A Conference of VSL staff from across Victoria at University High School on January 30 marked the launch of the 2010 school program and the start of the 75th anniversary celebrations.

Guest speakers included the Minister for Education, the Hon Bronwyn Pike MP (see insert) and Hon Harry Jenkins MP, the Speaker of the House of Representatives from the Australian Parliament. Education Department Officers and several Consular representatives, including the Secretary of the Victorian Consular Corps, Dr Carlos De Lemos and the High Commissioner for Malta, His Excellency Mr Francis Tabone.

Mr Burnie Rymer, a former VSL principal from 1965-73, was also a special guest.

Minister Pike praised the VSL for its significant contribution to Victoria’s cultural and linguistic diversity.

“For the past 75 years, the VSL has assisted students to develop the knowledge and understanding of other languages and cultures. The VSL supports schools to ensure that all Victorian students, wherever they are, have access to quality language programs,” she said.

The Minister acknowledged the school’s work to include languages from emerging communities such as Dinka and Karen, as well as the establishment of new VSL centres that opened last year in the growing outer suburbs.

“For many languages, the VSL is the only school in Victoria offering formal study to VCE level. In fact, without the VSL, many Victorian students would not have been able to continue with their language studies,” Ms Pike said.

“I commend the 75 years contribution and achievement made by the Victorian School of Languages. I would like to also acknowledge the commitment of its School Council, the principal, the leadership team and staff, both past and present, in their contribution to the success of the school and the high regard it has earned in the education community,” she said.

The Minister said the State Government was in the consultation phase of a new languages strategy for release later this year. The strategy covers all Languages Other Than English and includes proposals to revive and reclaim indigenous languages in Victoria.

Mr Jenkins spoke about the work underway to develop the national curriculum, including the consultations on draft policies for the languages paper.

He said the Victorian School of Languages played a key role in Victoria’s diverse population, transitioning cultures and new communities into mainstream education.

“The special place that the VSL has in the community is indicated by the presence here today of a number of members of the diplomatic and consular corps not only from Melbourne but some of our special friends from Canberra who have made the journey down to be with you and that is very significant,” he said.

Mr Jenkins said the VSL provided an outstanding education service in Australia. “Your 75 years of history is something that you can be absolutely proud of and as you dwell today on that history do so with a great deal of reflection on a job well done,” he said.

Mr Jenkins also said the school was well-placed to face the future challenges of language provision in the community.

School Council President Bruno Mascitelli said the VSL continued to develop new publications and embrace the latest technology to ensure it was at the forefront of language provision. He thanked fellow School Council members for their work and support for these initiatives.

“Various academics that I meet around the world find it hard to believe that there is a school or a service in far away Australia that teaches over 40 languages and that students get credit for their language studies at primary and secondary education level and for university entrance,” Dr Mascitelli said.

Principal Frank Merlino welcomed staff to the Conference and noted that since the last gathering, new VSL centres had opened at Galvin Park, Carwartha, Haileybury, Kambrya and Hampton Park.

Continued Page 3

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2010 - 75th Anniversary Year
The Victorian School of Languages congratulates all of its 2009 VCE students. The following students distinguished themselves by receiving marks between 40 and 50. Names in **bold** indicate top mark in the State in their language.

### Arabic
- Yousef Mamoun Naser
- Baher Maher
- Mona Wannous
- Klara Shnaimon
- Shady Samuel
- El Hossein Ahmed El Gizawy
- Ali Ibiada
- Samah Fahmy

### Bosnian
- Nadia Alagic

### Chinese
- **1st Language**
  - Hang Gong
  - Xuan Xiao
  - Zhejing Aaron Ouyang
  - Chang Ding
  - Yu Qiu
  - Jiaxin Zhu

- **2nd Language**
  - Bilin Zhou
  - Li Ching Lee

### Croatian
- Ivona Lonac
- Dario Duspara
- Alicia Kenda
- Nikol Zun

### Dutch
- Julia Mijnhout

### Filipino
- Marie Carmella Pedres
- John Carlos Ramos

### French
- Holly Jones (Perfect score of 50)
- Alice Walker (Perfect score of 50)
- Blossom Ah-Ket
- Joshua Chang
- Julia Bridge
- Kathryn Lloyd
- Niel Ching Chue Kee
- Cheung
- Nathalie Tram
- Nessen Chukupermal
- Angus Mackenzie
- Annabelle Webber
- Christie Si Yao
- Yeung Shi Shen
- Tashi Klose
- Robert Taylor

