michael O’Reilly and Elise Cullen for helping with the running of the camp. Another huge thank you to the students who participated, they are what made the camp, their efforts and enthusiasm made it a dream to run. Each and every student should be proud of their efforts and I am sure they have developed a renewed appreciation for the small things in life such as a bed and a warm shower.

Mr Ryan Shaw
You are invited to attend a parent workshop.

This is a 90 minute interactive workshop and will include activities and information on:

- Adolescent change & development...what's happening to their brains?
- Balancing time between school and social
- Organisational skills - finding a system that works
- Managing and Planning homework - be in control!
- Attitude - the power of positive communication with your teen
- Understanding HOW they learn

Facilitator - Angie Wilcock
Angie is a highly regarded Australian specialist on transitions in education. She has appeared on both radio and TV and works with the Generation Next team, offering support to professionals and parents Australia-wide on understanding and coping with adolescent change. She is a published author with a strong background in teaching, as well as being a mum of two sons. Her sessions are a mix of humour, anecdotes, information, real-life parenting...but above all, strategies to support families during this very critical phase of education and personal development. Her book, 'The Transition Tightrope', supports parents in understanding this new phase of education....and life!

Date: Tuesday 15th September
Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Location: Mill Park Secondary College Middle Years Campus, Moorhead Drive, Mill Park
RSVP: Please call Cathy Cranfield to reserve seats on 9407 9700.
Cost: Free
Drugs Policy

Preamble

In accordance with the Law, it is illegal for students to possess, use, distribute and sell illegal drugs or sell and distribute prescribed drugs at Mill Park Secondary College or at any function or activity organized by the College. Mill Park Secondary College acknowledges that drug use has significant impact on human health and that harm minimization and health education should be the guiding principles of this policy.

Aims

• To be consistent with the requirements of the DET and State and Federal Laws.
• Promote and maintain a positive, safe and caring school environment.
• Actively promote our College as aiming to be a drug-free environment.
• Develop clear steps to be taken in the event of substance abuse being evident.
• Establish clear rules for supervision of prescription drugs and pharmaceuticals.

Implementation

Illegal Drugs

• Possession and/or the use of an illegal drug is not tolerated under any circumstances.
• Teachers have a duty of care to pass on information to the Student Management Team and/or Principal if they have knowledge about illicit drug use by students or members of a student’s family irrespective of:
  - Whether the use is:
    • confirmed suspected or likely to occur
    • occurs on or outside school grounds
  - The drug is used
  - Where there are reasonable grounds for suspicion of drug use or possession, a Principal Class officer or Student Manager may, in the presence of the student and another teacher, search property such as a bag or locker (which is deemed to be the school’s property) and confiscate any substances that are deemed to be suspicious such as illegal drugs or alcohol. Students can be instructed to open pockets or bags for inspection and failure to comply may involve the student contacting Victoria Police.
  - In the case of a substance being detected, the parent/carer will be contacted. Victoria Police will be contacted. The possession and/or use of illegal drugs by a student will be dealt with in accordance with the Specific Responses listed below.
  - In the instance of student or students being suspected of using a drug or being drug affected, the Response to Drug Related incidents procedure document will be followed.

SPECIFIC RESPONSES

Inhalants/Solvents:

Students found using solvents or inhalants, in possession of solvents or inhalants or supplying solvents or inhalants to other students anywhere in the College environment will be liable to a range of consequences dependent on the circumstances and whether or not previous offenses have been recorded.

First Incident:

• An incident report will be recorded and Parents/Guardian will be notified via phone call and formal letter.
• Being sent home from school for 24 hours
• Suspension from school
• Referral to SWC for counseling strategies in harm minimization

Continued Offences:

• Incident reports recorded
• Further suspensions
• Parent/guardian meeting
• Possible withdrawal from extra-curricular activities such as camps, excursions, sporting teams etc.
• Referral to outside agency

Possible expulsion

Illegal Drugs

The possession, use and/or supply of illegal drugs is an offence and is against the law. The College will view either offence as a very serious matter.

Any student found in possession, using or supplying illegal drugs in any school environment will be suspended immediately. Parents/carers will be notified in order to begin a consultation process. Referral to an outside agency will occur. The student will be treated with care and the student may be expelled.

If a student is suspected of having used an illegal drug, parents/carers will be notified immediately and the student will be sent home.

