Family & Staff Bulletin 13 June 2012

Statewide Teachers’ Conference at Melbourne Town Hall.

The VSL was extremely fortunate to have the ‘best of the best’ in classroom management Dr. Bill Rogers to inspire and address our 800 staff with positive knowledge, skills and behaviours on keeping students engaged and motivated. Dr Bill Rogers is an educational consultant and teacher by profession and his work is well known in Australia, especially for his commitment for skills based approach to discipline and behaviour management. He encourages using a peer support strategy across the school for the development and maintenance of positive behaviours within a rights and responsibilities focus.

Principal opening the Conference

Inspirational and engaging presentations heralded the beginning of a new year for our VSL Language teachers at our State-wide conference on the 4th February at Melbourne Town Hall. The venue was very grand and accessible to staff from all over Victoria by both car and public transport.

After a welcome by our school Principal, Mr Frank Merlino, we were addressed by a senior DEECD officer, Ms ThérèseMercader, who provided a brief outline of the Government’s direction for language teaching. Ms Mercader offered a perspective about policy initiatives, curriculum development and the opportunities arising for languages with the upcoming introduction of the Australian Curriculum.

The School Council President, Dr. Bruno Mascitelli then presented a brief summary of the initial findings from a VSL staff survey that was undertaken by himself and Dr. Hayriye Avara towards the end of 2011.

Section of the audience

Dr. Rogers’ presentation was engaging, practical and extremely useful and he supported it with his sense of humour and his spontaneous cartoon sketches on the overhead projector screen. His excellent delivery made marvellous experiences come to life and one staff commented: ‘He is my hero; I could listen to him all day’. Dr Rogers also outlined strategies about establishing a class at the beginning of the year – using key areas and skills such as initiating and sustaining attention, engagement and motivation, managing noise levels and how to motivate students to stay focused in class tasks. He also provided staff with practical behaviour consequences to manage challenging behaviour. In essence his 90 minute presentation provided our teachers with suggestions on how to establish a classroom learning culture and effective teaching methodology in today’s classroom.

After the break staff met with their Area Managers to go over preparations for the coming school year and to familiarise themselves with the school’s policies and processes.

Having these whole school professional development days also provides our teachers with the opportunity to meet with fellow language colleagues and discuss resource sharing as well as developing links and contacts from other areas and centres.

It was an extremely informative and motivational morning preparing staff for a productive 2012 school year.

***STOP PRESS***

2012 Premier’s VCE Awards announced – record number of VSL students!

Last year a record number of seven VSL students received a Premier’s Award for a VCE language. In the May 2012 announcement our school went three further and has received ten! Congratulations to all of our students and their teachers. The Awards ceremony will be held on 27 June at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Premier’s Award winners for 2012 are:

Yosma Elsammon – Japanese 2nd Language (Brentwood)
Sarah Klink – German (Box Hill)
Anthony Banovac – Croatian (North Geelong)
Andrea Natsky – Indonesian First Language (Glen Waverley)
Lorenzo Parronchi – Italian (Distance Education)
Zerina Causevic – Bosnian (Carvatha)
Estefania Fontalba – Spanish (Carvatha)
Mary Tadros – Arabic (Roxburgh)
Duqa Nusevic – Croatian (Kelior Downs)
Sasha Carrie – Russian (North Geelong)

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VSL VCE Top Students celebrated

The Victorian School of Languages recognised and celebrated the academic achievements of our 2011 Top VCE students at the University of Melbourne earlier this year. Some 2000 students last year successfully completed their Year12 studies in languages at the Victorian School of Languages and the school devotes a lot of time and energy to improving the quality of language teaching and in promoting the study of languages. The Copland Theatre was filled with more than 500 family and friends to acknowledge the 185 VSL students who were classed as ‘top achievers’ in the state by obtaining study scores between 40 and 50 for their language. There were 19 students who topped the State in the respective language and of these 5 achieved the Perfect score of 50 for Arabic, German, Japanese SL, Italian and Spanish.

Guests included members of the Consular Corps, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Catholic Education Office, Independent Schools Victoria, the Victorian Multicultural Commission and the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority.

The Principal, Mr. Frank Merlino acknowledged the dedication and enthusiasm of teachers and parents who had supported students throughout their studies to ensure they reached their potential. ‘Our school’s main strength is our teaching staff, whose dedication and enthusiasm produces high quality results.