### German
- Fiona Breitkreuz
- Tobias Kropp
- Franziska Adamat
- Felix Moeller
- Lisa-Marie Schneehage
- Nemanja Varesanovic
- Paul Ionescu
- Pepita Emmerichs
- Dominic Fehrmann
- Peter McIntyre
- Cornelius Pelzing
- Marie-Luise Skibbe
- Ellie Louise Thwaites
- Alexandra Hegmann
- Jessica Koch

### Hebrew
- Yaniv Eliezer Kaufman

### Hindi
- Amarpreet Kaur
- Ketan Mishra
- Juhi Piparaiya

### Hungarian
- Franciska Szucs

### Indonesian
- **1st Language**
  - Andhika Hardjanto
  - Dewi Pribadi

- **2nd Language**
  - Fuji Faltia
  - Jonathan Khubanii
  - Eunike Gracia
  - Mira Juwita Ningsih Millane
  - Lonan Lardner
  - Elisabeth Hwei Ling Ng
  - Musawwir Marian
  - Jonathan Teoh

### Italian
- Elsia Antonia Longo
- Joshua Thomas Hajs
- Daniele Cologni
- Kate Atkinson
- Jack MacGregor Riley
- Rhiana Spinoso
- Joshua Arieh Bacch
- Martin Mason
- Tessa Bonadio
- Sara Sidari

### Japanese
- **2nd Language**
  - Tjianjiao Tan
  - Kim Arum
  - David, Tao-Chun Ho
  - Xin Tong Li
  - Taishi Lida
  - Mia Fazio
  - Kira Etsuko Constable
  - Xinran Gao
  - Julian Ryuji Lee
  - Soichiro Immamura
  - Sean Takemoto
  - Emily, Marella Simak
  - Vanessa Voen En Ki
  - Ye Woon (Becky) Joo
  - Hamish Wishart

- **1st Language**
  - Daun Arum
  - Karen Goto

### Khmer
- Sisucheata Suon

### Korean
- **1st Language**
  - Do Hyun Danny Kim
  - Tanji Hwang

- **2nd Language**
  - Yea Seul Seo
  - Bo Kyung Ko
  - Miyoung Ju Chloie Nam
  - Ja Hyun Kim
  - Ji Weon Ko
  - Sylvia Sujim Jeong

### Macedonian
- Slavka Popovska
- Emilija Taseska
- Michael Stojanovski
- Julia Filipovska
- Ivana Krsteski
- Joana Sibinoska

### Persian
- Amir Hossein Hosseini
- Maryam Ghaizvini-Ferooz
- Najibullah Mohammad
- Ali Al Haidari

### Polish
- Kaya Kapusta
- Helena Paszetniak
- Jarek Wszebor Glowacki
- Adriana Krysta
- Joanna Michalowski
- Samantha Patricia Smolen

### Portuguese
- Sheli Kuperman

### Punjabi
- Kuljeet Kaur Judge
- Kanwalpreet Kaur
- Jiwanjot Kaur

### Romanian
- Emmanuel Horvat

### Russian
- Julia Shibaylo
- Olga Borzyak

### Serbian
- Boris Trakilovic
- Sreten Mitrovic
- Jelena Adamovic
- Dulsani Sudurikku

### Sinhala
- Dulsani Sudurikku
- Kaveesha Jayasinha
- Hasala Locha na Govinna

### Spanish
- Asiel Yair Adan Sanchez
- Lucia Villemagne
- Maxim Karpyn
- Gabriel Brown
- Nicolas Araya
- Karen Alarcon
- Andrea Florez
- Sara Lopes
- Santiago Martin Ferreyra Bas
- Christina Guzman