Use of Medications

• Medication includes all prescribed drugs and all legal non-prescribed drugs such as paracetamol etc.
• Students who are required to use occasional medication at school must have a written request from their parent/guardians.
• Medication used on a long term basis should be recorded by the parent/guardians on the School Medical Form held by the First Aid Officers.
• Where parents request that students administer their own medication, the note should be directed to the Home Group/Pastoral Teacher or First Aid Officer.
• Students who require the use of Ventolin should carry it with them. Ventolin is readily accessible through the First Aid Room and authorized staff personal supply is not accessible.
• Prescribed medications brought to School for administration during the day must either be locked away in the First Aid area or with the First Aid Officer. Security is paramount.
• The exchange of medication between students is strictly forbidden. Medication should only be used by the person for whom it was prescribed.
• Medication should only be taken for the purpose for which it was intended.
• The dosage should be strictly adhered to. Over medicating could have serious and potentially fatal implications.

Confidentiality

Staff members will endeavour to maintain confidentiality of all parties involved in drug-related situations.

Related Documents

• Responding to Drug Related Incidents
• Student Engagement and Well Being Policy
• Student Engagement and Well Being Guidelines
• Student Behaviour Management Policy
• Alcohol Policy
• Smoke-Free Policy
• Drug Education Policy

External Links

Dues and Schools: Legal Issues - A Guide for Principals
_legal_issues_2009.pdf

School Policy and Advisory Guide


Ratified Date

This Policy was ratified by the School Council on 4 August 2015

Review Date

This policy will be reviewed as part of the College’s three year review cycle.
ADVOCACY WEEK

Monday 7 September will see the launch of Advocacy Week on the Senior Campus, a week which has been totally organized by our SRC. Advocacy Week is designed to raise awareness within the College of three key issues which affect our community, namely: gender inequality, the ending of family violence and gender diversity. The week is designed to educate students about issues which directly affect the lives of many of their peers and members of their community. Students will learn about some of the issues presented in the City of Whittlesea’s ‘Safe in our homes, Safe in our communities’ paper, as well as the White Ribbon foundation.

A range of activities will occur across the week, including assemblies, guest speakers, trivia and karaoke.

SALVATION ARMY FOOD DRIVE

Another related initiative which is launching next week is the canned food drive in support of the Mill Park branch of the Salvation Army. The food drive is directly supporting students and families in the community who need extra support. Students or parents can bring nonperishable goods to the pickup point at the General Office at the Senior Campus before the end of term. Thanks to our SRC and Mr. McNaughton for organizing this great initiative.

LATROBE SCHOLARSHIPS

There is still time for Year 12 students to apply for the Vice Chancellors’ Scholarships at Latrobe University for 2016. Students should receive a brochure and application form from myself if they wish to apply for these scholarships, which are worth up to $24,000 for students.

YEAR 11 CHANGES – SUCCESS IN THE VCE

I would like to take this opportunity to alert parents of Year 11 students of a new policy currently developed, to help increase success in the VCE. Under this new policy, students who have not successfully completed all of their subjects during Year 11 will have their progress reviewed during terms 3 and 4 to decide if it is appropriate for them to progress to Year 12, or if they need to achieve more units at the Year 11 level. If your child received some ‘N’s or Unsatisfactory units during semester 1, they may be at risk of not achieving enough units to progress. The more units they can achieve during Year 11 the greater their chances of success at Year 12. If you are unsure of where your child stands in terms of their VCE, please contact your Year Level Coordinator to discuss.

This policy will only affect a small amount of students (most students successfully complete all of their Year 11 units) – however it is designed to help improve these students increase their skills, study habits and chances of successfully completing the VCE.

YEAR 12 VTAC TIMELY APPLICATIONS

Year 12 students are reminded that if they are wishing to apply for University or TAFE for 2016, that they need to apply to VTAC before Wednesday 30 September. Students should be aware of how to apply as they have participated in class presentations and workshops via Pastoral classes and in their Study Centre sessions throughout Term 3. There is a one off cost of $29.00 and this can all be done online via www.vtac.edu.au. If students need extra assistance, don’t hesitate to contact the Careers Team. By applying to VTAC students enhance the options available to them post-secondary.

Josie Vickers and Jayne Mitchell, Careers Team

DEBATING

On Sunday 30 August, Mill Park Secondary College students competed at the British Parliamentary Debating Competition at St Kevin’s College Toorak. The teams achieved great results, with Natasha Bay earning 9th best speaker on the day.

The Mill Park A grade Debating team won their octofinal on Wednesday night which ranks them within the top eight teams in Victoria.

