WHAT IS ‘CAREER NEWS’ ALL ABOUT?
‘CareerNews’ will keep you informed about career events like Open Days and Career Expos, courses, education and training institutions, applying for courses, career seminars, and the like. It is then up to you to attend the events that will help you to make decisions. Choosing a career can be challenging, however, students who start early and do the research, checking out courses and careers, almost invariably find it easier to make decisions. Try not to think too far ahead. We don’t know what new careers will be available in 20 years’ time; looking five years ahead is a more realistic time period to consider.

HOW WILL YOU CHOOSE A CAREER?
- Will you do what your parent does?
- Will you do what your parent wants you to do?
- Will you do what your friend does?
- Will you do what ‘falls into your lap’?
- Will you choose something without really checking out what it involves?
- Will you choose something that you think will make you lots of money?
- Or, perhaps, you will try to put off thinking about it at all.

None of the above methods is necessarily the wisest. You may be different from your parents. You are probably different from your friend. You need to find out what suits you because it is your life and you will hopefully be fulfilled and happy in your career. So....

THINK ABOUT THE FOLLOWING:
- What subjects do you like most at school?
- Do you enjoy sport and being active?
- Are you a ‘hands-on’ person?
- Do you enjoy reading?
- How do you spend your spare time?
- What are you good at?
- What is important to you?
- Do you like the outdoors?
- Do you find science interesting?
- Do you like helping people?
- Are you creative?
- Do you like to design things and find out how they work?
- Do you like to work with others or do you prefer to work on your own?

Your answers to these questions will give clues to help you decide.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU CAN STUDY AFTER FINISHING SCHOOL?
If you hope to study at university you will want to get a degree. While studying your first degree you will be an undergraduate; if you do further study later on you will be doing post-graduate study. So look out for undergraduate courses for now. There are several universities in Victoria –

- Australian Catholic University (known as ACU) with campuses in Melbourne and Ballarat. You do not have to be catholic to attend ACU.
- Ballarat Uni - Camp St, Melbourne Institute of Technology, Mt Helen
- Charles Sturt Uni (CSU) - actually a NSW uni but with a campus at Albury-Wodonga
- Deakin Uni - Burwood, Geelong, Geelong Waterfront, and Warrnambool
- La Trobe Uni - Albury-Wodonga, Bendigo, Bundoora, Mildura and Shepparton
- Monash Uni - Berwick, Caulfield, Clayton, Gippsland, Parkville, and Peninsula
- Melbourne Uni - Parkville, Southbank – VCA
- RMIT Uni – Brunswick, Bundoora and City
- Swinburne Uni - Hawthorn, Lilydale and Prahran
- Victoria Uni - often known as VU; City, Footscray, Melton and St Albans.

University study is required to fully qualify for many careers such as engineering, medicine, physiotherapy, teaching and accounting.
If you study at TAFE you will obtain a certificate, a diploma, an advanced diploma (or in a small number of cases), a degree. You can complete pre-apprenticeships and apprentices at TAFE as well. TAFE Institutes are located throughout Victoria. Many students start their tertiary studies at TAFE and then articulate with credits) to university. Conversely, many students with a university degree subsequently complete a TAFE qualification (Note: this now has implications for TAFE fees as students who have a qualification and wish to complete a lower level qualification are charged full fees). TAFE courses cover a huge range of areas like childcare, hospitality, design, building, and medical administration. Some universities have a TAFE as well (eg RMIT); some TAFEs are stand-alone (eg Box Hill, Holmesglen).

There are also many independent colleges. These cover a range of areas such as photography, naturopathy, design and sports therapy. Fees are often quite high at these colleges as they are often not government funded.

A useful website to see when considering tertiary fees is www.goingtouni.gov.au.

Some other ways of gaining qualifications are through the Defence and Police Forces.

DEFENCE TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIPS:
Year 11 and 12 Students, if you are considering joining The Australian Defence Force on completing your VCE you can apply for a scholarship. If you are enrolled in Design Technology (wood, metal), a VET trade subject and are also studying maths then you may qualify. Interested students are encouraged to see Ms Miller for an application pack as soon as possible. Applications close March 9 2012.

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE NEWS:
The University of Melbourne has reported that it has the most popular degrees offered by Victorian universities, as measured by the latest first preference applications through VTAC. The Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees were the first and second most popular degrees in Victoria respectively, totalling 4898 applications. Clearly-in Ranks rose, with Science making 80 more offers than last year and recording an ATAR rise from 85.05 to 90.15. The B. Arts rose to 90.90.

SO YOU WANT TO BE A VET?
The University of Melbourne is the only university in Victoria to offer a veterinarian qualification. The university is holding an Open Day at the Veterinary Hospital to which all are invited. Attend lectures, pet demonstration, tours and get course advice.

When: 10am-3pm, Sun 25 March;
Where: 250 Princes Hwy, Werribee;
See: www.vet.unimelb.edu.au.

FOLIO PREPARATION AND CAREER DISCOVERY COURSES – Many design courses at university and TAFE require applicants to present a folio of their work as part of the application process for their courses. They want to find out about your ability and creativity. If you think you could use some assistance with your folio you might want to consider RMIT short courses. Some of these are held in the evening and some in school holidays, covering things like AutoCAD - QuickStart, drawing techniques, folio preparation in fashion drawing, in textile design, in graphic design, in interior decoration and in visual/fine art. There is also a career discovery course in building design.
For more information: www.shortcourses.rmit.edu.au, or phone 9925 8111.

DO YOU WANT TO STUDY A MONASH UNIVERSITY MEDICINE OR HEALTH SCIENCE DEGREE?
If so, you may need to complete the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test (UMAT) as part of the application process. The test is required for Monash University medicine, pharmacy, pharmacy/commerce and physiotherapy degrees. Selection for medicine uses the UMAT result, an interview and ATAR. Pharmacy uses the UMAT and the ATAR. Selection for physiotherapy uses the UMAT result, an interview (some applicants only) and the ATAR. Some interstate universities also require the UMAT.

The UMAT us being held on Wednesday 25 July, 2012. Applicants for the test will need to register on line from a date yet to be announced. The test is administered by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER). The UMAT is a multiple choice test. There are practice tests available for purchase online; courses are also available that may assist you in preparing for the test.

Compiled by J. Miller/M. Walker