



Onam celebration at VSL Suzanne Cory (Werribee) Malayalam classes

Onam Celebrations for Malayalam classes across the VSL

Onam celebration, Berwick and Hampton Park

After two years of online Onam celebrations, Malayalam classes from Hampton Park and Berwick were able to come together on Saturday September 3 to celebrate Onam at Berwick VSL. Hampton Park Malayalam students travelled to Berwick for the day, and all students were involved in games and activities in the first half, followed by individual, group and class performances in the Berwick College Performing Arts centre in the second half of Saturday's session.

We also welcomed Brad Battin MP, state member for Casey and Michelle Lewis (Assistant Principal of Berwick College).



Aijmol Joseph (Teacher), Judi Benney VSL Acting Principal, Brad Battin MP, Suma Nampoothiri (Teacher), Heather Rae (VSL Area Manager – South East)

Country 1 Area: Werribee & North Geelong

Onam is the state festival of Kerala. It is a ten-day harvest festival. This auspicious celebration symbolises Emperor Mahabali's annual visit to his people of Kerala. Onam also celebrates the Vamana avatar of Lord Vishnu. Onam is of special importance as it unites people of all religions residing in the state. Celebrated all over the world, Onam spreads unity and peace in society.

People mark the 10-day festivities by taking early morning baths, wearing new traditional clothes called 'Onakodi', deep cleaning their homes, making pookalam (a floral pattern) outside, and eating Onam Sadhya - a huge feast served on banana leaves. It features over 26 dishes prepared with the help of all family members and is eaten with hands. Additionally, the women of the household wear a white and gold saree called the 'Kasavu sari'. People partake in different activities like Onakalkal (various games played during the festival).

Our Malayalam classes at the VSL Werribee centre celebrated Onam on September 3rd with a multitude of colours and flavours. Students and teachers came in traditional attire. Students brought flowers and had great fun participating in a pookalam-making competition. We had several cultural performances where the students shared dances, songs, stories, and played instrumental music, to name a few. Students also enjoyed traditional snacks and a special sweet dish called 'payasam' which is made of milk, sugar, and vermicelli/ rice. Our glorious Onam celebration was filled with happiness and prosperity and spread joy and unity among everyone."

Onam, Malayalam Class North Geelong

Malayalam students from the VSL North Geelong centre celebrated the festival wearing traditional clothes, making "Onapookalam" (floral decoration) and traditional games at North Geelong.

Semester 2 Area Activities

Indian Independence Day 75th anniversary Celebrations Suzanne Cory High School, Werribee

Independence Day in India occurs on August 15 of every year. It celebrates the date in 1947 when the Indian Independence Act came into effect, which established India and Pakistan as separate countries, no longer under British imperialist rule. Independence Day commemorates the nation's independence from the United Kingdom on 15 August 1947, the day when the provisions of the Indian Independence Act, which transferred legislative sovereignty to the Indian Constituent Assembly, came into effect. India retained King George VI as head of state until its transition to a republic, when the Constitution of India came into effect on 26 January 1950 (celebrated as Indian Republic Day) and replaced the dominion prefix, Dominion of India, with the enactment of the sovereign law Constitution of India. India attained independence following the independence movement noted for largely non-violent resistance and civil disobedience.



Independence Day, one of the three National holidays in India (the other two being the Republic Day on 26 January and Mahatma Gandhi's birthday on 2 October), is observed in all Indian states and union territories. On the eve of Independence Day, the President of India delivers the "Address to the Nation". On 15 August, the Prime Minister hoists the Indian flag on the ramparts of the historical site of Red Fort in Delhi. In his speech, the Prime Minister highlights the past year's achievements, raises important issues and calls for further development. He pays tribute to the leaders of the Indian independence movement. The Indian national anthem, "Jana Gana Mana", is sung. The speech is followed by a march past of divisions of the Indian Armed Forces and paramilitary forces. Parades and pageants showcase scenes from the independence struggle and India's diverse cultural traditions. Similar events take place in state capitals where the Chief Ministers of individual states unfurl the national flag, followed by parades and pageants. Until 1973, the Governor of the State hoisted the National Flag at the State capital. In February 1974, the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, M. Karunanidhi took up the issue with then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi that the Chief Ministers, like the Prime Minister, should be allowed to hoist the national flag on Independence Day. Since 1974, Chief Ministers of the respective states have been allowed to hoist the national flag on Independence Day.

