VIEWBANK CALENDAR

March
17 Year 12 Leadership Camp depart
   SAC Catch ups 3.30pm—4.30pm
18 Year 7 Round Robin
   Year 12 Leadership Camp return
   Friends of Performing and Visual Arts
   (FOPAVA) Meeting 7.30pm
19 Studio Arts Year 11 & 12 Fashion Excursion
   Education Committee Meeting 6.30pm
   Strategic Planning & Review Meeting 7.30pm
20 House Athletic Carnival
   Friends of Music (FOM) 7.30pm
21 Japanese Spring Festival 10am - 1.30pm
24 ICT Meeting 5.30pm
   Buildings, Grounds & Finance Meetings 6pm
   VCE & Senior Soiree - Library 7pm
   Australian Geography Competition to 28th
25 General Assembly
   Year 11 Presentation Ball Meeting 7pm
26 Year 8 Public Speaking
   College Council AGM 7pm
27 A-K Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences
28 Year 11 Biology Excursion—Queenscliff
29 German Exchange depart (to 4/5)

School Term Dates 2014

Term 1: 29th January - 4th April
Term 2: 22nd April - 27th June
Term 3: 14th July - 19th September
Term 4: 6th October - 18th December

Principal’s Report

Athletics Sports:
This coming Thursday, we are all set for a great whole-school Athletics Carnival at Rieschieck Reserve, Doncaster. Parents need to understand that attendance at this event is not optional and is not a School Free day for students who do not wish to compete. There will be plenty of activities for students to get involved in and earn House points. Any student absent on the day must have authorisation from a parent. It is not OK to be away! It is however, an early dismissal day and the bus lines have been notified.

Like the swimming carnival, students are encouraged to dress up in their House colours and there are fashion-on-the-field awards. However, there are two things I must emphasise:

- I would expect all clothing and costumes to be decent. Anyone dressed inappropriately will be asked to cover up or be sent home.
- Students must not use face or body paint. The Bus Company will not permit anyone with face or body paint to board the buses.
Sun Safety: The College does its best to promote Sun Safety at the athletics track and teachers will be vigilant. However, students are to bring sunscreen, a hat and T-shirts to ensure that they have proper screening during the day. As at the swimming carnival, there will be constant reminders throughout the day to students to reapply their sunblock. We hope our students have a grand day out with lots of competition, lots of House colour and lots of fun.

Insuring for Individual Personal Accident Insurance - Student Cover:
I need to explain that students who hurt themselves are not covered by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) or College insurance. The Department does not provide personal accident insurance and ambulance cover for students. Parents who do not have student accident or ambulance cover are responsible for paying the cost of medical treatment for injured students, including the cost of ambulance attendance/transport and any other transport costs.

No parent or guardian wants to dwell on the prospect of accidents or injuries to their child. However we do know that in the case of severe injuries parents and guardians can be placed under severe financial pressure. This week I received a letter from an insurer re the importance of parents considering accident coverage for their child. While we do not endorse any one Insurance Brokerage firm, I was interested to see that the annual cost of a Student Cover policy is just $29.00; far less than I imagined and is a 24 hour, 7 day a week coverage. This applies whether they are at school or not. There are many providers and it is up to parents to go online or discuss it with an insurance broker. Please shop around.

VCE Evening:
Thank you to all the parents and the VCE students who attended the VCE Information Evening on Wednesday night. It is important for the parents of our 350 VCE students in Years 11 and 12 to know exactly how to support their child as they travel through the great challenge of VCE.

I spoke to parents about reading the VCE Handbook carefully so as to know the rules governing VCE and the policies as the rules are tight and VCAA are tough even in the case of illness. If there is no authentication of absences over the 10% then a student can fail the year. Parents need to know this at the outset of the year.

I also spoke of the absolute importance of the GAT or General Achievement Test which is held in June. This is an exam that students cannot study for and it assesses their overall general ability. For all students studying Units 3 and 4, it is vital that they get their best on the GAT as a student’s results become the benchmark if a student suffers illness or has a crisis that prevents them from sitting the end of the year exams.

Viewbank College Compass Manager, Chris Dunn, then explained to parents how to access all the features on Compass and how they can use this to best support their VCE student.

A presenter from “Elevate” gave excellent advice and information for both students and parents on effective study skills as well as the need to balance study and other aspects of their lives. He gave parents information about how best to support their child through VCE. Parents were asked to fill in a small survey giving feedback. Resoundingly, parents were very positive about the evening and what they learned. Thank you to Mrs Sue Calder, Senior Years Leader, Ms Dianne Allan, Year 12 Well-Being Leader and Ms Samantha Sissons, Year 11 Well-Being Leader for their work organizing the evening.