Our school is working collaboratively with other schools to implement the government’s vision for languages for Victoria and to play our part in the process to make languages compulsory up to Year 10. It is essential that we make a contribution to the development of programs and policies both at the State and National levels’.

The major guest at the awards was the Minister for Education, the Hon Martin Dixon. The Minister congratulated the students on what they have achieved with their language study. ‘The work you have achieved needs to be celebrated’ he said, ‘In Victoria we celebrate our cultural diversity in everything we do,... it’s very much part of our education system and our cultural diversity is very important and makes us unique’.

He thanked the VSL for its wonderful work it does under Bruno’s and Frank’s leadership and added that ‘having such a large group of students achieve such good results is a credit to the school’. His final encouragement was to our Top Scorers ‘to be ambassadors for the young people out there who are studying other languages or want to study other languages, you’ll go out into the wider world and into the workforce as great ambassadors for Victoria and well equipped to meet a globalised world and a range of future career opportunities’.

VSL student Sarah Klink who distinguished herself with a perfect score of 50 for German, spoke passionately about her experiences of learning a second language at the VSL, with much praise for the support offered by her teacher. Sarah mentioned that ‘learning a second language teaches young people to understand other cultures. It encourages them to think of themselves as global citizens, and allows them to identify with the values and traditions of other nations. Teaching these skills to today’s secondary students will allow them to excel on the world stage, which in turn will benefit Australian society’.

Dr Bruno Mascitelli then provided a brief history of the school, how it had evolved over the past 77 years, and its contribution to language education in Australia.

The students were presented with their certificates by the Minister. Students who topped the state in their language also received a voucher from the VSL and other gifts from members of the Consular Corps. The audience were later entertained with a cultural performance from our Chin (Hakha) students who staged a traditional dance dressed in colourful traditional attire.

At the conclusion of the Top Scorers evening, students, parents, official guests and VSL staff gathered in the Copland Theatre foyer for a light supper and a further opportunity to reflect on the achievements of the VSL Top Scorers from 2011.
TOP VCE STUDENTS IN VICTORIA
The following students received the top marks in Victoria in their language at the 2011 VCE examinations.

MARY TADROS: Perfect score of 50 & Premier’s Award winner
Studying a language provides one of the greatest satisfactions in life. A bilingual person is a better thinker and has access to countless opportunities for better career choices. My advice to students is to be organized, study and take advantages of native speakers who can assist you with oral practice. Possibly the biggest challenge for me was committing my Saturdays to language study. But it certainly was well worth the effort and I enjoyed making new friends. I have the opportunity to use my Arabic language daily and am continuing to study Arabic at university as part of a double degree.

ZERINA CAUSEFIC: Premier’s Award winner
I believe knowing a second language can give a person an edge in our multilingual world. It was initially a decision that my parents had made for me but, as I got older, I fell in love with the language and decided that I wanted to broaden my knowledge of the beautiful Bosnian language. Not only did I study Bosnian but I was given an opportunity to learn about my forefathers’ homeland; its history, culture, traditions, music, film, etc. Throughout the eight years of schooling with the Victorian School of Languages, I’ve had the honour of meeting a variety of different people in my classes and making lifelong friends. My advice to all students who wish to pursue studying a second language is to seriously take on the advice of your teachers. I also recommend that students do as many practice exams as possible; practice does make perfect! I am sure that my achievement in Bosnian will allow me to follow my future aspiration of studying Law at Monash University.

DUDA NUSEVIC: Perfect score of 50 & Premier’s Award winner
I chose to study Croatian at the VSL because not only did it help me achieve a higher ATAR, but it also opened many doors for future career pathways. During my Croatian studies, I developed friendships, learnt my heritage language and had the opportunity to participate in festivals and ceremonies organized by the Croatian community. Studying a language does not mean giving up your social life and disregarding VCE. It’s important to organize your time, and to maintain a balance between study and social life. I am currently studying a Bachelor of Arts/Law at Monash University. When I graduate I hope to do criminal law.

ALEKS GUANIZO
Studying Filipino at the Victorian School of Languages has not only helped me achieve gratifying results in VCE; it has made me appreciate my culture and heritage. The final exams did put stress and pressure on every student; however this was overcome by patience, determination, and the support of my classmates and teacher. Notwithstanding my Saturday became a great ending to my hectic school week. My favourite activities were when we practised Filipino culture through dancing, singing and playing the guitar. This was an enjoyable distraction to studying but equally provided us with a link to Filipino community and we were able to perform at festivals and these provided a sense of belonging to and pride in Filipino culture.