The team of Marvad Ahad, Reegan Quick and Tayla Macdonald will compete in their Quarter Final at Box Hill High School on Wednesday 9 September at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

Sonia Loudon, Debating SC
SENIOR DANCE EXCURSION TO BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE

Senior Dance students were given the unique opportunity to see one of Australia's leading contemporary dance companies, Bangarra Dance Theatre. Bangarra is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dance company widely acclaimed nationally and around the world for its powerful dancing, distinctive theatrical voice and utterly amazing soundscapes, music and design. After the performance, students engaged in a post-show Q & A with lead choreographers and even got their photo taken with two Bangarra dancers.

An inspiring day was had by all, one which will leave a lasting impact on Mill Park Dance students.

Abbie Jewel, Dance Teacher

SHARING A VETERAN’S EXPERIENCES

Last week, Year 10 students were visited by Dr Rob Webster – Vietnam veteran and Vice-President of RSL Victoria – who shared his experiences of war. Year 10 Captain, Sarah Bux explains his visit…

For the past term, Mr McNaughton and I were organising the appearance of a special guest for the Year 10 assembly. We wanted students to make the connections between our present lives and the lives of those in the events we are studying, which is a hard thing to do. With our English and History classes focussing on the Second World War and the Holocaust, I believed it only seemed fitting to have someone come to our school to talk to us about their experiences. After corresponding with RSL Victoria, we were put in contact with a Vietnam War veteran who not only had experienced serving our country in war firsthand, but also had family members participate in World War Two.

Dr Robert Webster spoke to us about his experiences in the theatre of war and how it impacted and changed his life. Through his stories Year 10’s became aware of how history impacts our lives today.

Sarah Bux

From left to right: Marvad Ahad, Dr Rob Webster, Liam McNaughton and Sarah Bux
This year we celebrated Book Week by decorating the Senior Campus Library with lights. Mr Kneebone made us a fabulous flashing light display with accompanying music. Students had the opportunity to participate in many competitions and activities including ‘Round the twist’, ‘Book and Music covers’, ‘Celebrities and their favourite books’ and Lego Poetry.

Congratulations to Leeroy Manyere (12B) our winner of the annual lolly jar competition, his guess of 263 lollies was the closest. Thank you to all the students and teachers who participated and celebrated with us in 2015.

Ms Quayle and Ms Gardner, SC Library
YEAR 7 & 9 NAPLAN RESULTS
The Year 7 & 9 student NAPLAN results have arrived. Individual student NAPLAN reports will be available for collection from each student's Homegroup teacher during the upcoming Parent/Teacher Interviews.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS
Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on Thursday 10 September at the Senior Campus from 11:30am – 7:30pm. Parents can make bookings via the Parent Portal. If you require assistance with making bookings please call the General Office on 9407 9700.

YEAR 7 DISCOVER LA TROBE EXCURSIONS
On Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September, the Year 7s attended La Trobe University for the Discover La Trobe program.

Students were given the opportunity to participate in two scavenger hunts and a giant life size board game called Star Student. They got to explore the Bundoora campus of La Trobe, looking for sculptures and performed a thorough exploration of the Agora, where they enjoyed a lovely lunch. It was a chance for students to look around a university campus, and to get an idea of what it might be like to be a university student. Ms Morton even pointed out her old bedroom in Menzies College to us!

The Year 7 students were beautifully behaved and were a credit to our College.

Elizabeth Ring
Year 7 Programs and Learning Outcomes Manager

PERFORMING ARTS UPDATE
“ROYAL SOUTH STREET”, “KOOL SKOOLS” AND “SONG & DANCE”
Students at Mill Park have been very busy in the Performing Arts. Senior Music students performed at the Royal South Street Eisteddfod in Ballarat on Wednesday 1 September. The senior music students competed in both Jazz and Contemporary band sections.

Music students are currently preparing for our Kool Skools Recording experience. On Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 September selected students will go to Studio 52 to record 12 songs. This year’s CD will feature a range of musical styles including acoustic ballads, contemporary rock, cover songs and electronic digital music. We are looking forward to the final product. All students involved in this project should have received their forms and have a workshop to attend on Thursday 10 September to prepare for their recording session.

We also have many music and dance students across the College involved in rehearsals preparing for the annual “Song and Dance” concert to be held on Wednesday 14 October at Plenty Ranges Theatre. Students involved in this activity will receive more detailed information prior to the end of term. If rehearsals are any indication, the night will be very entertaining. Please look out for concert and booking information.