College Council Elections:
Thank you to all the parents who have lodged their votes for their preferred candidates in the 2014 College Council Election. While votes close this evening at 4pm sharp, they will be counted on Monday 17th of March. All nominees will be notified of the outcome of the election by Tuesday 18th March. We are thrilled by the number of returns that have been coming in and thank all nominees and all parents who have participated in the voting.

News from the Graduating Class of 2013:
Short-listed for Top Class:
How exciting it was to learn that last year’s Music Captain and lead of the 2013 College Production, Patrick Schnur has been short-listed for Top Class. This is a wonderful affirmation of Patrick’s talents in Drama and Music. Being short-listed is indeed an honour and we wish Patrick all the best and will eagerly await to hear if he moves through to the final performance Top Acts. We want to acknowledge Patrick’s talent and the enormous involvement and contribution to the Music and Drama of the College. Patrick has been accepted into Federation University in Ballarat to undertake a Bachelor of Performing Arts. This is the same course that Andrew Hondromatidis
and Broden Kelly, the Directors of the College Production, graduated from in 2011. Best wishes Patrick Schnur!

**Shruthi Vijai**

I had a visit this week from Shruthi Vijai, who has begun her Bachelor of Social Science course at Swinburne University, majoring in Psychology. She is really happy in her transition to University. However, after enquiring about her course, I asked her about what she has been doing since leaving the College after VCE last November. What she has been doing is something that needs to be shared as it is so amazing.

Shruthi, who originally comes from Southern India, revealed that she has been performing in India and has been involved in the film industry in Chennai. She is a songwriter and singer for her community here in Australia and through a Youtube clip and her proud mother sending Facebook posts to friends, a filmmaker asked her to come to India so that her songs could become part of the soundtrack of a film. Shruthi also became the singing voice of the heroine of the movie. Shruthi then very modestly told me that on top of the film work, she has performed at several concerts with audiences which ranged between approximately 10,000 and 20,000 people. She has been engaged, singing at weddings of a 1,000 or more people which is the norm for the wealthier people of India. With pride, Shruthi explained that she is the first performer to come from Australia to perform for Koliwood.

I asked Shruthi if this was a part of Bollywood that she had been involved in and she explained that the Bollywood film industry emanates from Mumbai but in India, there is also Koliwood which is the film industry for the Southern Tamil Indians and Chennai (Madras) is the home of this film centre.

Shruthi will return to India at her next term break for more performances. While we had the chance to know Shruthi as a fine student we had no idea that she had this great talent. We congratulate her and wish her every good wish, pursuing her musical career and her future studies in psychology.

**Assistant Principal Report**

**Uniform**

The College Uniform currently is looking very good and we would like to thank all parents and students who always ensure that they are in the correct uniform. As all students and parents are aware the College Blazer is to be worn as the outer garment. The College Spray Jacket (Burgundy and Navy only) is not to be worn with the College uniform unless it is raining. The College Spray Jacket is part of the PE Uniform. Over this term we have informed both parents and students via the newsletter and newsfeed on COMPASS and to students at Assemblies. The majority of students are now following the policy however we do have a few who are trying to test the rule. As of Monday any student who wears the Spray Jacket with the College Uniform will be issued with a detention. The only exception is if it is raining.

**Year 12 News**

**Year 12 VCE 2014 Jackets**

In the interim, until School Council is able to endorse a new policy, Year 12 students will be permitted to wear their 2014 VCE Jackets on Thursdays and Fridays only. At all other times standard uniform, as specified in the College Planner and on the College website, is to be worn.
Year 11 News

2014 DEBUTANTE BALL
INFORMATION EVENING

Tuesday 25th March, 7:00pm

The high point of the Year 11 social calendar must be the Presentation Ball, which will take place at The Centre, Ivanhoe on Saturday, 9th August, 2014. On Tuesday 25th March, at 7.00pm in the College Library, we will begin the journey towards the Presentation Ball and would like interested students and their parents to attend this information evening. This is an information session only and no payment will be required at this time. We need to get an understanding of numbers and would like parents to find out as much information as possible at the outset. Any parents who would like to help Mrs. Lynette Matthew organize this special event can let us know on the evening. The Presentation Ball is a very happy and proud evening for the presenting students, their families and for the College so we are very much looking forward to the 9th August.

