Dear Parents/Guardians, members of the Avila community,

Welcome back to everyone after the three-week mid-year break for students and teaching staff. Much goes on behind the scenes at the College during this extended break and I would like to thank everyone involved in having the College ready for the start of Term 3. The three-week mid-year break has approval from the College Board only until the end of 2017. Later this year a review of the three-week break will be undertaken. It was wonderful to hold a whole school assembly on the second day back of Term 3 and acknowledge the many achievements of our talented Avila College students. There is clear evidence of students applying themselves in their classes but also making the most of the varied and extensive co-curricular opportunities staff provide for students. Well done to all students who received awards and recognition at this assembly. It was also pleasing to have a number of our College Board members present for this assembly that coincided with National School Board week.

Last week students, staff and family members of both the Avila and Mazenod communities were entertained by the amazing combined talents of our students in this year’s musical – Hairspray. Congratulations to some of the leading cast members from Avila; Claire Boesch, Ciara Galbraith, Tahlia Di Teodoro, Olivia Frisch, Sinead Coulter, Ailini Vaihu and Amelia David, as well as the thirty other Avila students who made up the cast. After months and months of rehearsals under the Direction of Mazenod staff members Felicity Kamevaar and Doug Leutchford, Musical Director, this performance was by far a memorable highlight of this annual combined musical event of our two Colleges. Thanks are also extended to the many Avila and Mazenod staff, parents and past students who supported behind the scenes with costumes, make-up, music and supervision. Well done to all on a most successful production.

Over the next few weeks most students will be making subject choices to support their academic program for the following year. I urge all parents to attend the relevant information evenings as well as encourage their daughters to speak to their various subject and careers teachers to get the best advice as to what subjects they should be choosing for their selected career paths.

Community news:

Last week we said farewell to Amelia Smith who has worked in our general office for the past 3 years. Amelia is a past student of Avila College and she has been a most valuable member of our front office. We wish her well in her next venture.

At the end of this week we will be farewelling Annie Opray who has been our Director of Marketing and Development at Avila College for the past three years. Annie has been instrumental in the development of our new College website and app, the re-formation and successes of our PFA, the re-branding of stationery and College bi-line as well as our new publication Avila Connect. Annie will be commencing in a similar role at Our Lady of Sacred Heart College in Bentleigh and we wish her well in this new role.

With blessings to everyone in this year of Mercy,

Louise Gunther
Principal

Cover image: Mazenod/Avila College Musical Hairspray.
PASTORAL CARE

Are You Sending Your Daughter a Mixed Message?

While it is natural for both parents and teachers to want our young women to grow up to be leaders, we should take the time to look more closely and to see what we can do to better support girls to be confident in their leadership skills and acknowledge that there are many different types of leader that they can aspire to become.

Sadly, it is sometimes more difficult for a girl to develop her leadership skills as teenage boys, girls and even adults around them can have biases against girls and women leaders.

In a new research from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Richard Weissbourd, a psychologist said he was “surprised by the extent of it … how gendered both the boys’ and the girls’ responses were.” The research found that 23% of girls and 40% of boys preferred male political leaders. Similarly, 36% of boys preferred male business leaders to female. At the school-age level, students were least likely to support granting more power to student leaders if girls were in charge and most likely when boys were. Even mothers of girls were more likely to favour giving power to student councils led by boys rather than by girls!

Bias “can be a powerful — and invisible — barrier to teen girls’ leadership,” Weissbourd said. “Yet parents and teachers can do a great deal to stem these biases and help children manage them.”

1. Check your own biases
Why? We can carry biases that are based on gender; throughout our lives we receive daily messages about what is expected of males and females. If we can be more aware of our biases, we have a better chance of counteracting them.
Try this:
• Our language sends messages about our expectations based on gender. When we comment on how pretty girls look or how strong boys are, for example, we send messages about our expectations for children based on their gender.
• Watch out for statements that start with “all girls” or “all boys” or ‘that’s a man's/woman’s job”.

