



Career News

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

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Dates for your Diary

5 March: What's it
like to be an artist?

18 March: Game
Girls

28 March: University
of Melbourne Access
All Areas

21 May: First Parent
Career Development
Lecture

2-11 June: World of
Work

16-27 June: Work
Experience

What is Career News all about?

Welcome to the first issue of Career News. This newsletter is aimed at FHS students in the post compulsory years. It is about keeping you and your family informed, about encouraging you to think about what you will do after you leave school, about helping you make informed decisions. IT IS ABOUT YOU!

What courses are out there? What careers suit you? How do I get information? Career News is published to let you know about Open Days at universities and TAFE's, courses, careers, seminars, information evenings and so on.

Sure, the VCE and Year 10 will keep you busy, but you need to spend time thinking about your future as well.

After school—then what?

Apprenticeship? Pre-apprenticeship? TAFE? University? Traineeship? Defence Forces? GAP year? So many choices!

To help make decisions you need to think about what interests you most. What are you good at? What school subjects do you enjoy? What is important to you? Answer these questions and you will be well on the way to making suitable career choices.

Remember, there isn't only one suitable career for you; there are a number that will suit you. Remember, too, that you are not planning your entire working life; you are likely to have several careers in your lifetime. Think perhaps up to five years ahead.

Where can I find career information?

A great starting point is the school Careers Office. Drop by the office to see Sandra on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday for a quick chat. Otherwise you can add your name to the appointment list on the office door. Longer appointments allow for more in-depth discussion.

The Careers Office stocks a wide range of career resources which are available for you to keep or borrow.

Another way to begin is to look at careers/job websites. Begin your search on the FHS Careers website, currently accessed via the school's intranet homepage. Shortly, you will be able to access this from the FHS webpage. The Careers website includes links to the following:

www.myfuture.edu.au,
www.jobjuice.gov.au,
www.jobguide.dest.gov.au,
www.careersonline.com.au,
www.wagenet.gov.au,
www.careersgov.com.au,
www.itsyourfuture.com.au,
www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au,
www.jobsearch.gov.au,
www.goingtouni.gov.au,
www.jobs.com.au

What are your workplace rights?

Many of you have casual jobs. How can you find out about your rights?

Wages: If you think you are being underpaid contact the Workplace Ombudsman on 1300 724 222,

www.wo.gov.au. You are entitled to receive payslips within one day of being paid; if not, contact the Workplace Ombudsman.

It is illegal to be fired from a job on discriminatory grounds (eg race, sex, religion, age): for information, call the Industrial Relations Commission on 1300 799 675 or see

www.airc.gov.au.

To get information about minimum pay and conditions contact 1300 363 264 or see

www.workplace.gov.au.

All employees are free to become or not become a member of a union. If you are being pressured on this contact the Workplace Ombudsman.

Will I choose to study at TAFE or university?

What's the difference? TAFE courses are vocational; they are geared up to lead to employment and, consequently, have close links with industry.

TAFE courses are shorter than university courses, are

easier to access in terms of ENTER's and are almost always less expensive.

Many students regard university as the 'better' option; it all depends, however, on what suits you best and the career you wish to enter.

If you do study at TAFE and wish to study at university later on, two years at TAFE usually equal one year at university in a related course. Interestingly, many university graduates complete a TAFE course as well to improve their employment options.

Year 12

For many of you this year is the "business end" of your secondary schooling. In addition to concentrating on achieving your best in your VCE subjects you will also be required to ensure application deadlines and any additional requirements are met, should you be applying for tertiary study next year. There are no second chances for VTAC application deadlines.

Career News will keep you informed of important dates and events not to be missed.

Career counselling for you will commence in Term 2.

Work Experience

Congratulations to those of you who have confirmed Work Experience placements. For the rest of you in Year 10, time is quickly running out to secure a placement and finalise paperwork.

The deadline for Work Experience Arrangement forms to be handed in to Sandra is the last week of Term 1.

For those of you going to camp, time is even more critical. The long lead time is required to meet all the legal and OH&S requirements, necessary prior to the placement.

Work Experience will occur during the last two weeks of Term 2: 16—27 June 2008.

One of the aims of Work Experience is for you to utilise your network of family, friends and community contacts to secure a placement. However, if you are genuinely struggling to locate a placement please come to the Careers Office and speak to Sandra. She has a large network of contacts who may be willing to take on a Work Experience student.