Samantha Sissons
Year 11 Well-Being Leader
sissons.samantha.s@edumail.vic.gov.au

Year 8 News

Year 8 Study Skills:
On Thursday 13th March we had 6 enthusiastic and engaging presenters from Elevate Education come and present to the Year 8 Cohort which was divided into 6 groups. The morning consisted of 2 sessions with the overall aim of improving the Year 8 Cohort’s skills for studying efficiently and effectively. The first session was “Kick Start to Study Skills” and the second being “Time Management, 4 steps to managing deadlines”. The feedback from staff and students has been extremely positive and we hope that the students took some valuable study skills to help them during their time at Viewbank College.

Andrew Blair
Year 8 Well-Being Leader
blair.andrew.t@edumail.vic.gov.au

Middle School News

IT’S GOAL SETTING WEEK!
BE SMART AND START THE YEAR ON A POSITIVE NOTE

Year’s 7-9 will next week be completing their goal setting on the Compass system in LOTE classes. Parents can log in to see their child’s positive goals and realistic expectations for this semester. Review and discussion of the goals at home would certainly be beneficial and ensure all students are kept accountable. The goal setting task can be found in the reports tab. Comments from parents regarding their child’s goals are very welcome.

Emma Ford
Thank you to Dong Dam for the photos
House Athletics Carnival

Have you got your costumes ready for the House Athletics ??????

HOUSE ATHLETICS
THURSDAY 20th MARCH, 2014

The College will conduct its annual House Athletics Carnival on Thursday 20th March at Rieschieks Reserve, George Street, Doncaster commencing at approximately 10.00am.

Please ensure your child/children bring sunscreen and other suitable sun protection, such as a hat, preferably in house colours, protective clothing and plenty of fluids for the day.

All students are expected to attend the Carnival and be aware of the following arrangements:

Students competing in the 1500 metre event must be at school at 8.00am ready to leave on the early bus at 8.15am

Students will attend Form Assembly at 9.00am, ready to leave by bus to Doncaster by 9.15am.

All students are encouraged to wear their House colours to support their House.

At the conclusion of the day, approximately 2.15pm, students will board the buses in their Form Assemblies.

Programs for the day’s events will be available at the College Office early next week. Additional programs will be available through House Coordinators.

Parents are most welcome to attend the Carnival.

Please be advised that no body paint is to be worn ~ this is the bus company directive.
Grade 6 Parent Information Evening

Thursday 8th May, 2014

Viewbank College Tours:
Tours are led by the College’s Student Leaders, giving you the opportunity to see over the College, meet Teachers in various Learning Areas and gain an insight to the curriculum and extra-curricular activities available at the College.

Beginning at 5.30pm in the College Gymnasium
Last tour departs at 6.30pm*

*College tour times will be confirmed on our website

Official Presentations
College Gymnasium 7.30pm

Staff will be available for a short time
in the College Library after the Official Presentations
for any further questions.

Enhanced Acceleration Placement Testing

Testing for entry into the 2015 Viewbank College Enhanced Acceleration program will take place on Saturday 17th May 2014 at the College. Students will be required to sit 3 short tests to assess aptitude and ability in Mathematics, Verbal Reasoning and Literacy.

When: Saturday 17th May, 2014
Where: Viewbank College Library, Warren Road, Rosanna
Time: 10am till 12.30pm
Cost: $40 (non-refundable) plus 30 cent Trybooking fee

Applications are made via the Trybooking link http://www.trybooking.com/EF0Q found on our website www.viewbank.vic.edu.au
Applications close Tuesday 13th May. Late applications will not be accepted.
Music News

Junior Band
Weekly Junior Band rehearsals will commence on Wednesday March 26. All beginner flute, clarinet, saxophone, bass guitar, trumpet, trombone and percussion students are required. Rehearsals are held in R6 from 8 – 8.50am.

AMEB (Australian Music Examination Board)
Any students wishing to enter for AMEB exams should speak to their music teacher. The relevant dates are as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cut off date for enrolments</th>
<th>Exam dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>2nd session: Monday 17th March</td>
<td>(19th May – 6th June)</td>
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<td>3rd session: Monday 31st March (10th June – 28th June)</td>
<td>(11th August – 7th September)</td>
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<td>4th session: Monday 26th May</td>
<td>(6th October – 16th November)</td>
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<td>5th session: Monday 21st July</td>
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New students
All new students have been allocated their instrument/voice and lessons have commenced. There are still vacancies on some instruments. Please contact me if your son/daughter would like to enrol but hasn’t done so yet.