### Turkish
- Alicant Altin
- Arda Hancioglu
- Ozge Yucel
- Nermin Saban

### Vietnamese
- Lan Chi Le (Perfect score of 50)
- Hanh Hong Thi Nguyen
- Linda Quyen Doan
- Duc Xuanminh Nguyen
- My Ha Nhi Nguyen
- Phoi Linh Duong
- Duc Thinh (Derek) Luu
- Nhi Ngoc Le
- Nhu Quynh Tran Nguyen
- Thao Nguyen Ly
- Duy Khanh Nguyen
- Chi Vu
- Tam Gia Thien Nguyen
- Huong Ngan Phan
- Mi Trieu Do
- Ung Nguo Le
- Duc Hai (Ben) Ngo
- Thanh Nhi Diep
- My Linh Huynh
- Thu Ha (Elia) Bui
- Nhu Binh (Phoebe) Trinh
- Truc Thanh Nguyen
Education Minister Pike launches 2010 VSL School Program and Start of 75th Anniversary

Continued from page 1

In 2010, classes will start at Hume Central College and Westall SC as well as an arrangement with the new John Monash Science School. New language classes are now available in Karen, Dinka, Somali and Chin (a language of Burma), Mr Merlino said.

He acknowledged University High School’s 68 years of continuous service as a VSL centre and thanked the school’s principal, Mr Rob Newton, and the school for this long partnership. “Our 2009 VCE results are again excellent and the VSL will hold its Top Scorers Night at the University of Melbourne on Monday March 15 at 7pm,” Mr Merlino said.

“The Victorian School of Languages is a local Victorian product and Professor Michael Clyne (VSL patron) calls it an ‘icon of Australian education’. There are many countries around the world that would truly benefit from adopting a similar model,” Mr Merlino said. The gaps in Queensland and Western Australia, in particular, are regrettable.

There were many challenges ahead to ensure that a range of languages were offered, particularly to emerging communities and the expanding outer suburbs. The VSL would continue to develop and publish local resources and textbooks for staff and students, he said.

Mr Merlino said there was a greater role for the VSL is the provision of language education to mainstream schools. The VSL would make a submission to the Department of Education regarding the draft paper on the new ‘Victorian Languages Strategy’. The VSL would also contribute to the draft paper being developed for LOTE as part of the national curriculum. This draft policy and consultation process was being co-ordinated by Associate Professor Angela Scarino from the University of South Australia, he said.

The retention of VCE accreditation for small candidature languages was a significant nationwide challenge and the VSL was working with many organisations in the education sector to develop strategies to improve this situation.

Many VSL staff are leaders in their own cultural communities and Mr Merlino thanked them for their on-going promotion of the opportunities available at the school for students seeking to study languages.

Mr Merlino thanked Assistant Principal Pandora Petrovska and the course writers for preparing all of the curriculum publications listed on the back page. These were provided to all staff at the Conference on USB sticks and distributed during the Area meetings.

Staff then moved to the oval for a large staff photograph. After morning tea the focus shifted to the administrative and curriculum arrangements for the start of classes in the following week. This was followed by language-specific faculty meetings where teachers were able to start or renew their networking.

The staff is looking forward to a rewarding and satisfying year.

Staff and friends of the school were reminded to keep the evening of Saturday September 11 free to attend the VSL 75th anniversary dinner to be held at the St Kilda Town Hall.

A.C.
Supervisors meet to **Strengthen Country Provision**

Country Centre Supervisors met at the VSL Head Office in October to discuss the delivery of language classes in country Victoria. Antonella Cicero co-ordinated the professional development day and supervisors from as far away as Mildura and as nearby as Gisborne took part in the program.

The Supervisors who attended were: Grant Van Looy who flew in from Mildura, Vince Gleeson from Warrnambool, Lynn Skillern from Leongatha, Nejat Akdere and Kim Day from Shepparton, Paul Calleja from Gisborne, Tan See Tuang from the new VSL campus at Bendigo South East College, Margery Foster from Ballarat, Claire Crapp from Matthew Flinders (Geelong), and Laurie Frost from Wodonga.

After the initial introduction it was down to work. Chaired by Antonella, Supervisors were eager to discuss matters common to all VSL country centres such as marketing, demographics and community needs. Supervisors explored issues such as increasing the profile of LOTE in regional Victoria and the vital role the VSL can play in assisting schools.