2. Engage your children in making your home a bias-free zone
Why? Beginning at a very young age, children notice differences between girls and boys that can develop into narrow understandings of gender. Cultivate family practices that widen children's sense of gender roles and alert them to bias.
Try this:
• Proactively start conversations with your children about how responsibilities get divided up in your family. Talk about what is fair and balanced, rather than making assumptions about who does what based on gender.
• Provide your children with books, games, TV shows, movies and art that show people from diverse backgrounds demonstrating non-traditional gender roles. Expose boys and girls to a variety of activities. Don’t just assume that boys will like sports and girls will like ballet.

3. Don’t just let “boys be boys.”
Why? Too often boys’ demeaning stereotypes and remarks about girls go unchecked. Often peers don’t know how to intervene when boys make remarks about girls and often they fear being written off or ridiculed. Yet excusing these behaviours as “boys being boys” sends them the message that those behaviours are okay.
Try this:
• Point out to boys the false bravado in demeaning girls and the real courage and strength in defying one’s peers when they devalue girls in general or divide girls into “good girls” and “bad girls.”
• Talk about commonly used, denigrating words to describe girls and why they’re offensive, even when they’re used “just as a joke.”
• Teach boys to value and stand up for girls and women. Help boys understand their responsibility in counteracting gender bias and stereotypes. Reinforce that being an ally to girls and women means not just avoiding demeaning girls but also speaking up when others do.
4. Build girls' leadership skills and self-confidence Why? Too many girls are dealing with biases about their leadership capacity. Perhaps the best way for girls to counteract their negative images about their own and other girls' leadership capacity is for them to experience leadership.

Try this:
- Expose girls to examples of leadership and help them develop the skills and confidence they need to become leaders in a wide variety of fields.
- Don't accuse a girl of being 'bossy' rather teach her the important difference between being assertive and aggressive.

Regards,
The Pastoral Care Team

ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Change to College Hours

The College has changed the office hours. Our new General Office hours are 8:00am - 4:30pm.

Parents are reminded that students should not be at the College before 8:00am as there is no staff supervision provided before this time. The school day ends at 3:15pm and students who remain at school after this time must be under the supervision of a staff member or in the College Resource Centre (Resource Centre hours: 8:00am - 4:00pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday; 8:00am - 4:30pm Tuesday, Thursday).

Once the Resource Centre closes, students must leave the College grounds as there is no supervision provided. If your daughter is found at the school after this time, she will be taken to the General Office, parents will be called and asked to arrange for their daughter to be transported home immediately.

Waiting outside of the school gates is neither a safe nor satisfactory place to wait for parents. We ask that, if your daughter needs to wait to be picked up beyond school hours, you find a safe alternative place for her to wait, such as the Mount Waverley Library (Opening Hours: 10:00am - 8:30pm Monday to Friday).

The College is committed to the safety of students. Parents of students who are repeatedly found at the College after hours will need to meet with a member of the College Leadership Team to commit to more appropriate arrangements.

We thank parents in advance for their understanding and cooperation in ensuring that their daughter is in a safe and supervised environment.

CATCH UP CORNER

Maths help is offered at Catch Up Corner at lunchtimes for students in Years 7 to 10 who need extra help or a more detailed explanation of a difficult concept.

These sessions are held in Room 66.

Day 1: Mrs Talj       Day 6: Ms C Ryan
Day 2: Ms Cummins    Day 7: Mrs Lloyd
Day 3: Mrs Trifilo   Day 8: Ms Zammicheli
Day 4: Mr Edwards    Day 9: Ms Baka
Day 5: Ms R Ryan     Day 10: Mr Francis
HAIRPSRAY: THE MAZENOD AVILA MUSICAL

For over 25 years Mazenod and Avila College have had a proud tradition of pooling their most talented students to put on the annual musical, and this year has proved to be no exception. With a much larger cast and shorter rehearsal season, there has been a strong sense of co-operation and organisation throughout the entire process. Along with the fantastic team of dedicated staff, ex-students and parents, who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring the show together, we have worked with a very talented and giving cast of students. We believe the true sense of working successfully together is embodied by the entire cohort of students.