Viewbank College ensembles
We have sixteen different ensemble including bands, orchestras and choirs for students to get involved in at the College. Any students who are learning instruments or having singing lessons outside of school are welcome to join these groups. Enrolment forms and further information is available from the Music Office.

Second-hand instruments
If you have any instruments at home that are no longer needed that you would like to put on our second-hand instrument register, please bring the instrument in to school to be assessed by our music teachers and collect a second-hand instrument form. Forms should be filled out and returned to the Music Office.

Upcoming and Important Dates:

Wednesday 26 March Weekly Junior Band rehearsals commence: 8 – 8.50am in R6. Please arrive in time to start promptly at 8am.

Sunday 18 May Autumn Brunch: School Gym – 10am-1pm
Junior, Intermediate, Senior concert bands, Jazz, Stage and Funk bands, Junior and Intermediate Strings.

Thursday 22 May Autumn Nights: 7.30pm Banyule Theatre – Intermediate and Senior choirs, guitar ensembles, Senior Strings, Flute ensemble, Double Bass ensemble.

Monday 8 September Jazz Night, Watsonia RSL

Monday 13 October Gala Concert, PlentyRanges Conference Centre – All ensembles and choirs.

Canteen

Canteen Volunteers for week of 17th March to 21st March

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Volunteer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Susan Lee</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Morena Negro</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Marion Ford</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>House Athletic Carnival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Sue Rungay</td>
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Canteen Volunteers for week of 24th March to 28th March

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Helena Teo</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Caroline Robertson</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Caroline Brindley</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Andrea Driscoll</td>
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Community News

SHORTS
CALLING ALL MEDIA STUDENTS, CREATIVES, WRITERS, ACTORS AND CURIOUS MINDS.

During Youth Week (April 4-13), we’re offering free workshops with industry professionals in acting, script writing, special effects horror makeup, stop motion, filming, directing, stage combat and more.

SHORT SHORTS FILM COMPETITION
From April 1 – April 30, we’re asking you to submit original short films. Work solo or with a team to create something exceptional. Free entry and awesome prizes.

FIRST PRIZE: GoPro Hero Camera
SECOND PRIZE: HD video camera
THIRD PRIZE: $200 JB Hi-Fi voucher

Go to shortsfilmsfest.tumblr.com for the full program and competition guidelines. Register for workshops by emailing youth@ypl.vic.gov.au.

Japanese Spring Festival
In Partnership with the Banyule Council

Watsonia Library
Saturday 15 March
3.00pm – 6.00pm
Join us for a special afternoon to celebrate Japanese Culture: Taiko drumming, karate demonstration origami workshops, ikebana demonstration, kimono dressing, spring displays and more!

Bookings 9435 2397

Thinking of becoming a Foster Carer?
Berry Street is looking for families like yours who can provide emergency, respite, short and long term care for vulnerable children.

If you have room in your heart and home for a child then we want to speak to you.

Call today to discuss about becoming a foster carer on 1800 U FOSTER (1800 836 7831) or visit www.berrystreet.org.au

HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIP & EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE - APPLY BY 31ST MARCH
Scholarships valued from $2,500 up to $10,800 are open to students between 15-18 years of age and offer the unique opportunity to live and study overseas for a semester or year.

Students can also make a saving of up to $1,000 off their exchange program fee with an Early Bird Discount:

The deadline for scholarship and early bird discount submissions for all programs departing between October 2014 – March 2015 is Monday 31st March 2014.

Visit www.studentexchange.org.au or call 1300 135 331 for more information

VIEWBANK JIU JITSU
SUNDAY 2 - 4PM
The Viewbank Jiu Jitsu Academy teaches traditional martial arts for self-defence, fitness and fun.

Come along and try it out.
19 Graham Road
Every Sunday 2 - 4 pm
http://viewbankryu.info
Sensei Mark Dransfield (sensei.mark@bigpond.com)
Community News continued…

HONDO’S BANYULE THEATRE CLASSES

BEG./ INTER. JAZZ
5:00-6:30PM / $20

MUSICAL THEATRE
6:45-7:45PM / $15

(or BOTH classes for $30)

@ Banyule Theatre, Heidelberg, 3084

SINGING LESSONS WITH HONDO
(Andrew Hondromatidis)

$55 per hour
M: 0401 334 815
E: andrewhondromatidis@hotmail.com

About the lessons

Lessons are focussed primarily on developing and maintaining healthy vocal technique as this is of paramount importance. However, individual artistic flare is encouraged and nurtured.

For people of any age & any vocal ability

Hondo utilises modern technology for music scales, exercises and orchestral backing tracks. He teaches out of his private home studio.