Indian Independence Day 75th anniversary Celebrations Suzanne Cory High School, Werribee

VSL Werribee Telugu classes P-4 and 4-8 celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Indian Independence Day with great pride.

Students from both classes participated in the activities like making and colouring in flags, talking about the significance of the colours of the flag, and watched a video about India's great national leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Subhash Chandra Bose, Jhansi Lakshmi Bai, and more. Finally, some students shared their memories of Independence Day celebrations. All the students sang both the Indian national anthem and the Australian anthem with high spirits.

Thank you to all the students who made this event bright, colourful and possible by dressing up in flag colours!



David Kaberry, VSL Area Manager- Country 1

Indonesian Food and Conversation Day, Glen Waverley Centre

VSL Glen Waverley Indonesian Faculty has enjoyed some fabulous events at Saturday school over recent weeks. It's great to be back together for classes in person and enjoy opportunities for socialising, building friendships and engaging with aspects of culture in a hands-on way.

On 30th July students in Years 7-10 and staff participated in an Indonesian food and conversation day held in the Main Staffroom. We enjoyed delicacies such as Beef Rendang, Satay and Green Pancakes known as "Dadar Gulung". This is a sweet dish coloured by the 'pandan' extract and filled with a sweet coconut palm sugar mix.

On 20th August students in Years 7-9 participated in traditional Indonesian games after recess to celebrate Indonesian Independence Day (17 August). We enjoyed a Krupuk Eating Competition known as 'perlombaan makan krupuk'. In this game students had to have hands behind their back and try to eat their dangling krupuk using only their mouth. A game of skill, patience, technique and endless laughs as we cheered each other on. We also played a marble and spoon race 'perlombaan sendok dan kelereng', Indonesian congklak and the Dress Up Chocolate Game. Lots of laughs and good memories.

The Indonesian teachers prepared a superb morning tea for all staff to enjoy on Saturday 27th, also in acknowledgement of Independence Day. We had a mix of flavours to delight the tastebuds including martabak (savory filled pastry), noodles, corn fritters, 'wet' cakes known as kue talam, cheesecake and cupcakes.

We are pleased to have consistently strong enrolments in our program, a strong sense of community and see our students engage with both language learning and culture.

Indonesian staff this year include Sophia Teo, Michael Boss, Minarni Tirta, Vicky Dalamagas, Dewi Mulia and Clare Bradbury. Putri is our wonderful language assistant who roves between all classes on a rotational basis.

New Moon Festival, Vietnamese Foundation and 1&2, Collingwood Centre



The Mid-Autumn Festival is named "Tết Trung Thu" in Vietnamese. Every year it's celebration on the 15th of August of the Luna Calendar. In the old-time, the Vietnamese Mid-Autumn Festival is for celebrating a season of good crops and welcoming the nice breeze of the mid-autumn weather. Nowadays, the Vietnamese Mid-Autumn Festival focuses on 2 main things: family reunions and children having fun. It's tradition to do children's lantern and having mooncake.

The mooncake is a treat on Mid-Autumn for both children and adults. Since the Vietnamese Mid-Autumn Festival is an occasion for a reunion, enjoying a piece of moon cake together with the family signifies that reunion.

Lighting lanterns is part of the traditions and celebrations. Children during this time of the year are gifted lanterns by their parents. At night, the children will roam their neighbourhood on foot while showcasing the lit lantern, singing children's songs. The lantern can be made with materials like bamboo sticks, coloured cellophane paper, normal paper, silk or wood. The designs vary, but the most common traditional designs are star shaped (Long Den Ong Sao) or koi fish shaped or spinning hexagon.

"At VSL Collingwood this year Mid-Autumn Festival, students of classes Foundation and 1&2 joined together to learn about the Mid-Autumn celebration, made lanterns, twisted balloons and some other activities (learned to sing the Mid-Autumn song). The students were very engaged and enjoyed making (and were proud of) their lanterns. They enjoyed learning about the story behind the Mid-Autumn Festival."

Vanda Matruglio, VSL Area Manager - Central



Kevin Ryan, VSL Area Manager – East 2

Collingwood Centre Special Visitors, Coordinator of the Portuguese Language program in Australia, Susana Teixeira Pinto and Portuguese children's book writer, Ana Carapinho

On Saturday 10th September the Portuguese classes at the Collingwood VSL Centre were visited by the Coordinator of the Portuguese Language Program in Australia and representative of the Camoes Institute, Susana Teixeira Pinto, and the Portuguese children's book author, Ana LaBella Carapinho.