This year has also seen a change at the helm with the introduction of Ms Felicity Kamevaar as Director, replacing Mr Ken Nailon who has been Director of the Mazenod – Avila musical for over 15 years. As always the combined Music Department have provided the instrumental support for the score. This process offers senior musicians a rare chance to perform with the music staff from both Colleges and also our old collegians. In our hectic music calendar it is a unique opportunity, both socially and musically and provides our students with an experience they will never forget.

Hairspray was a 2002 Broadway musical, which was based on John Waters’ 1988 comedy film of the same name and later adapted for the 2007 American musical romantic comedy film. Set in Baltimore in the 1960s, Hairspray explores a world where intolerance is being pushed aside for a more progressive integration of people. Plus-sized, teenage Tracy Turnblad has one dream: to dance on The Corny Collins Show. Every day after school, she and her best friend Penny run home to watch the show and drool over the hot Link Larkin, much to her Mother’s dismay. When she gets put in detention with the African-American students in the school, they teach her some of their dance moves, and her new found groove wins her a spot on Corny’s show. Even though she becomes an overnight star, Tracy must face scrutiny and bullying from the network producer, Velma, and her popular, but vicious, daughter, Amber. It is through her determination and the support of the more open-minded characters in the show that the inequity is able to be turned around and people of all shapes and colours are able to happily dance together on The Corny Collins Show. The bright, energetic story of Tracy Turnblad teaches us all to look past physical appearance and fight for every human being’s equal rights.

I would like to thank everybody who has been involved in any aspect of this production. Such a project could not have happened without the involvement of such dedicated students and staff.

Frank Blakiston
Producer

MARNGROOK DAY

AFL is one of the most iconic pastimes in Australia, and it’s loved nation wide. As much as the game itself, the contribution by Indigenous Australians to our great game is remarkable and Marngrook day on Friday 15 July was a wonderful celebration of their achievements. All beginning with the Aboriginal game Marngrook, which is in many aspects the predecessor to and inspiration behind AFL, many great Indigenous players have created magic with their skill, talent and creativity on the field. Our very own Avila students and staff tried their hand at some footy in the annual rivalry match. The teachers prevailed, eventually winning 4-3 in a spirited performance despite being a player down. Overall Marngrook day was a great success, raising money for community programs and further empowering Indigenous Australians whilst honouring their service to Australia’s game.

Emma Spencer
Year 11
ICAS SCIENCE COMPETITION

Congratulations to all of the students involved in this year’s ICAS Science Competition. This international competition is hosted by the University of New South Wales and aims to assess and develop students’ key scientific skills and higher-order thinking. We have just received this year’s results and would like to make special mention of the following students for their achievements.

CREDIT
Year 7 - Sheethal Ajithkumar, Mimi Chang, Julia Grubnic, Christie Jean
Year 8 - Hashani Ekanayake, Dinar Fonseka, Stephanie Michaud, Tiana Pincic, Shivaani Sivaraj
Year 9 - Johanna Hempenstall, Sinead Kelly, Alexandria Peake, Vibusha Raghudhevan, Chiara Smith, Scarlett-Rose Tsakistaras
Year 10 - Niamh McCosker
Year 11 - Javira Altmann, Meg Brideson, Abbey Kaali, Nicola Maugeri
Year 12 - Joella Fernando, Melanie Linden, Jessica McLean

DISTINCTION
Year 7 - Selena Ahangama, Emma Curtis, Emma Johnston, Jocelyn Satya Graha
Year 8 - Nicole Trawicka
Year 9 - Alice Stathopoulos
Year 10 - Jessica Satya Graha
Year 11 - Zoe Evans
Year 12 - Katerina Sova

HIGH DISTINCTION
Year 7 - Niamh Gallagher

We would also like to acknowledge the six Year 12 students who have received a Commitment Award in recognition of their perseverance and dedication to the Science Competition over the past six years; Lisa Dupuy, Joella Fernando, Rania Jebry, Jessica McLean, Katerina Sova and Jovita Thomas.