The date for the MYC End of Year Music Night has been set for Thursday 19 November. Students involved in music lessons and ensembles at MYC have also begun to prepare their performances. The evening will be held in the MYC library and family, staff and friends are welcome to attend. More details will be provided closer to the date.

Mrs Wendy Nagel, Assistant Manager of the Arts
YEAR 8 SELF DEFENCE PROGRAM WRAPS UP

During Week 6 and 7 of term, the Year 8 students enjoyed participating in the Proactive Teen Safe specialist self defence program. The students were introduced to the basic principles of personal security and self defence. Students practiced self defence movements and participated in discussions about personal safety. They also gained practical tips for personal security at home, in public, travel, parties and internet use.

Thank you to all teachers involved and the instructors from Proactive.

Philippa McIlroy, Year 8 Program and Learning Outcomes Manager

SRC AND HIGH RESOLVES

On Friday 28 August, the Middle Years SRC held a casual day and a sausage sizzle to raise money for the Salvation Army. Students participated enthusiastically, and with Mr McRae cooking the bbq, we raised almost $1,000 in total to donate to the Salvation Army.

The SRC have been working with the Year 9 High Resolves Team, who have been aiming to raise awareness around the issue of homelessness, putting up posters in our school and organising a guest speaker to come out and talk to all of the students at Middle Years about homelessness and what the Salvation Army do.

The Year 9 High Resolves Team have also been responsible for a food drive, collecting canned and non-perishable foods to donate to the Salvation Army.

Both the SRC and the High Resolves Team would like to thank everybody who made our awareness and fundraising campaigns possible.

Elizabeth Ring, Student Leadership / Awards Coordinator

DON’T MISS OUT ON A FANTASTIC YEAR 8 CAMP!

Come along with your Year 8 classmates to Waratah Beach Camp in December.

♦ Tuesday 8 - Friday 11 December
♦ www.waratahbeachcamp.com.au
♦ Approximate cost $385.00
♦ Forms available at the General Office with $50.00 deposit.

Philippa McIlroy, Year 8 Programs and Learning Outcomes Manager

SCHOLARSHIPS - Current Year 8 students

Applications for current Year 8 students interested in applying for a school scholarship for 2015-2016 are open. There are 5 scholarships offered to current Year 8 students for Years 9 and 10, Academic, Sporting, Music, Community and Leadership. Students who excel in the relevant areas and demonstrate Mill Park Secondary College values are awarded with a scholarship for the duration of 2 years. If you have any questions please speak with Mrs. Colbey or Mrs. Barnard.

Scholarship recipients are presented at the Awards Night in December and receive some financial support from school. Any current Year 8 student interested should collect the relevant scholarship form from the front office, complete it and return it to the office by Thursday 10 September.

Good luck to all applicants.

Renee Colbey, Community Liaison
Book Week was a busy and exciting event at the Middle Years Campus. The program was packed with activities and students were enthusiastic and eager to partake. Students participated in the *Drop Everything And Read (DEAR)* program, which encourages the enjoyment of recreational reading. All students from Year 7, 8 & 9, read their chosen book every morning for the first twenty minutes of session one. Year 7 students also enjoyed the visit of popular author James Phelan.

The Library was decorated with spectacular displays and lunchtime activities and competitions were ongoing for the whole week. MYC students enjoyed mimicking *Contemporary Charades*, competed in *Letters and Numbers* games and played online *Kahoot* competition. *Cupcake creation* was a treat as students decorated their cupcake and ate it too. Ongoing activities such as *Book Cover* design, *Six Word Story*, *Match the Singer to the Song* with the theme *Light* using QR codes and *Quizzes*, were very popular among the students. Prizes were awarded to student winners. Book Week celebrations concluded on Friday with lots of fun. Teachers and students competed in *Who want to be a Millionaire Hot Seat* and many staff members dressed up as a book character. A prize was given to the best-dressed teacher.

Thank-you to all staff and students who participated in the library activities and made this year’s Book Week a fun and engaging celebration of reading.

*The Library Staff*
NEW COURSES IN 2016:

- Bachelor of Construction Management (Honours)/Bachelor of Property and Real Estate – The first three years of this 5-year course will be taught at Burwood, the last two at Geelong. Info: www.deakin.edu.au/future-students/courses/course.php?course=D336&stutype=local.

- The Bachelor of Arts has new majors and minors; there are now over 30 study areas to choose from. New areas: education, film and television, gender studies, geography, motion capture, sport and society, studies of religions, sustainability and society and visual communication design.