SARAH KLINK Perfect score of 50 & Premier’s Award winner
Learning German through the VSL has been one of my most rewarding pursuits. One of the things I loved about VSL classes was having longer class time, instead of the short 50 minutes periods that day school classes are condensed into. More than just an academic pursuit, Saturday German was also an opportunity to meet other students from a range of different schools. Being amongst such driven individuals motivated me to work hard, but we also had fun doing it. Saturday classes also taught me how to independently manage my time. In my opinion, the most important part of the VSL classes are the teachers, who challenged and accelerated me, and allowed me to complete my high school German in four years. In the future, I hope to work and study in Germany, and to continue learning about this unique and exciting nation. Whatever career path I decide on, I am certain that the skills I have learned at the VSL will continue to benefit me throughout my life.

RENU SHARMA
I decided to study Hindi as one of my VCE subject as I knew that it would definitely help me to achieve a good ATAR. Moreover it was a great opportunity for me to stay connected with my people and preserve my culture. The most enjoyable part about VSL is that you meet different people from the same background and make new friends. In order to achieve good results I would say that it is really important to speak the language at home as much as possible because it helps to increase the fluency which is highly required during the oral exam, complete the homework, work on the feedbacks, read magazines and newspapers to increase the vocabulary and don’t leave anything to the last minute. I am currently studying science at the University of Melbourne and hope to finish my degree with a major in Genetics.
ANDREA NATSKY Perfect score of 50 & Premier’s Award winner
I was really happy when I found out that I was able to study Indonesian at the Victorian School of Languages. During that time I gained many priceless experiences and memories. I studied Indonesian as an additional VCE subject and so I was able to use my allocated study sessions as extra study periods which was really helpful during Year 12. Moreover, being a student at VSL opened up and widened my world to a whole new level. Not only did my study of a language deepen my understanding about Indonesia but also I made some great friends throughout the year. I love meeting new people within my culture and who shared the same interests as me. Also it was really great fun and I enjoyed my Saturday classes so much.

ELISA COPPO Perfect score of 50
Last year I was a Year 12 student at Mildura Secondary College where Italian was not offered, so I chose to study it via distance education with the VSL. Studying a language is not just about learning grammar and vocabulary. It also involves learning the cultural and socio-historical elements of the language. As language learners we become aware of the reasons why the language we study and its speakers are the way they are today. I would like to encourage all students to study another language because it shapes our minds and enriches our cultural understanding of other countries. Studying another language also provided practical benefits when travelling or working around the world, as language shapes our mind and enriches our cultural understanding.

YOMNA ELSAMMAN Perfect score of 50 & Premier’s Award winner
I studied Japanese Second Language at the VSL because my school did not offer the subject. After my great experience, I have since started studying Arabic at the VSL this year because I believe teachers at the school are very dedicated, hard working and caring. Thus they make the students feel secure and allow them not only to learn, but also to enjoy and love the subject they are studying. There are a myriad of benefits in learning about language, culture and lifestyle, meeting new people and extending your friendship through classes. I advise younger students to do their best and to never give up! Also enjoy language study and to make the most of it, because it is a very unique and rewarding experience. I would love to pursue a career in the Health Science field where I can work with people from different backgrounds.

SUE EUN BACK
I always wanted to pursue studying Korean formally so I would not forget what I learnt from my parents. I think my year of studying at the VSL has provided a great opportunity for me to further enhance my knowledge of the Korean language but also learn about its culture and traditions. What helped me the most was my passion for reading and the ability to discuss with fellow students the stories I read. I do advise all future students to engage in reading as many books in your target language as possible as this improves your understanding of grammar and develops your vocabulary. I don’t know what my future holds at this stage, but am sure that the skills I acquired during my Korean classes will hold me in good stead in my future endeavours.

SARAH SMILEVSKA
Studying another language presents many advantages, as well as allowing you to expand your communication skills, provides a new perspective and a bigger appreciation of cultural diversity. I moved to Australia at a young age, so my initial motivation to study Macedonian was so as to maintain and preserve my native language and my cultural background. I was able to increase my capability to understand and nurture my Macedonian heritage through the language classes. When it comes to achieving your personal best, I advise students to be committed to their work, and avoid unnecessary stress. In the future I plan to go to university and pursue a career in health-sciences.