We hope that all students who participated found the experience to be rewarding and educational and we encourage everyone to be involved again next year.

ASTRONOMY NIGHT

The Science Department will be hosting an Astronomy Night at the College for interested students and their families. We will have telescopes set-up giving you the opportunity to look at Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, the Moon, globular clusters, open clusters, and binary stars. You are also welcome to bring your own telescopes along. The event is planned for Wednesday 20 July from 6:00pm to 7:30pm but if the weather forecast is unfavourable the date will be postponed. Keep your eye on the SIMON Student Messages for updates about this event. An RSVP via the link provided on SIMON would be appreciated.

Sarah Thom-Tydell
Science Curriculum Leader
ITALIAN AND DRAMA COMBINE

Our Year 7 Italian students along with our Year 9 Drama students participated in a Commedia Dell’Arte Performance called Venice In Love. It was a performance based on ancient street theatre in which the characters are portrayed behind well know masks and costumes. The stories usually involved the audience and our students became involved as part of the theatrical Italian storyline. The story involved use of the Italian language, exaggerated hand gesticulation, a dramatic plot and some very funny jokes. The Year 9 Drama class studied this style of theatre throughout the semester. In the lead up to the performance Year 7 students created their own masks.

LANGUAGE PERFECT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

In Semester One our Year 7 to 10 students participated in the Language Perfect World Championships. This tournament lasted one week and over 1,000 schools and 300,000 students from around the world competed. The aim being to learn vocabulary in foreign languages.

Avila College received a total of 83 awards and was ranked 101st out of 1111 schools. We in fact ranked 155th in the world for French, 15th in Australia and the world for Italian, and 14th in the world for Indonesian. Avila received 40 credits, 20 bronze, 10 silver, 12 gold and 1 Elite award.

Year 8 student Bridget Benedos (pictured right) was the recipient of an Elite Award for her performance in the world Championships and she should be commended for her fantastic effort.

Salvatore La Fauci
Languages Curriculum Leader
YEAR 12 TRIVIA NIGHT

The Year 12s came together for a night of fun and excitement on Wednesday 15 June for the annual Trivia Night. All the students relished the opportunity to take a break from the demands of Year 12 and spend some time with friends and teachers. Most importantly, it was the perfect opportunity to raise money for our charity of choice: One Girl. Established in Melbourne, One Girl is a not-for-profit organisation that is seeking to educate 1 million girls across Africa by 2020. As the conclusion of our secondary education quickly approaches, we decided it was fitting to ‘support the sisterhood’ and raise funds for our ‘sisters’ in Africa – girls unable to realise their right to a life changing education; a right that we are so blessed to receive here at Avila College.

Dressed in a bright array of colourful PJs, our ‘Pyjama Party’ themed night included multiple rounds of trivia and extra challenges such as ‘Heads Down, Thumbs Up’. The girls’ competitive spirit was unleashed with gusto but ultimately, ‘Jello’ were crowned Trivia Champions! We would like to express our gratitude for the generosity of many local businesses and people who donated goods and services for the raffle; Marisa Pizza and Pasta, Box Hill Indoor Sports, Bronzed Tanning, Priceline (Waverley Gardens), McDonalds, Local Knowledge Clothing, Cafe Prima, The Swiss Bakehouse, Mrs Trembath, Mr Gutteridge, Jemma Rapp, Caitlyn Quinn and 12 Blue. Thank you for the enthusiasm and support of all involved, we raised just over $2100!

Catherine Pagliaro
Year 12
PFA NEWS

PFA Report

Welcome back to Term 3 and I hope everyone feels well rested after the three-week mid-year break. We appreciated the chance for our girls to be able to take some time to relax and it certainly is a well-deserved break for our dedicated teachers at Avila.

Next Meeting

The next PFA meeting will be held in the Gathering Space for an hour or so from 7pm on Wednesday 27 July. We would be very pleased to see some new faces at this meeting; it is a great chance to get to know other parents in our community. At this meeting we will be providing feedback to some documents prepared by our Board in collaboration with the college in regard to the new Child Safe Standards.