- The new fisheries and aquaculture major sequence in the Bachelor of Science gives students training in fisheries resource management, aquaculture management and fisheries biology. It is available at Warrnambool, replacing the Bachelor of Fisheries and Aquaculture. Info: www.deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/find-a-course/bachelor-of-science. The new Bachelor of Design Technology - Design entrepreneurship and innovation are the core focus of this program and, when enabled by the corresponding technologies, will provide graduates with the design and technology acumen that is highly sought-after in industry. See: www.deakin.edu.au/study-at-deakin/find-a-course/design-technology.

CHANGES FOR 2016

- All four engineering courses (civil, electrical and electronics, mechanical and mechatronics) will now offer first year only at the Melbourne campus with the rest of the course completed at Geelong (Waurn Ponds) campus.

- The combined Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science/Bachelor of Business (Sports Management) will be offered at the Geelong Waurn Ponds campus as well as Melbourne.

- The Bachelor of Creative Arts (Photography), Creative Arts (Visual Arts) and Creative Arts (Visual Communication Design) now require a digital folio as part of the selection process; See: www.deakin.edu.au/create.

WILLIAM ANGLISS INSTITUTE NEWS – William Angliss has been awarded $4.47 million in funding from the Victorian government to develop skills of the tourism and hospitality industries. The finding includes $2.27m for a regional tourism employability initiative where William Angliss will partner with regional TAFEs to provide tourism and hospitality training. A second grant of $1.74m has been awarded for the Institute to launch Melbourne’s first International Hotel School to train the next generation of hotel management professionals.

BOX HILL INSTITUTE NEWS

- CREATIVE ARTS INFORMATION SESSIONS - Sessions are being offered in a range of Creative Arts courses at Box Hill including graphic design, fashion design and merchandising, live production, theatre and events, and in music – sound production, composition and music industry. When: 7.30-pm, Wed 2 Sept; Where: Building 4, Room 127, 1000 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill.

- AUDITION & FOLIO PREPARATION WORKSHOP – A three-hour workshop covering graphic design, fashion, dance, live production, audio production and music programs including composition and performance will be held to assist applicants in preparing themselves for the audition process. Cost: $35.00 When: 10am -1pm, Mon 21 Sept (holidays); Where: 1000 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill. Info: Annie, Ph 9286 9811, a.ryall@boxhill.edu.au.
NEW AT RMIT – RMIT is offering two new degrees in 2016:

- The Bachelor of Engineering (Automotive Engineering) (Honours)/Bachelor of Industrial Design (Honours) double degree is a specialised program that addresses the ongoing demand for automotive engineers with an industrial design background. It is being offered due to the changing landscape of automotive manufacturing.

- The Bachelor of Analytics (Honours) provides students with complementary skills in analytics, tapping into studies in statistics, operations research, computer science, information technologies, business, economics, finance and marketing.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNI NEWS

- NEW COURSE IN 2016 – ACU’s new Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Exercise Science course is now available for application through VTAC. It is expected that other new courses will be added to the VTAC website shortly (eg Bachelor of Law/Bachelor of Psychological Science).

- PHYSIOTHERAPY IN 2017 – As announced previously, ACU (Ballarat campus) is introducing the Bachelor of Physiotherapy at its Ballarat campus in 2017. Current Year 12 students who are interested in this degree in 2017 might take a gap year, volunteer or study a different course whilst waiting to apply in 2016 for the 2017 start. Suggested pathways into the new degree are through the Early Achievers Program (EAP), or alternatively students might consider applying for another ACU course that has a lower Clearly-In. An internal transfer could then be considered if eligible (eg occupational therapy, and speech pathology have two first year units in common with physiotherapy, or study nursing, exercise and sports science or physical activity and health which have one first year subject in common). NOTE: There will be no mid-year entry to physiotherapy, and there are no plans for the course to be taught at the Melbourne campus of ACU.

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY (VU) NEWS

- EXPLORE VU SERIES - Discover opportunities at VU at Explore VU. These are evening sessions (6.30-8pm) exploring Health and Biomedicine (3 Sept), Law and Justice (8 Sept), Education (10 Sept), Exercise and Sports Science (15 Sept), Arts (17 Sept), Business (22 Sept) and Engineering and Science (24 Sept). Info: 1300 842 864. Book: www.vu.edu.au/news-events/ events/explore-vu-series.

- NEW COURSES – In 2016 there will be the new double degree Bachelor or Laws (Honours)/Bachelor of Psychology (Honours), the Bachelor of Laws (Honours)/Bachelor of Psychological Studies, a Bachelor of Marketing Communication and a new Bachelor of Information Technology.