NICOLE VELLA
I decided to study Maltese at the VSL to enrich my VCE studies as well as further develop my Maltese skills, both verbal and written. There are many benefits of being able to not only understand, but also speak another language. By having knowledge of more than one language, it opens up different opportunities; for meeting people at the classes who come from the same background, being able to read books and watch programmes in another language. Another benefit is when travelling to the country of the language; there will not be any barriers for communication. The advice I would give to younger students who are studying a language is to never give up on learning. In the future, I would like to get more involved in the Maltese community, keep on working on my Maltese language skills, and promote the Maltese language.
**PAULINA PYTKA**  
The decision to continue my studies of the Polish language came from a determination to maintain my cultural heritage. Since immigrating to Australia at the age of six, I have felt that my upbringing in Poland has defined me. The VSL has not only assisted me in further developing my literacy skills in Polish, but also expanded my knowledge of history, traditions and politics in Poland which I am very passionate about. Among some of my most valuable experiences was learning about great Poles and their contributions to the modern world. My advice for students studying a language is to find something that they are passionate about and try to explore it within their studies. Studying a language can open many doors in the future and present career opportunities across the world. After completing my VCE this year I hope to study architecture overseas and like many of the Poles to whom I aspire, leave my mark on the world.

**ARIEL KUPEMAN**  
I decided to study Portuguese as a means to maintain my Brazilian heritage, considering I was born and raised in Sao Paulo, Brazil until the age of 12. I believe that the study of languages is crucial in the modern and diverse world we live in, where polyglotism is increasingly becoming a valued skill in the workplace and a new form of becoming a global citizen is evolving. Having the ability to communicate in a country’s own language can also provide tourists with different insights into the country they are visiting – something that I definitely plan on exploring. The advice I can provide to current and future students is to be diligent and constantly practice your use and understanding of the language in creative ways – listening to SBS Radio, reading novels or even speaking to yourself in the language can really improve your mastery of the languages.

**DIVLEEN SINGH**  
Studying Punjabi enabled me to learn more about the language and culture and it has been fun to study the language. Saturday classes were a wonderful place to interact with peers from the Punjabi speaking community and I made many friends. My best advice to younger students would be to manage your time well and be creative with your language studies. I plan to study Commerce/Engineering at Monash University.

**SASHA CARRIE** Premier’s Award winner  
I enjoyed studying Russian at the VSL North Geelong Centre. I thought the course was well structured and generally easy, and my teacher, was particularly helpful when it came to more challenging tasks like essay structure for various text types. I am currently completing year 12 at Footscray City College. I hope to have a career in international business and having an additional language will certainly help with my application for the course. I also plan to visit Russia (for the first time!) next year.

**MAULI MEDIHAVIE GOVINNA**  
For me studying Sinhala through the VSL was not just an opportunity to expand my knowledge of the language but also a chance to broaden my insight into the wonderful culture of Sri Lanka. I believe that undertaking the study of any language other than English becomes a great support for excelling in other curriculum areas, such as English where I found an improvement in my literary skills. I am certain that the skills and confidence I have gained through VSL will be of great use to me in all my future endeavours. I sincerely thank all the fantastic teachers, supervisors and staff at the Carwatha VSL centre for making the past three years at the VSL a wonderful and memorable journey.

**ESTEFANIA FONTEALBA** Perfect Score of 50 & Premier’s Award Winner  
I studied Spanish because I wanted to be more involved with my background, continue to reinforce my literary skills and obtain a good result in VCE. Meeting people from different Latin backgrounds wanting to learn Spanish was the most enjoyable experience of the course. I have many plans for my future, especially in the academic aspect. I want to be able to develop a cross cultural research on language and cognition from a psychological approach, as well as be able to publish my fictional literary works. I am currently in my first year of the Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Melbourne, majoring in Psychology and Anthropology, as well as doing a diploma of Italian - which I believe will not be the last language I am going to learn.
THI HOANG ANH NGUYEN
I first chose to study Vietnamese as part of my VCE program because I believe language is an important key to success in my future career. Being an international student, it was a great source of comfort when I found that there are many other Vietnamese students like me in Melbourne. The best advice I could give to other students is to do your homework every week! It could be a piece of writing, reading, or a translating exercise; it could be one page, two or sometimes ten (when it’s exam time), but it is necessary that you complete your given tasks! It also helps your teacher to keep track of your progress and determine your areas of improvement required so you can receive the correct revision advice. Start preparing for the exam from the beginning of the year. Relax, breathe and smile a lot (it helped me 😊). I want to continue my studies at university and undertake a course of Optometry, Dentistry or Biomedicine.