Father’s Day Breakfast

The PFA has a busy time ahead with the Father’s Day Breakfast coming up from 7.30am on Friday 2 September. All Avila Dads and daughters are welcome to enjoy a delicious breakfast together in the Gathering Space. Tickets cost $10 per person and bookings can be made via the College website, News and Events, Bookings.

PFA Committee Elections

All PFA Committee positions will be vacated at the 7 September 2016 meeting and nominations will be called for to fill all positions. Role descriptions and a Nomination Form can be found on the website in the Our Community, Parents and Friends section. I encourage you to get involved as it is very rewarding being part of the PFA team at Avila.

Thank you

On behalf of all PFA Committee members I would like to offer our sincere thanks to the Director of Marketing and Development Annie Opray. Annie is leaving the College to take up another opportunity. She has been instrumental over the past three years in establishing the PFA at Avila. On a personal note I’d like to convey my sincere thanks to Annie for her tireless efforts and support to myself and the committee. We have all enjoyed working with her and wish her well for the future.

Wishing you and your family a great Term 3, before we know it the end of the year will be here. Time is flying, just another reason to get involved in the PFA while you can, hoping to meet many of you soon.

Kind regards

Wasana Fernando
PFA President
SPORT NEWS
SCSA Cross Country

On the 14 June, a group of over 40 dedicated Avila girls from Years 7 to 12 arrived at Fairfield for the fierce SCSA Cross Country competition. After packing many warm clothes and blankets in preparation for another cold wet competition, the weather was on our side as we saw the sun shining through for all the races to come.

The Juniors were first to start off the day and despite the nerves they were all very excited and motivated to do their best and ended up placing 2nd overall! A special congratulations to girls who received a medal for top 10: Stephanie Wales coming 6th, Amy Burns coming 7th and Lucy Wales coming 8th. We hoped that the Intermediates would continue this great start to the day and they did just that by placing 1st overall adding a cup to the collection. Three more girls placed in the top 10 in this division whom were, Hayley Ashe coming 1st, Melissa Vecchio coming 3rd and Mietta Busscher coming 10th, congratulations girls! Lastly, it was the Seniors turn to shine, and with lots of pressure to carry the Avila team on the scoreboard, but with encouragement from one another the Seniors ended up placing 2nd overall with Kathryn Ashe and Catherine Pagliaro placing 4th and 9th. It looks like all those early, cold Wednesday mornings paid off because Avila placed 1st overall on the day, with only one point the difference to Kilbreda! This win marks the first time in over 7 years, it now means we move up to Division 1 next year, bring it on!

After an outstanding day, the Avila girls demonstrated great sportsmanship and encouragement for their teammates, filled with lots of Avila spirit, fantastic skills and the consumption of many lollies. After being Captain of this wonderful team, I can honestly say I am very proud of all of the girls that participated and I think everyone should be very proud of themselves.

A special thanks to the teachers, Miss Flynn, Mr Francis, Ms McLennan and Mr Edwards who helped guide and train our team to achieve such a great result! Overall the SCSA Cross Country competition was a major success and I do not regret making muffins every week for my girls, they definitely deserved it. We had a good run, next year here we come!

Alana Nikcevich
Cross Country Captain

Maya Natoli of 8 Purple finished 27th in the Victorian 5km Road Running Championships Under 16, held in Ballarat at Lake Wendouree on Saturday June 4th. Maya runs with the Glenhuntly Athletics club.

SPECTRES U14 GIRLS QUALIFY FOR NATIONALS

Lucy and Stephanie Wales are part of the Nunawading Spectres Under 14 Girls team, who has qualified for the 2016 Australian Club Championships to be held in New South Wales between September 26 and October 1.

Qualification comes following a stellar opening half to the Victorian Championship season. The Spectres team will now be matched up against the very best U14 club teams from around the country, all vying for a National Championship. This is a fantastic achievement for such a young group of athletes and one which we know the Nunawading Basketball community will get right behind. Please support the fundraising activities in the lead up to the Championships.