The Camoes Institute is a Portuguese organisation which promotes and supports the teaching and learning of Portuguese and over the years they have provided our VSL students with textbooks and special visits by Portuguese writers. The Institute is named after the famous Portuguese poet Luis de Camoes, who wrote about Portuguese history and especially the Portuguese sea explorers of the famous Age of the Discoveries.

The children, from Foundation to Year 12, were delighted to receive books and Camoes Institute T-shirts free of charge and also to hear about what it means to celebrate their cultural origins- from Portugal, Brazil and the various Portuguese-speaking countries throughout the world. They were encouraged to keep speaking the Portuguese language, 6th most spoken in the world, to maintain these cultural connections alive in their lives.

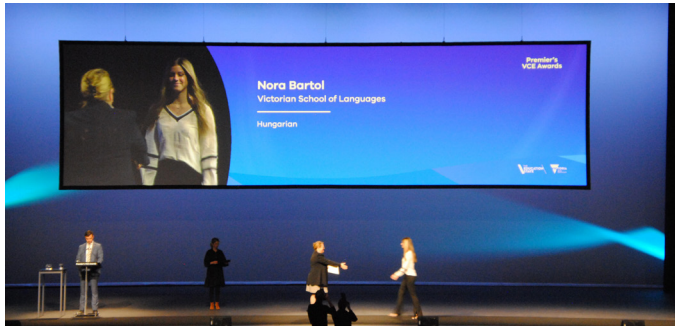


2022 Premier's VCE Awards



16 Victorian School of Languages students received a Premier's VCE Award for their exceptional study outcomes in 2021.

Victoria's best performing VCE students have been recognised at the Premier's VCE Awards, celebrating their outstanding efforts and achievements amidst the challenges of 2021.



VSL student, Nora Bartol, receiving her award for excellence for Hungarian and VSL teachers at the Award ceremony

Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins congratulated the high-achieving students,

"A massive congratulations to our top-performing 2021 VCE students who worked incredibly hard to achieve these amazing results."

"These award winners are testament to how well Victorian students, with support from their school communities, families and friends, adapted to the challenges of a global pandemic and still produced outstanding results."

Victoria's top performing VCE students received their Premier's VCE Awards during a special ceremony on the 20th July at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

A total of 298 Victorian students received 324 awards across 90 subjects, including 296 Study Awards, 25 Top All-Round VCE High Achiever Awards and three Top International Student Awards.

The Top All-Round VCE High Achiever awards recognise those students who achieved study scores of 46 or higher out of 50 in at least five VCE subjects, while Study Awards recognise the best performers in individual VCE subjects.

A full list of the Premier's VCE Awards recipients is available at vic.gov.au/premiers-vce-awards.

"Congratulations to our VSL Students who received a Premier's Award and an extended congratulations also to their teachers that contributed to their outstanding result."

Angela Natoli
Assistant Principal

The VSL students who received the 2022 Premier's Awards are:

- Adriano Morandini - Italian (Distance Education)
- Amelie Portis - Italian (Brunswick)
- Charlotte Yates – German (Distance Education)
- Enrico Tirta - Indonesian Second Language (Distance Education)
- Esther Lian - Chin Hakha (Sunshine)
- Fatemeh Latifi - Persian (Box Hill)
- Jad Saeed - Arabic (Lalor)
- John Thompson - Indonesian Second Language (Glen Waverley)
- Klay Po – Karen (Croydon)
- Maja Orłowska- Polish (Dandenong)
- Mathilda Mass – German (Distance Education)
- Melina Barati – Persian (Box Hill)
- Minh Pham - Vietnamese Second Language (Collingwood)
- Nora Bartol – Hungarian (Dandenong)
- Sarah Hannoun - Arabic (Roxburgh)
- Zofia Kardas – Polish (University High)



Minister Hutchins with students Fatemeh Latifi and John Thompson.



Nine of our successful students pose for a group photo.

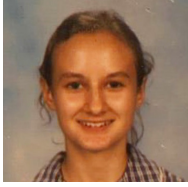


Minister Hutchins with student Esther Lian Vietnamese SL winner, Minh Pham (left) with International Co-ordinator from Reservoir High School Ms Tsuey -Ming Hau (middle) and Vanda Matruglio (right)

Additional Premier's VCE Awards Winners

The selection of the VCE Awards winners is managed by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. The number of Awards in each study is calculated using the enrolment base in that study. Hence there are more awards in larger studies.

