



Victorian College for the Deaf

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23 July 2015 No: 10

CALENDAR EVENTS	Parent Teacher Interviews
<p>Parent Teacher Interviews and Years 9--11 Course Information Night Tuesday 28th July</p>	<p>Please refer to the letter that went home on Wednesday 22nd July. The details are as follows:</p>
<p>MSO @ Hamer Hall - Music & The Deaf Excursion Thursday 23rd July 22 students from years 5,6,7,8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Teacher Interviews on Tuesday 28th July between 1.30 pm and 6.30 pm • The Years 9-11 Course Information Session will be held on the same night to assist parents so both can be combined on the one night. • The Years 9-11 Course Information Night will have two sessions so that parents can choose one time that suits them. The first session will be at 4pm and a repeat of the session will be held at 5.30 pm. • If parents wish to take their student home prior to 3.10 pm after their interview please fill out a form to let the teacher know. • It is preferred that parents and the student attend the interview together. • If parents of students travelling on the taxi or bus service wish their student to remain after school for the interview the students will be supervised in the Library.
<p>VCAL Numeracy Excursion to Clark Rubber - Thursday 23rd July</p>	<p>Please complete the slip at the bottom of the letter and return it school by Friday 24th July. Teachers will then inform you of your interview time. Any further queries please contact the office.</p>
<p>Early Years 1 Zoo Excursion Friday 7th August</p>	<p>Family Auslan Classes Thank you to VDEI and our VCD Parents Association for providing Auslan family classes that are due to commence on Sunday 9th August at 10.30 am. The classes have been organised following many requests from parents to run a class that will teach Auslan to parents for the first time. The focus will be on signs used in the home. There are 12 family places and parents who are interested can email the school on victorian.ds@edumail.vic.gov.au. The course will be for six weeks on Sunday mornings from 10.30 am to 12 noon. We have arranged childcare for those families with younger children. It is expected that primary aged siblings and mothers and fathers will be taking the course with their deaf child. This will enable the whole family to get involved and learn Auslan together. Being bilingual or multilingual is an important skill to have and I would like to encourage our families to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to learn to communicate with your deaf child and become a bilingual family.</p>
<p>Family Auslan Classes 1st class Sunday 9th August 10.30 am - 12 noon</p>	
<p>Deaf Secondary Sports Day Thursday 13th August</p>	
<p>Finance Committee Meeting Thursday 20th August 4- 5 pm VCD Staffroom</p>	
<p>School Council Meeting Thursday 20th August 5 - 7 pm VCD staffroom</p>	
<p>Middle Years Camp 24 - 28 th August Blackwood</p>	

Primary

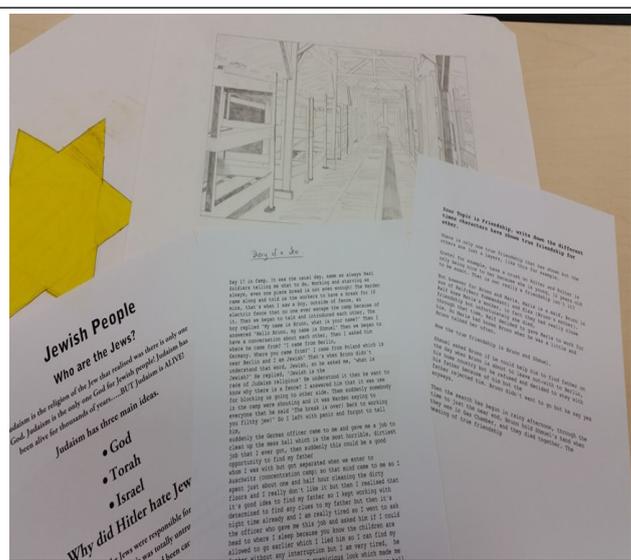
Year 1 and 2 have been learning about pets. Today we went for a visit to the 'Pet Barn' in Richmond! We saw lots of fish and yabbies. We also got to pet some dogs that came to visit. Suzie came with her two dogs and we walked around the shop with them, told them to 'sit' and fed them treats! We had so much fun.



Middle Years

The Year 8/9/10 English class with Marnie Kerridge focused on "The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas" last term. Students did a term long project with a list of various activities to complete. This included a biography on Adolf Hitler, information on the Jewish race, diary entries imagining they were imprisoned in a concentration camp, and rewriting the ending of "The Boy In The Striped Pyjamas" to name a few. The quality and diversity of their work was outstanding. It was pleasing to see students read and understand the novel and its characters better in relevance to the background work they were doing.

This term, we will be focusing on deeper thinking learning and debating.