It is illegal to be fired from a job on discriminatory grounds (eg. race, sex, religion, age)

Work Experience Presentations

Now that the new tutorial groups have been bedded down in Years 10 & 11, there will be an opportunity for Year 10 students to hear first-hand accounts of personal Work Experience stories, undertaken last year.

Year 11 students have been chosen to share their experiences and learning gained during and after Work Experience. The students participated in a wide range of industries and their personal learning and the way it impacted their career decision-making varied greatly for each individual.

World of Work

Coinciding with National Career Development Week, 2 – 11 June, we are offering 25 Year 10 students the opportunity of participating in this life-changing program hosted by The Education Foundation

This innovative and inspiring week-long program offers you the opportunity to engage in this inquiry-based approach to answering the overarching question: what does it take to succeed in the world of work and life?

Throughout the week you will have the opportunity to explore the city and talk to many highly successful people in a variety of industries & sectors, as well

as develop skills to assist you in reaching your career goals.

Cost is \$185 for the week and scholarships are available. Please see Sandra for further information.

Parent Career Development Lectures

The Inner Melbourne VET Cluster (IMVC) will host a series of six parent career development lectures across the inner Melbourne region in 2008. Parents make a critical contribution in assisting their young people towards making successful career and transition choices.

The Parent Career Development lectures aim to explore the concept of career development for young people while showcasing labour market trends and pathway opportunities in specific industry areas. Lectures are conducted in the evenings. For bookings go to www.imvc.com.au and click on the parents tab or call IMVC on 9686 2354.

What's it like to be....?

This is the title given to a series of careers talks about to be launched. Throughout the year you will have the opportunity to attend career talks given by guest speakers from the local community who work in a wide range of industries and sectors. They will talk

about their experiences when they were at school, their decision-making, career path and current occupation.

The first in the series is called "What's it like to be an Artist?" Local full time artist, former animator and keen skater Mike Chavez will speak to interested students in tutorial on Wednesday 5 March in the library.

If you are interested in art, animation or skating you might be interested to hear how Mike makes a living from his art. Please let your tutor know if you wish to attend.

An easy way to get your Tax File Number

The ATO, with the cooperation of the school, offers you the opportunity to apply for a tax file number (TFN). This is a voluntary program and is being offered as a service to make it easier for you to obtain your TFN.

Rather than providing original documentation such as birth certificates, this program allows you to apply for a TFN by recording document information on the application form.

Sandra will be visiting tutorials in the next few weeks to discuss the TFN applications in more detail. You will be provided with a letter of consent to be given to your family to sign prior to the receiving a tax form for completion.

World of Work Program:

What does it take to succeed in the world of work and life?

Introduction to Bar Skills and Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA)

For senior students, both of these short courses are invaluable in attaining part-time work. Both courses take four hours. RSA can be held at school at a cost of \$40 per student. Bar Skills is held at The Hotel Swanston and cost is \$45 per student. A minimum of 15 students required to run a course. Please email Sandra to register your interest.

Game Girls

Join the inaugural Game Girls gala day promoting game development as an exciting and creative career path for young women. Established female game developers will discuss their experiences in this male-dominated industry and demonstrate their skills.

Game Girls is designed to illustrate how women can find exciting and rewarding careers in the games industry as programmers, designers, artists and writers.

Email Sandra by 4th March to register your interest in participating in an excursion on Tuesday 18th March. No cost, apart from transport & lunch.

Interested in Melbourne University?

The University of Melbourne is hosting its Access All Areas on-campus event. This event offers students in Years 10-12 and their families the opportunity to take a behind the scenes look at University life which matches your own interests and needs.

The day-long program commences with an introduction to the University and the Melbourne Model, as well as a series of sessions covering how to get into Melbourne, the transition to university, and campus tours.

The afternoon sessions will provide the opportunity to attend two detailed study area information sessions and the opportunity to talk face-to-face with faculty staff about the courses they offer.

Access All Areas will be held on Friday 28 March. Registration is essential and is currently open. To register go to: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/about/meetstaff/vic/allareas

Registration closes on Wednesday 19 March.

Seeking Career Guest Speakers

If anyone has any requests, suggestions or would like to volunteer as a career guest speaker for the "What's it like to be...?" series of talks, please email Sandra.

Feedback

Considering this is the first issue of Career News, feedback is keenly sought from students, families and staff alike.

Please email Sandra with any comments or suggestions.

...women can find exciting and rewarding careers in the games industry as programmers, designers, artists and writers