Ten of the Award winners were profiled in the last *Family & Staff Bulletin*. Here are the remaining students. Unfortunately, two of our Premier's Award winners, Maja Orłowska (Polish) and Melina Barati (Persian), were unavailable to be profiled. **Well done to all of them!**



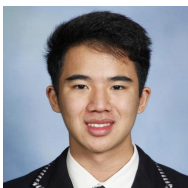
Charlotte Yates - German

Being a native speaker, the VSL provided the perfect opportunity to pursue German as a VCE subject and extend the knowledge that I already had. The highly supportive teachers provided detailed feedback on the work that I submitted and I found it very rewarding to see my progress throughout the worksets and improvement from continuous teacher input. The main challenge I faced during 2021 was the monotony of being stuck in lockdown and having few opportunities to engage in activities outside of school. I coped by staying in touch with friends virtually and setting aside time to relax and not think about my studies. I was less confident about my oral exam as it felt very unpredictable and difficult to study for. Examiners want to hear your opinion on a wide range of topics and like to see you leading the conversation. This was difficult for me as someone who is naturally very shy. Being able to speak another language is a very valuable skill to have. It makes it easier to maintain overseas contacts and is highly sought after by employers whose companies operate in multiple countries. Pursuing a language study also gives you a different point of view, seeing the world from an international perspective that you may not have had otherwise. Studying a language especially via distance education can be difficult but it is an incredibly useful skill that is worth the hard work. Keep striving for improvement and look for ways to make the process enjoyable, such as finding a pen pal. In the future I hope to travel and visit my family in Germany where I will be able to put my language skills to use. Keeping up with my German will help me to stay in contact with friends and make travelling in Europe more enjoyable.



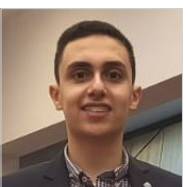
Minh Pham – Vietnamese Second Language

I wanted to study Vietnamese to stay connected to my culture, my community, and my background and the VSL was a great institution that offered the exact services I was looking for: convenient location, passionate teachers, thoughtful curriculum, and supportive learning environments. The most enjoyable of my VCE journey was coming to class on every Saturday. It was fun and meaningful to have a place where I could speak my language, communicate with other students and teachers who shared similar cultural perspectives, and continue learning new things about my language and my culture that I didn't know before. I approached the written exam with a little bit more confidence than I did with the oral exam. Although my teacher helped me thoroughly prepare for the oral exam, it was the fear and concern of standing and speaking in front of two completely unacquainted assessors that slightly downgraded my level of confidence. For the written exam, I carefully revised the exam structure, read the examination reports and completed as many practice exams as I could. By the time I was sitting in the exam hall, there was nothing I didn't know about nor wasn't familiar with. I plan to complete higher education in law or health related fields. Regardless of which I choose, my language skills are the one tool that I could use to help people. Whether it's explaining to a client in Vietnamese, acting as an interpreter for a patient, creating resources for the Vietnamese community, or passing on my passion and knowledge to the younger generations, I ascertain that my language remains with me forever on my journey and mission of building a bright future ahead.



Enrico Tirta - Indonesian Second Language

Studying at the VSL gave me an opportunity to reconnect with the Indonesian culture and explore my cultural heritage. The VSL seminars allowed me to make new friends and create connections with those who are of a similar background and share my interests. In terms of studying via Distance Education during COVID, much of the course could be completed online and remotely, ranging from the VSL Courseapp Worksets to the fortnightly oral lesson. The ability to communicate in different languages opens many doors to jobs which would have been previously unattainable. From a cultural perspective, it allows one to pursue their interests and connect with a culture and society that they love. If you ever get the opportunity, study from the language's motherland. It is a much more immersive experience and will allow you to drastically improve your oral and listening skills. Secondly, if you are a second-generation speaker, don't be afraid to accelerate and undertake the 3,4 Language Unit before Year 12. This means that you will have less of a workload the following years. It isn't very far-fetched to imagine a future where one can work from anywhere in the world. If this means I am now able to be assigned to work in Indonesia, then great! That is one more career option I now have access to.