LORENZO PARRONCHI – Perfect Score of 50 & Premier’s Award Winner
Last year Lorenzo was a student at Wesley College where he studied French, English, Geography, History and Further Mathematics. As Italian was not available at his school he studied it through the Victorian School of Languages’ Distance Education Section where his teacher was Enzo Calati. This year Lorenzo is at the University of Melbourne undertaking an Arts degree. At the time of printing Lorenzo was not available for an interview.

ANDREI MIHAESI
It is said that ‘how many languages you speak, so many times human you are’. Learning a language and being able to communicate in another language is a fundamental acquisition in our society, it helps you overcome barriers and understand other people and their traditions. I studied Romanian as an opportunity to improve my language skills as well as meet students from the same background. I didn’t have many challenges with the language but I found Romanian grammar difficult. I loved the classes which were always engaging and fun and my teacher was very friendly and supportive. My advice to students is to try and speak the language as much as possible at home. This assists with expression and enhances your knowledge of sounds, intonation and the correct accent. In the future I hope to study physiotherapy at University.

FILIP KRSTIC
I began studying Serbian at VCE level, so as to increase my chances of a higher ATAR score to allow me to undertake university studies. One of my main challenges was being at school six days a week with a full timetable of study, as well as the ensuring that I completed all tasks and dedicated study time to learning grammar. I really enjoyed the classes and have benefited in so many ways through pursuing the study of Serbian: I enjoy watching Serbian movies, socializing with new Serbian friends, and also learning more about the Serbian culture and my heritage. My advice to other students is to try your best even if there are challenges, study hard and have confidence in your ability to do well. I plan to complete a Bachelor of Arts/Law/Business degree and hopefully one day have my own practice where I can offer specialized services to the Serbian community and immigrants who have language barriers.

ANTHONY BANOVAC Premiers Award winner
I was born just after my parents arrived in Australia from Croatia so I was always interested in the language and culture and this led me to the VSL. There were challenges to face - limited opportunities to speak the language outside of school; having this extra commitment on top of other language studies; I even had to give up a playing soccer in the regional team. But the result at the end, after you’ve put in so much work, makes it a worth it, and you make good friends along the way. I have a lot of family in Croatia. I call my Grandma on a regular basis and, with confidence in the language; I can really enjoy catching up on things happening over there. In the future an option is to work in Croatia after I’ve completed my university studies.
Launch of New Turkish Publications and Turkish Online

On 19 March 2012, the Victorian School of Languages shared a happy evenings with its community when it launched its new Turkish publications and Turkish Online. The function was hosted by the Turkish Consul General, Mr. Serdar Cengiz, at Marble Hall and was attended by about a hundred guests. The guests included VSL teachers of Turkish, Dr. Bruno Mascielli, School Council members, Area Managers, and representatives from private Turkish schools and the media.

Mr. Serdar Cengiz, in his welcome speech, shared his delight in hosting such a special event in his residence and also expressed his gratitude to the VSL for the invaluable support it has given to the teaching of Turkish. The Principal, Mr. Merlino outlined the key role VSL played in the establishment of Turkish classes in Victoria, as well as its contribution to the recognition of Turkish language at the VCE level. Mr. Merlino added that the first Turkish classes commenced in 1973 at its Princess Hill Centre. He also mentioned the support received from individuals and volunteers, which paved the way for the increase in the number of Turkish classes and the development of courses.

Mr. Merlino also stated that his proposal to obtaining the service of Teacher Assistants from Turkey was a great success and we are now seeing the benefits with the work done by Dr. Hayriye Avara and Dr. Hatice Parlak. Since their appointment in 2010 they have completed the following materials:

Dealing with Text Types in Turkish: Turkish VCE Guide to Text Types
Türkçe Zamani Years 7-8: Turkish Junior Secondary Course Book
Türkçe Zamani VCE Turkish Unit 1: Course Book Year 11
Türkçe Zamani VCE Turkish Unit 3: Course Book Year 12

Mr. Merlino then thanked Stuart Miller and Nancy Posterino who developed the Turkish Online activities and also Stefo Stojanovski for coordinating the project. Mr. Merlino concluded that he believed such a project would assist greatly in the future by encouraging students to study the language.

