



Sandringham College VCAL Parent & Student Newsletter

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Volume 5



Semester Two

Students seem to have settled into Semester Two units– the new semester started two weeks before the holidays.

Students are working on major group projects in Work Skills (Year 11 and 12) for the first part of the term, but then we will be returning to work on pathways for 2012.

The Year 11's will be involved in a **Mock Interview program** and the Year 12's will participate in tailored **workshops** to assist them with their **transition into work and further study**. Workshops will include Job seeking, interview skills, resume and letter writing/polishing, TAFE entry, apprenticeship and employment applications.

Year 11 VCAL students finish classes on November 10. Students applying to reenroll will need to be available for an interview the following week November 14-17. VCE students then do their Headstart program. The DEECD requires all Year 11 students to be at school until the end of November. VCAL students have the option in participating in a **work program** or the Head Start program. Most VCAL students will elect to work in their part time jobs full time in this time period. Alternatively they could source a work placement or organize some community work.

I have conducted two **job seeking workshops** recently ran by Youth Connect to assist our students with finding work. We will do some follow up work with the students who attended who have not yet found work. There are unfortunately some students who did not attend these workshops (and do not work)- not only will they risk failing Work Skills, but they will need to find their own work.

All students, but particularly Year 12 students should be making appointments to see Jeni Riterman our **Careers** Adviser over the next month or so. Students need to simply write their name on the appointment calendar outside the Careers Room in a timeslot that is suitable.

Year 12 VCAL students finish on October 20 if all work is completed and **Graduation Night** is Monday October 31 (the night before Melbourne Cup Day). This is a fabulous night that I urge all parents and students to attend. It is a culmination of 13 years of schooling and is a significant occasion in a young person's life. Tickets (for parents) can be purchased at a later date at the Campus Office.

We also have a **VCAL Celebration Day** that is a more casual and intimate day with all Year 11 and 12 students and their teachers to 'celebrate' all the work that has been done throughout the year and acknowledge the students that have excelled in various streams. This is always held 'off-campus' and is organized by a group of Year 11 students as a community project for their Work Skills project. At this stage it is anticipated the 2011 Celebration Day will be on Tuesday October 18 (just before the Year 12 students leave.).

Important Dates

VCAL Celebration Day
(students & teachers)
October 18

Last day VCAL 12 classes
October 20

VCE/VCAL Sandringham
College
Graduation Night
October 31

End of Unit 2
November 11

Year 11-12 VCAL
Re-enrolment interviews
November 14-17

VCE Headstart
VCAL work program
November 21-29

Work Placement Information



Work Placement for VET (& VCAL) Students

As VET programs are industry based, all VET students are expected to undertake work placement in their chosen industry – usually in their first year. This usually takes place for one week during the end of term holidays (June, and September). Students should already have thought about where they would like to do a work placement – and sourced their own if possible, although Youth Connect has a website where students can access possible placements if they can't (start at <http://www.youthconnect.com.au/4me/login/index.php>). Speak to Jenny Marks if you can't navigate this.

NB Students must not undertake a work placement until the appropriate paperwork (which provides insurance cover) has been completed. Even if the Work Placement is being arranged via their off campus TAFE – and TAFE has provided their own paperwork – DEECD paperwork must be completed. Jenny Marks provides this paperwork and it is returned to her when completed. Only then can students begin a Work Placement.

School Based Apprenticeships & Traineeships (SBATs)

We have many students completing VET Certificates as part time apprentices in SBATs Some students complete Retail & Hospitality certificates as part of their jobs at McDonalds, Hungry Jacks & the like. Other students are more obviously part time apprentices as they spend a day or more a week in their workplaces and often spend their holidays in training. These SBATs are often in such industry areas as Children's Services, Automotive, Building, Plumbing and Hairdressing. **If a student is currently undertaking training as part of a part time job, and they want to know if this could provide VCE or VCAL credits, contact Jenny Marks.** Units cannot be credited if the College has not been informed – so don't assume we know.

For any and all VET or SBAT concerns drop by and see Jenny Marks, Monday to Thursday, in her office in the back of the Careers Room. Or contact her on

Telephone: (03) 8599 0535

Email: marks.jenny.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Are you looking for an apprenticeship at the end of the year?



Are you completing school this year? Perhaps you are not planning on going on to university or TAFE, but still value the opportunity to complete a qualification?

Then an apprenticeship or traineeship could be for you!! **MEGT** is looking for applicants in the following areas:

Office administration – filing, answering phones, data entry, preparing documents, administration support to other staff and management

Financial services – work in a bank or insurance company where you will learn various tasks and provide customer service

Retail – working in a retail outlet providing customer service, counter operation and stock control

Warehousing – learn to operate a forklift, load/unload trucks, moving stock, inventory and despatch, stock control and data entry

Real estate – receptionist duties where you provide customer service and support to real estate agents

Horticulture – **Landscaping**, working to design and create gardens for houses and buildings

Parks and Gardens, planting trees and shrubs, identifying plants, and establishing plants

Turf Management, where you could be working on cricket pitches, golf clubs or sporting grounds

Electrician – working on brand new houses and buildings or renovations to existing houses and buildings

Plumber – installing plumbing fittings to new and existing buildings and houses and laying pipes

Carpentry – building frames for new houses, fixing of timber products while renovating and building new houses

Engineering – fabrication, mechanical or sheet metal work incorporating lathes, laser cutting, welding and brake press machine

Automotive – heavy or light vehicle, diesel mechanic or panel beating.

For great opportunities in apprenticeships and traineeships, contact MEGT Group Training on 1300 365 022 to find out more.

Jeni Ritterman

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Skills Info Resource

SkillsInfo is a useful online resource with information on education and training, skills in demand, as well as comprehensive and forward-looking data on industry employment. **SkillsInfo** helps to answer questions on skills, such as:

- What is a 'skill shortage'?
- Where are the skills in demand in Australia?
- What are the latest labour force figures?
- What are 'employability skills'?

How can one find out about industries and occupations for Australia?

Visit and explore the following link - www.skillsinfo.gov.au.