Jad Saeed - Arabic

I did Arabic as an accelerated subject in Year 11, in which at the start I wasn't confident in. Although my skills weren't the best, I was determined to improve my language and score high in VCE. Having received the Premier's Awards, I now look back at my experience and appreciate every minute of it. The hard work and effort I put in, with the help of my parents and my incredible teacher, finally paid off, and it has been one of my proudest achievements and rewarding opportunity. Learning different languages is a skill with undeniable benefits, and it has been a way for me to strengthen my connection to my culture and background, and I would advise anyone to jump at any chance they get in practicing their language!

The VSL transitions to the New Child Safe Standards

Information for families and the school community

All children have the right to feel safe. The Child Safe Standards (the Standards) commenced in Victoria in January 2016. On July 1, 2022 new Standards were introduced to make our Standards even stronger, with a new *Ministerial Order 1359* outlining the implementation objectives. At the VSL we are committed to the safety of your child. The new Standards set out minimum requirements and outline the actions organisations must take to keep children and young people safe. They provide more clarity for organisations and are more consistent with Standards in the rest of Australia. At the VSL we have updated all our School policies to ensure that we are in compliance with both VRQA requirements, DET compliance and aligned them to transition to the Victoria's new Child Safe Standards.

In order for us to inform our VSL School Community, Parents/Carers and students of the updated policies related to Child Safety we have provided policy list in this bulletin and these will progressively be updated on our website (www.vsl.vic.edu.au) following School Council Approval. We suggest that at your convenience you take the time to access and read the policies so you are up to date with how we at the VSL ensure that we are keeping our children and young people safe.

Angela Natoli
Assistant Principal

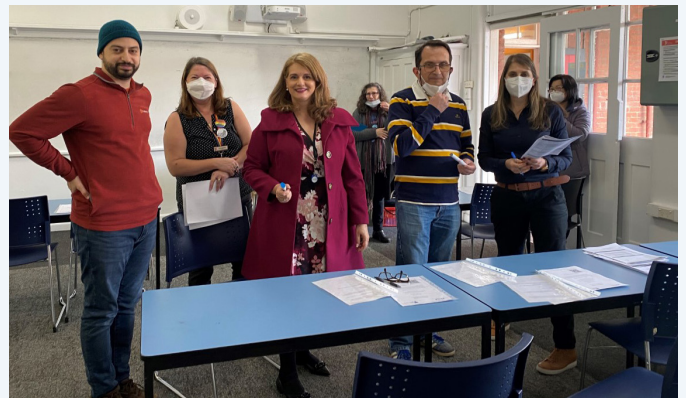
Anaphylaxis Training

As part of the Child Safety Standard Compliance our August 6 Professional Development Day had staff involved in training for Anaphylaxis, Anaphylaxis verification, First Aid, CPR and completion of Annual Risk Management for Anaphylaxis Update.

Professional Development at the VSL Footscray centre was facilitated by Lisa Eglezos, West 1 Area Manager, where she presented a detailed Anaphylaxis briefing to staff, also referred to the VSL Anaphylaxis policy and worked with staff in regard to VSL Area Implementation of these policies.

All centres across the VSL completed similar training to become compliant with the requirements of the Anaphylaxis Policy for Government Schools.

Teachers became more aware of the importance of Anaphylaxis training, in the interests of the safety and wellbeing of our students.