Mr. Clem Newton Brown MP, then officially launched the new materials on behalf of the Minister. He congratulated the Victorian School of Languages for broadening the “horizons of its students by offering the gift of language” and passed on his congratulations to the staff. Mr. Newton Brown acknowledged that Victoria “had benefited enormously from the migration to our shores of Turkish people”. “Language teachers, in particular, have been the frontline of maintaining our cultural and linguistic diversity”, Mr. Newton Brown added. “Tonight in launching the new Turkish materials of the Victorian School of Languages, we celebrate that - and more.”

In response, Dr. Hayriye Avara acknowledged the support from the VSL in addition to that given by the Turkish Consulate General, the VSL teachers of Turkish, and volunteers who helped with recordings and editing. She added that the course books are designed to help students improve their four main skills of: Reading, Listening, Writing and Speaking as well as the sections dealing with lexicon which were designed to enhance vocabulary building. Dr. Avara added that the hands-on activities of Turkish Online would enable students to practice and learn Turkish while having fun.

Finally, Stuart Miller showed some activities and gave a demonstration of Turkish Online which the VSL is making available to all students from all schools.

The evening continued with the teachers and guests networking and exchanging ideas in a wonderful atmosphere accompanied by relaxing tunes played by Demircan Direk and Vaner Bostanci.
Term 2 Professional Development

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<tr>
<td>28 April – 14 July (11 sessions)</td>
<td>RMIT Language Teaching Methodology Short Course</td>
<td>Galvin Park &amp; Box Hill Centres</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 May 6.30pm</td>
<td>Chinese Teachers Seminar</td>
<td>VSL Head Office</td>
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PROFESSIONAL LEARNING TEAMS

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<tr>
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<td>Using Hanban Chinese Resources</td>
<td>Doncaster</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 May 12.30pm</td>
<td>Using Hanban Chinese Resources</td>
<td>Box Hill</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 May 12.45pm</td>
<td>VCE Data Analysis and Moderation</td>
<td>Blackburn</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 May 12.45pm</td>
<td>Report Writing on SIP</td>
<td>Blackburn</td>
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<td>26 May 1.30pm</td>
<td>Differentiation in the language classroom</td>
<td>Geelong</td>
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<td>2 June 12.45pm</td>
<td>Using ICT for language learning</td>
<td>Brentwood</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 June 12.45pm</td>
<td>Photostory unit of work on “family”</td>
<td>Westall</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 June 1.00pm</td>
<td>Using Cartoon story maker</td>
<td>Thomastown</td>
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New VSL Publications/Materials 2012
Projects currently underway include:
- Chinese Middle Primary Resources
- Chinese Year 8 Online course (NALSSP project)
- Hindi Primary textbooks
- Indonesian Year 9 and Year 10 Online course (NALSSP project)
- Spanish Primary Online resources – Languages Online (Stage 2)
- Turkish Primary (1-2) Coursebook
- Turkish Turke Zamani VCE Units 1 & 2 Coursebook
- Turkish Turke Zamani VCE Units 3 & 4 Coursebook

KEY DATES
- 9 June – Queen’s Birthday weekend – No classes
- 23 June – Official opening of Croydon VSL centre
- 23 June – Final day of centre classes for term 2
- 23 June – VELS (1-10) Report distribution day
- 21 July – First day of Centre classes for Term 3

School Council 2012-2013

At its March meeting, the VSL School Council re-elected Dr Bruno Mascitelli as its President. Dr Mascitelli is the Associate Dean (International) at Swinburne University of Technology. Parent and staff members who were re-elected were Ms Himalee Karunasena, Ms Alda Petre, Mr Angpal Singh, Mr Hasan Sayar, and Mr Ray Amos. Also returning are nominee members Ms Maree Dellora (VCAA) and new member Mr Andrew Hay. Mr Hay is the representative of Independent Schools Victoria, where he holds the position of General Manager, Teaching and Learning. Ms Victoria Meyers is resigning as the representative of the Catholic Education Office as she has a new role. ‘I wish to thank Ms Meyers for her contribution to the Council and to wish her well in her new position at Eastern Region’ Dr Mascitelli said. Dr Mascitelli added he was delighted to have such a strong team returning. "We certainly face many challenges in languages education in the coming year", he said. "Our school, however, is in a great position to make a strong contribution to language teaching in Victoria and be a leader in Australia. I look forward to working with our Council to achieve this", Dr Mascitelli said.

Editorial Committee
Frank Merlino (Chair)
Angela Natoli
Venetia Kefalianos
Cameron Watters
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