Tim Ross
Sports Co-ordinator
PATHWAYS AND CAREER NEWS

Reminders:

• UMAT2016 – Wednesday 27 July
• SpotJobs Careers Expo – 26, 27 & 28 August
• University / TAFE Open Days 2016 – throughout August
• Year 12 VTAC applications – throughout August and September

Aspire Program at La Trobe University

La Trobe offers an Early Entry program called Aspire. This program is designed to acknowledge secondary students who work hard to make positive changes in their schools and communities through volunteering. The Aspire Early Admissions Program acknowledges a student’s volunteering efforts when they apply. As a successful applicant, students receive an offer into their course in September before they receive their ATAR.

Applications already open – 1 June 2016
Applications close – 31 August 2016
Notification of Outcome – from early September 2016

In the Careers Newsletter this week:

• Dates to Diarise in Term 3
• Monash University - Pharmacy Update
• Open Day at Le Cordon Bleu
• The Hotel School Melbourne
  o Intercontinental Insights Experience
  o Open Day
• Aspire Program at La Trobe University
• News from Swinburne University
  o Know Lounge at Open Day
  o New Majors in Health Science
• Education USA General Advice & Sports Scholarship Information Session
• Arts Degrees on offer in Victoria
• What can I do with an Arts Degree?
• Win an AFL Game Day Experience

All Careers Newsletters are available on the Careers Guidance tab on SIMON

Jenny Dunn
Pathways Co-ordinator
Email: jdunn@avilacollege.vic.edu.au

Geraldine McKenna
Careers Counsellor
Email: gmckenna@avilacollege.vic.edu.au
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<td>Sun 14 August</td>
<td>10am – 4pm</td>
<td>1300 ASK ACU</td>
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<td>Australian College of Applied Psychology</td>
<td>Sun 14 August</td>
<td>10am – 2pm</td>
<td>1800 061 199</td>
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<td>Australian National University</td>
<td>Sat 27 August</td>
<td>9am – 4pm</td>
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<td>Sat 3 September</td>
<td>10am – 2pm</td>
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<td>Bond University</td>
<td>Sat 23 July</td>
<td>2pm – 6pm</td>
<td>1800 074 074</td>
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<td>Sun 21 August</td>
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<td>1300 269 445</td>
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<td>9am – 3pm</td>
<td>1800 334 733</td>
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<td>Federation University of Australia</td>
<td>Sun 28 August</td>
<td>10am – 3pm</td>
<td>1800 333 864</td>
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<td>Open Thursday’s – all campuses</td>
<td>15 September</td>
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<td>Peninsula Campus</td>
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<td>Parkville Campus (Pharmacy Focus)</td>
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<td>Photographic Studies College</td>
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<td><a href="https://www.psc.edu.au/">https://www.psc.edu.au/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Navitas College of Public Safety</td>
<td>Sun 14 August</td>
<td>10am – 2pm</td>
<td>1800 783 661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>123 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne CBD</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.ncps.edu.au/">www.ncps.edu.au/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>RMIT</td>
<td>Sun 14 August</td>
<td>10am – 4pm</td>
<td>9925 2260</td>
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<tr>
<td>City, Bundoora &amp; Brunswick Campuses</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.rmit.edu.au/openday">www.rmit.edu.au/openday</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Swinburne University</td>
<td>Sun 31 July</td>
<td>10am – 4pm</td>
<td>1300 SWINBURNE</td>
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<td>Hawthorn</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Melbourne</td>
<td>Sun 21 August</td>
<td>9am – 4pm</td>
<td>1800 801 662</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria University</td>
<td>Sun 28 August</td>
<td>10am – 3pm</td>
<td>1300 VIC UNI</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.vu.edu.au/open-day">www.vu.edu.au/open-day</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>William Angliss Institute of TAFE</td>
<td>Sun 14 August</td>
<td>10am – 4pm</td>
<td>1300 ANGLISS</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.angliss.edu.au">http://www.angliss.edu.au</a></td>
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