Anaphylaxis Training - West 1 PD held at the VSL Footscray centre



Teachers completing their First Aid training at East 1



Teachers completing their Anaphylaxis Training module at the VSL Croydon Centre

VSL School Policies Related to Child Safety

POLICY	PURPOSE
Aboriginal Learning, Wellbeing and Safety Plan	The VSL celebrates the culture, knowledge and experiences of First Nations Peoples. We are committed to creating and maintaining a school environment that empowers Koorie students to feel valued, respected and culturally strong.
Administration of Medication Policy	Processes the VSL will follow to safely manage the provision of medication to students while at school or school activities, including camps and excursions.
Anaphylaxis Policy	Processes and procedures in place to support students diagnosed as being at risk of suffering from anaphylaxis.
Asthma Policy	Processes and procedures in place to support students diagnosed with asthma.
Bullying Prevention Policy	How the VSL is committed to providing a safe and respectful learning environment where bullying will not be tolerated.
Camps and Excursion Policy	Processes and procedures the VSL will use when planning and conducting camps, excursions and seminars for students.
Child Safety and Wellbeing Policy	Our school's commitment to creating and maintaining a child safe and child-friendly organisation, where children and young people are safe and feel safe. It informs our school community of everyone's obligations to act safely and appropriately towards children and guides our processes and practices for the safety and wellbeing of students across all areas of our work.
Child Safety Code of Conduct	The expected behaviour of adults with children and young people in our school.
Child Safety Responding & Reporting Obligations Policy & Procedures	The procedures our school has in place to respond to complaints or concerns relating to child abuse and to ensure that all staff and members of our school community understand and follow the various legal obligations that apply to the reporting of child abuse to relevant authorities.
Child Safety Risk Register	The risk assessment and the existing child safety and wellbeing controls the VSL has in place to mitigate the child safety risk.
Child Safety Strategy	The VSL's commitment to review its policies and practices and incorporate new recommendations which are practical and respond to contemporary issues in the protection of children/students.
Digital Learning (Internet, Social Media and Digital Devices)	Our commitment to providing students with the opportunity to benefit from digital technologies to support and enhance learning and promoting safe, responsible and discerning use of digital technologies.
Duty of Care Policy	The non-delegable duty of care obligations that all staff at the Victorian School of Languages owe to our students and members of the school community who visit and use the school premises.
First Aid Policy	Ensures the school community understands our school's approach to first aid for students.
Health Care Needs Policy	Ensures that the VSL provides appropriate support to students with health care needs.
Inclusion and Diversity Policy	The VSL's commitment to making sure every member of our school community, regardless of their background or personal attributes, is treated with respect and dignity.
Statement of Values and School Philosophy	Outlines the values of our school community and explain the vision, mission and objectives of our school.
Student Wellbeing and Engagement Policy	Our commitment to providing a safe and supportive learning environment for students, expectations for positive student behaviour, support available to students and families and our school's policies and procedures for responding to inappropriate student behaviour.
Sun Smart Policy	To encourage behaviours at the VSL to minimise the risk of skin and eye damage and skin cancer.
Visitors Policy	Provides a safe and secure learning and teaching environment for students and staff by establishing processes to monitor and manage visitors to the VSL.
Volunteers Policy	Processes that the VSL will follow to recruit, screen, supervise and manage volunteers to provide a child safe environment, and to explain the legal rights of volunteers.
Yard Duty and Supervision Policy	Ensures that school staff understand their supervision and yard duty responsibilities.

Socialising on the Internet - Be Cybersmart when you socialise!

Digital Learning Policy

In a fast changing IT environment, all organisations need to keep abreast of changes and requirements and then reflect this in their policies. One of the most important policies for VSL students and parents in this area is the Digital Learning Policy. We have recently updated it to reflect the current Department of Education requirements. It includes areas such as Safe and Appropriate Use, Social Media Use and Student Behavioural Expectations. Following is some related information and tips for students and parents that may be useful. You may read the full policy at: www.vsl.vic.edu.au

Social networking describes a variety of online services like Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram and Tik Tok and online games such as Roblox, Fortnite, Minecraft, Call of Duty, World of Warcraft and RuneScape.

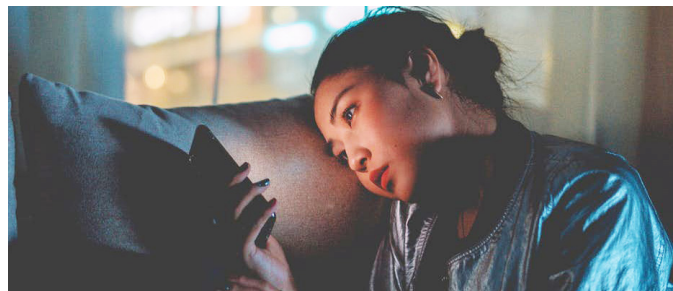
These sites are a great way for students to stay in touch with friends and family. They can post information about themselves and display photos, tell everyone what they've been up to, play games and basically just hang out.

However, sometimes it's easy for children and teenagers to forget who they are communicating with online and who might see the information they post. It's easier to say and do things online that they might not do in 'real life'. As a result, it's important for students to stop and think about how their behaviour will affect others, as well as themselves.

There are other risks. Cyberbullying, people making inappropriate contact, identity theft, scams and possible exposure to adult content can make social networking sites risky. But if students play it smart they can stay safe online.