- REVISION LECTURES – VU is offering revision lectures in Units 3/4 Maths Methods, Legal Studies, Accounting, Chemistry, English, Psychology and Business Management in school holidays and weekends. Register: http://www.vu.edu.au/study-with-us/your-study-options/vce-high-school-students/vce-revision-lectures


- SWINBURNE ADVICE NIGHTS – Get information about courses, VTAC/ATAR information and pathways. When/Where: Wantirna campus (Stud Rd), 4-6pm, 9 Sept; Hawthorn campus, 4-6pm, 14-17 Sept; Book: See www.swinburne.edu.au and search for Advice Nights.

- KEEPER FOR A DAY AND VET FOR A DAY – If you want to find out about working in a zoo, caring for different animals, then consider one of these holiday programs:


CAREERS IN PSYCHOLOGY NIGHT – The Student Committee of the APS is holding a careers seminar for aspiring psychologists. When: 1-4pm, Sat 12 Sept; Where: Lecture Theatre 3, Bld B, Level 1, Room 77, Deakin Uni, Burwood; Cost: Free; Email: melbapsstdents@gmail.com; http://www.psychology.org.au/Events/EventView.aspx?ID=16005

Compiled by: M. Walker
Swooping birds may be a frightening or even a dangerous experience. Native birds can swoop in urban and rural areas, in parks and gardens, along bike tracks and in school yards, or anywhere that birds are nesting.

1. Know your local swooping hotspots
   Keep informed about parks, schoolyards and bike trails in your local area by reading your local newspapers, viewing Victoria’s “Magpie Map” on www.depi.vic.gov.au/swoop or contacting your local council.

2. Avoid the area
   The best way to protect yourself from a swooping bird, is to avoid venturing into their territory.

3. Move quickly
   If you must pass through the area – move quickly – do not run.

4. Cover your head
   Wear a hat or carry a stick or umbrella above your head. Cyclists should wear a helmet, dismount and walk through the area.

5. Eyes at the back of your head
   Birds may be less likely to swoop if they think you are watching them. Draw a pair of “eyes” and attach to the back of hats and helmets. A printable set of “eyes” is available to download on the DEPI website at www.depi.vic.gov.au/swoop.

6. Do not harass wildlife
   Don’t interfere with or throw stones at birds. This gives them added reason to see humans as a threat and may increase swooping behaviour.

7. Do not destroy nests
   This may prompt birds to rebuild their nests, prolonging the swooping behaviour.

8. Don’t feed swooping birds.

9. Travel in a group
   If possible, try to travel in a group in areas where there are swooping birds.

10. Notify others
    Put up warning signs for others who may not be aware that there are swooping birds in the area, or ask your council to do so.

- Mark a bird-swooping area on Victoria’s “Magpie Map” at www.depi.vic.gov.au/swoop
- Tweet @depi_vic with the location details and include #swoopvic
- Send photographs of birds for the Swoop Flickr page. Email swoop.vic@depi.vic.gov.au

Food Drive
1ST-18TH SEPT

Tinned Foods
- Tinned Fruit/Fruit Salad
- Tinned Vegetables
- Packet and Tinned Soups
- Tinned Spaghetti and Baked Beans
- Tinned Tuna and other Fish, Tinned Ham and pre-canned meals

Cereals and Carbohydrates
- Breakfast Cereals and Muesli
- Instant Noodles and Instant Pasta Packets
- Rice, Pasta and Pasta Sauce
- Rice Sauce (Kao Tong)
- Muesli Bars

Beverages
- UHT Milk
- Tea, Coffee, Sugar
- Milo and NesQuick
- Cordial and Soft Drink
- Long Life Juice

Handy Hints
- Ring-pull tins are preferred!

Tins with ring-pull lids are most helpful, as not all people receiving the food will have access to a can opener.

Long expiry dates please

Please ensure foods donated are non-perishable and their expiry dates are well into the next year.

Please avoid ‘no-name brands’

Wherever possible, please refrain from purchasing no-name brands as people will be receiving these goods. This is a simple way to make our “battling” Aussies feel good.

Treats
- Chocolate, Bags of Lollies
- Sweet and Chocolate Biscuits (Tim Tams)
- Savoury Biscuits (Shapes)
- Potato Chips
- Popcorn
- Fruit Cups, Jelly Crystals, ice cream Toppings, Cake Mix, Pancake Mix, Jam, Honey, Vegemite, Nutella, Peanut butter

Donations to the General Office
Year Level That Donates the Most Wins!