

VCE SUBSCHOOL REPORT COLLEGE MAGAZINE 2016

Students in Year 11 and Year 12 are required to complete the Victorian Certificate of Education, or better known as VCE.

Students complete 22 units across two years. They face enormous challenges during this time and the growth and maturity we have seen from over 250 students this year, has been incredible.

First up was the Year 11 and Year 12 camp program, which occurred in the first two days back of the school year.

The Year 12's headed off to the Melbourne CBD, where they attended numerous universities and the State library to focus on what to expect in life after secondary school. Many students came back motivated and excited about entering the real world in 2017.

The Year 11's attended a two-day camp at Mill Valley Ranch. Here they participated in leadership and team work activities, as well as goal setting, study skills and a wellbeing workshop. The weather was not ideal, but the students persevered and got a lot out of the camp.

Upon returning to school, many students found the workload and demands of VCE to be a major shock. Many students were studying 2-3 hours every night as well as giving up time on the weekend to revise, and prepare for SAC's and SAT's (formal tests and assignments).

Both year levels eventually adapted, and Term 1 proved to be a great success.

After slowly learning about SAC's, VCAA guidelines and attendance requirements, students learnt to how to manage their workload and also be involved in some great extra-curricular activities.

Many excursions occurred in 2016 and this really helped students consolidate their knowledge of content learnt in class. Both year levels attended Careers Expo's, where many students finally found their chosen careers.

The Year 11's had an amazing Debutante Ball. I would like to thank Jeff Heard for all of his hard work in making this night such a success. The students spent a lot of time practicing their routines and certainly pulled off their dances on the night!

The Year 12's enjoyed well deserved break at the mid point of the year and celebrated in style at the Year 12 Formal. They they had just finished their GAT (General Achievement Test), and their mid-semester exams, so it was a perfect time to get together for an evening of dancing and socialising. Thanks to Rhonda Johnstone, Jayne Thompson, the Year 12 leaders and the extra socialites for organising a great evening.

By the end of Term 3, most of the Year 12 course work had been completed and it was time to prepare for the October/November Exam period.

Term 4 was an extremely busy term for Year 11 and Year 12 students. It was a term full of intense work, long exams, and some very rewarding moments. All the hard work paid off for our dedicated students, and some well-deserved celebrations took place.

Our Year 12's enjoyed their Celebration Day which included Bounce in the morning, lunch at the Berwick Botanical Gardens, and bowling in the afternoon. It was a great day for all who attended, and the costumes were some of the best we have ever seen. Well done to Liam Sell for winning best dressed on the day. He came as Ron Burgundy from Anchorman.

We said our final good-bye's to our Year 12's at the Valedictory Dinner, which was held at The Grand in Wantirna. All students presented themselves in true style, and made the night enjoyable for all who attended.

I would like to thank all of the Year 12 students for their dedication, maturity and outstanding effort in 2016. In particular, I would like to thank Jasmine Gonzalez and Joseph Ulale for their outstanding leadership and dedication to making this College a better place. We have been extremely lucky to have been led by such mature and respectful young adults.

Thank-you to all the hard working VCE staff members who have consistently worked outside of their normal hours to give students the best chance of success. In particular, I would like to thank Paul Broecker, Steven Kehayas, Tiina Hatherall, Liz Miller and Demi Stathopoulos.

Nikki Hatz has been working in the VCE Sub School for the past 5 years, and is going on leave in 2017. Nikki has done an outstanding job, and her care and support with our VCE students has provided the foundations for how our Sub School will continue to operate in years to come. We wish her all the best in 2017 and look forward to her return.

I have loved working with this extremely supportive and caring team, and cannot wait for another challenging and rewarding year in 2017!

Matthew Miller

Head of Senior School.