TIPS FOR STUDENTS

- Think before you post. Content posted online can be there forever.
- Make sure you don't put any key personal information on your profile or in photos. This includes your phone number, personal email address, home address or the name of your school. Check with your parents if you do decide to give out personal information or put it in your profile.
- Use the privacy settings. Learn how to make your profile private, so only people you accept as friends can see what you're posting. Think of the possible repercussions if you subsequently have a disagreement with your friend!
- It's still public. Even if your profile is private you can't control what your friends do with the information you post. It's important to guard your privacy—don't post information or photos that you wouldn't want everyone to see.
- Remember, not everyone is who they claim to be. Although it's great to have online friends, including them on your 'friends' list allows people you don't know to learn all about you. This information could be used for a scam, to steal your identity or worse.



- Keep your online friends online. If you do want to meet someone that you haven't met so far in person, ask a parent or another trusted adult to go with you and always meet in a public place, preferably during the day.
- Say no! Free offers are usually too good to be true and can end up costing you a great deal.
- Be considerate. Only post comments you would be happy to receive yourself. Don't post photos of other people without their permission. Remember, when you post photos you might be impacting the privacy of your friends too.
- Don't respond if someone sends you unkind or bullying messages or asks you to do something that makes you feel uncomfortable. Instead, tell your parents or another adult you can trust.

TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Stay involved in your child's use of new technologies—ask them to show you how social networks work. Set up your own account, ask to join your child's 'friends' list and see for yourself what they're doing. It can be a fun experience for you too!
- Check the age guidelines of any site or game your child might want to engage in.
- Help your child set up their profile to make sure that they don't put too much personal information online. Help them to identify what is and isn't appropriate to post online.
- Check the privacy settings for each service and find out how to block other users and report abuse. Hopefully you will never need to do this, but it's good to be prepared.
- Talk to your child about who they should communicate with or make 'friends' with online.
- Discuss the amount of time your child can spend online and ensure they maintain a balance. Remind them of their other responsibilities and encourage outside activities, hobbies and face-to-face time with friends.
- Keep the lines of communication open. Children need to be confident that they can talk to you about what's happening.

For more information contact:

Australian Communications and Media Authority Cybersmart program
Cybersafety Contact Centre
Telephone: 1800 880 176

Stefo Stojanovski
Assistant Principal

Distance Education

It has been another lively term in Distance Education with students engaging in their online lessons, and participating in seminars and excursions. It is also a hectic time for our Year 12 students as they prepare for their external oral and written exams and we take this opportunity to wish them well.

We congratulate our 2021 Premier Awards recipients who have been recognised for their outstanding academic results (see p.4).

Excursions

Indonesian faculty

On Thursday, 28 July 2022, VSL Distance Education students of Indonesian were invited to participate in the 2022 Indonesian Model United Nations, held by DET, UNAA (United Nations Association of Australia) Victoria, and VILTA (Victorian Indonesian Language Teachers Association). The Model UN Conferences are language-specific simulations of the United Nations General Assembly, offering VCE language students an immersive language learning experience that facilitates critical and spontaneous debate.



The topic for this year was **Combating Climate Change: Committing to Global Action**. Ten of our Year 12 students from the Indonesian Second and First Language courses took up the opportunity to participate in the event and represented the countries Australia, China, and Brazil.

We always encourage students to attend this event which is not only a wonderful opportunity but also challenges the students to practise their Indonesian language skills in public. Thank you very much to our Indonesian teachers, Michael Boss and Felisia Lai, and our Indonesian language assistant, Putri Saktiwi, who worked with students to prepare them for this event.

The students who participated were:

Emma Warner	Ella Rodaughan
Joshua Utoyo	Naval Yudhanto (FL)
Elise Laurent	Jemma Pearce
Reaghan Anderson	Giacinta Arta
Jacqueline Hendriks	Christabel Sutanto

Maria Halim
Indonesian Faculty Coordinator

French faculty



On Monday 25 July the French faculty held their annual excursion to the National Gallery of Victoria. Students from Years 10, 11 and 12 took part. The first half of the day was held at the Multicultural Hub where students took part in a range of activities centred on developing their language skills. They then visited the NGV in the afternoon and saw the permanent collection of Impressionist Art, made up of many French and some Australian artists' work. One of the students' favourite rooms was the NGV Salon, pictured below. It was lovely to see the students so engaged in the experience.

Namasté Gadbois
French Faculty Coordinator



NGV Salon

Joanne Lepore
Distance Education Manager

2022 Victorian School of Languages RTO Validation Day

The Victorian School of Languages Registered Training Organisation (RTO) organised a Professional Development Validation Day at the VSL Head Office on 23 August 2022. The *VET Delivered to Secondary School Students Program* managed by the VSL RTO, auspices secondary school to deliver Certificates II and III in Applied Languages to their students in Victoria, Western Australia and Queensland.