Senior Years

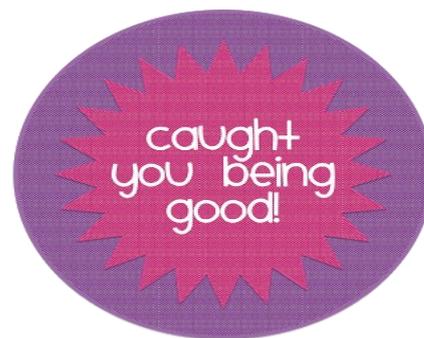
Last Thursday, 8 VCAL students from Maryborough Education Centre (MEC) came to visit the VCAL students at VCD. For some, it was the first time they visited the city! We participated in some 'get to know you' activities and then Jerome, Paula and Ian took the groups on a tour of our school. The students from MEC were very interested in learning Auslan as one of their group is deaf. The entire group got along famously. They participated in sport with the Senior Years students and extended an invitation to the VCD students to come and visit their school in Maryborough. We will be visiting the group later this year.



School Wide Positive Behaviours

From the School Wide Positive Behaviours Resources

Top 15 Free or Inexpensive Rewards for Parent of Young Children



1. Assist the parent with a household chore
2. Send an email to a relative telling them what a good job they had done on a project at school. In other words, email Aunt Linda and tell her about the "A" you got on your spelling test.
3. Get to decorate paper placemats for the dining room table for dinner that evening
4. Get to choose what is fixed for dinner that night- example: "You get to choose, I can make tacos or meatloaf. Which do you want me to fix?"
5. Get to help parent fix dinner- shell peas, peel potatoes, make art out of vegetables, make ants on a log etc.
6. Get to be the first person to share 3 stars and a wish at the dinner table (3 good things that happened that day and one thing they wish had gone better.)
7. Get to create a family night activity- roller skating, hiking in the park, picnic dinner on the living room floor or under the dining room table with blankets over the top.
8. Camp out in the backyard with a parent.
9. Get a car ride to or from school instead of the bus
10. Get to have a picture framed for mum or dad's office
11. Get to choose the game the family plays together that night
12. Get to choose the story the family reads out loud together (read the classics)
13. Get to go with a parent to volunteer at a retirement home (the children will get tons of attention)
14. Get to gather old toys and take to a shelter for children who have nothing
15. Get to ask friends to bring dog and cat food to their birthday party instead of toys that will break. Take the food to a shelter the day after as a reward. They will get a ton of attention from the staff.



Student Representative Council

Last week the SRC participated in a session contributing to the school review process. We ask three questions, What are we doing well?, What could we need to improve? and What else should we do? The following is a list of responses from the students.

Doing Well

SWPB
Teachers who communicate with us
Camps
Learning and teaching
Excursions / Activities

Need to Improve

Have high expectations of ourselves
Basketball court
School Uniform

What else?

Homework club
Front gate
Get fountain to work
Consistent program

Parent Information

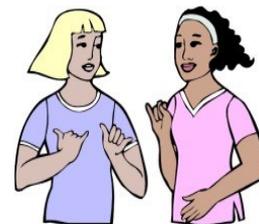
Auslan Classes for Parents

Where: VDEI (next to VCD)

When: Sunday 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th July, 6th 13th September

Time: 10.30 am - 12 noon

Cost: No cost for families



There will be child minding available for young ones who are not able to participate in the class with their older siblings

Bring the whole family (Ages 0-100).

Classes will teach Auslan vocabulary use for everyday communication at home with your Deaf child. Our aim is to provide access to Auslan so siblings, parents, grandparents, etc. can better communicate and support their Deaf family member.

Auslan conversant volunteers will also be on hand to help with younger children so parents can focus on the classes.

These classes are free as we have been fortunate enough to have been supported by VDEI and VCD.

Promoting inclusive practices in schools to better support children with disabilities and special needs

Check out the webpage on the Department of Education and Training website at <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/department/Pages/specialneeds.aspx> for more information. Below is an introduction.

The Victorian Government made a commitment to establish Victoria as the Education State where every Victorian has an equal right to the knowledge and skills to shape their lives. Part of this work is to promote inclusive practices in schools so they can better support all children and young people, including those with disabilities and special needs.

The Special Needs Plan is part of this vision because every child deserves a great education to reach their full potential, especially those with special needs who already face additional challenges in their lives. A fair and inclusive system will enable every child and young person to learn in a safe, positive and supportive environment in the setting best suited to their needs.

Work is under way on each of the commitments in the Government's Special Needs Plan. These are significant commitments and we want to make sure we take the right amount of time to develop and implement the changes, to ensure we get the best outcomes for our children.

The first major step is a comprehensive review of the Program for Students with Disabilities.

Program for Students with Disabilities Review

A review of the program has begun, which focuses on the transition from primary to secondary school and the specific needs of children and young people with autism and dyslexia.

The review is being informed by research, expert input, stakeholder engagement and a comprehensive analysis of the effectiveness of the Program. It will ensure support and resourcing is sustainable and delivers improved learning and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people with disabilities.

To be involved in the Review or for more information, see: [Review of the Program for Students with Disabilities](#)