Participating teachers came together from VSL Distance Education, VSL Epping and Glen Waverley Centres, Loreto College (Ballarat), Yeronga State High School (Queensland), Northcote High School, Oakleigh Grammar, Melbourne Islamic College and Eltham College.

The guest speaker from RTO Intelligence, Mr Eric Marchesani, provided the Validation framework and the latest Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) rules regarding assessment standards.

The RTO team, Maurice Gregorace, Geraldine Ishkan and Pandora Petrovska reviewed compliance requirements, presented results from student surveys for continuous improvement and provided information about the new Certificate III in Applied Language being added to the RTO's scope.



The Victorian School of Languages RTO has been in operation since 2004 and has provided a vehicle for the provision of Victorian Aboriginal reclamation languages, as well as many other languages that do not have VCE accreditation, like Malayalam and Bulgarian. The RTO welcomed the VSL Malayalam teachers for the first time, alongside teachers of Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Greek and Bulgarian. Currently, VET Chinese is taught as a VSL Distance Education subject.

The VCE VET Applied Language program is drawn from nationally accredited curriculum and offers portable qualifications which are recognised throughout Australia. These qualifications provide students with a broad range of skills and knowledge to pursue a career or further training in language studies and related industries. Students receive Credit in the VCE or VCAL and recognition of

up to three VCE VET Units at Units 1 and 2 level, as well as up to three VCE VET Units at Units 3 and 4 level, including a VCE VET Units 3 and 4 sequence.

Song Huang from Yeronga State High School shared his presentation about the Queensland VET Chinese program he has run from 2017. Song presented video clips from authentic student activities in the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary and hospitality. The presentation was very well received.



Chinese VET teachers moderating student assessments



New VET Malayalam Teachers, Bincy Philip and Jancy Jacob.

Pandora Petrovska **Acting RTO Manager**

Dear families and friends,

This term's bulletin gives you a small glimpse into the rich and diverse work of the VSL over the past ten weeks. It has been a pleasure to see the achievements of students and staff at both our Centres and Distance Education during this time. The smiles on the faces of the students as they celebrate their cultural heritage gives a strong message about the importance of the work we do at the VSL. We hope you enjoy reading about the achievements of our students! Thank you all for your on-going support.

Regards

Judi Benney
Acting Principal



School Updates

Key 2022 Term 4 Dates

October 3	Term 4 begins
October 3 – 25	VCE Languages examinations oral component
October 15	Final day VCE CCAFL Languages (Centres)
October 18	VCE CCAFL Examination
Oct 26 – Nov 16	VCE examinations written component
November 1	Melbourne Cup Holiday
November 5	Final day VCE Classes (Centres) *
November 19	Final day F-10 (Centres) *
December 12	VCAA VCE results available
December 20	School closes for 2022

Key 2023 Term 1 Dates

January 27	Term 1 2023 begins (Student Free Day)
January 28	Area Professional Development Morning
February 4	2023 First Day centre classes

** this date may vary for some Areas and midweek classes*

Enrolment 2023

Enrolment for 2023 classes will begin in the early weeks of Term 4. Current students and parents will receive an email notification when enrolments open. To be in the best position to ensure a place, make sure your email address, previously given to the VSL, is current. If there has been a change or there is an error, please inform your centre and then complete the enrolment, as soon as possible.

Centres Publications – Under Development

- Chin Hakha - Year 3 Textbook
- Chin Hakha - Year 4 Textbook
- Chinese FL - Units 3 & 4 Classroom Edition
- Croatian - VCE Reading Comprehension
- Greek - VCE Text Types
- Hindi - Year 5 Textbook
- Indonesian - Proverbs
- Malayalam - Year 8 Textbook
- Sinhala - Years 5 Textbook

Course Development – Distance Education Courses

- Chinese FL Units 3 & 4 - Study Design Changes (FL)
- Chinese Units SL 3 & 4 – Interactive online course
- Japanese 10 (Semester 2) - Re-writing for App development
- Japanese FL Units 3 & 4 - Study Design Changes (FL)
- Latin - Study Design Changes (Classical)
- Punjabi Units 3 & 4 – New
- Spanish 10 (Semester 2) - Re-writing for App development
- Vietnamese Units 3 & 4 – New

Semester 2 Area Activities