In the Technology room, the Supervisors had an opportunity to discuss electronic student reporting, attendance and enrolments with IT Manager Fred Hollingsworth and Assistant Principal (Technology) Stefo Stojanovski. Each Supervisor was assigned a computer and experienced first hand the various new systems being implemented by the school in 2010.

Assistant Principal (Curriculum) Pandora Petrovska presented the latest curriculum documents produced by the VSL. These documents will assist them in their role not just as administrators but also as curriculum leaders in their respective centres.

Principal Frank Merlino spoke about the challenges faced by schools in country Victoria, especially in the area of LOTE, with the main one being the shortage of language teachers in many areas. He stressed the need to work together with schools to identify student demand, to promote the classes widely in the community, and to provide additional assistance to teachers both in training and materials. He also added that the VSL had increased the number of languages in its distance education section to ten, a service that would assist students who could not access face to face Centre classes. He also announced that funding for the five new country Centres had now been made ongoing.

One of the highlights in country provision has been the Shepparton Centre which in the course of the year increased to 22 classes and offered 9 languages – Albanian, Arabic, Dari, Filipino, Greek, Persian, Punjabi, Swahili and Turkish.

More recently, at the state-wide Conference of staff held on 30 January 2010, country teachers had the opportunity to meet with their metropolitan colleagues and each other to prepare for the start of the school year.
Dandenong 20th VCE Polish Graduation Ball

On 24 October 2009 the Polish Faculty from the Dandenong Centre held its 20th Graduation Ball to celebrate the Year 12 VCE students’ completion of their study of Polish. For some students this was the conclusion of 12 years of study.

For the past two decades the Dandenong Polish Faculty has maintained the tradition of celebrating the end of the school year with a Graduation Ball for students leaving the school. The VCE teacher Mrs Elizabeth Kiernikowski initiated this function along with the establishment of a Parents Committee.

The function was again a sell out with 420 people in attendance at the lovely reception centre in Keysborough. The 2009 Parents Committee, headed by Mrs Marzena Kuczkowska, included Mesdames Jadwiga Kapusta, Teresa Kropiewnicka, Maryla Moscicka, Mariola Prokop-Knast, Małgorzata Walerczak, and Małgorzata Walerian.

As well as planning the Ball, the Committee also organised for four choreographers to prepare the students for a performance of the Polonaise, the elegant and formal dance. It also organized support from 24 sponsors for raffle prizes. The special guest this year was the representative from the Polish Consulate in Sydney, Ms Dominika Mosek, who congratulated the VSL for its assistance to the Polish community and for promoting the Polish language. She also congratulated the students and hoped that they would never forget their time in the Polish classes and would treasure the friendships they made there.

Area Manager Ms Angela Natoli expressed her pride in the Polish teachers and on the progress made by the students. The new Assistant Supervisor, Mr Sam Waterstone, who was attending his first Polish Graduation said: “It was an absolute delight for my wife and I to attend the Polish ball this year. I certainly cannot remember the last time we enjoyed an occasion such as this. The venue was well chosen, the event organizers organised everything meticulously, down to the very last detail. It’s fantastic to see the graduating Year 12 students in a different light, their attire, attitude and the way they danced, all of which absolutely took my breath away. People have spoken very highly of this event and every word said was absolutely true. I jokingly said to Alan (Supervisor) that the event was so good that I have already booked my ticket for next year.”

The students thanked all of the Polish teachers for their contribution over the years and, in particular, the two VCE teachers Mrs Elizabeth Kiernikowski and Mrs Jozefa Juros. One of the student graduates, Tomasz Knast, acknowledged his class’s appreciation of their teacher who was “Our guide in this journey…. In every lesson she conveyed her passion and enthusiasm for Polish through books, movies, exercises and of course class work. For all of your hard work and dedication and above all for not giving up on us we are grateful - and we thank you very much.”

Principal Frank Merlino also congratulated the students on their achievements and thanked the teachers, parents and volunteers for their support. He also outlined a series of possible initiatives to strengthen the teaching of Polish in Victoria and Australia, with the first being a proposed meeting of Polish teachers from around Australia in 2010. Of those 93 students who sat for the Year 12 Polish exam in the previous year 60 per cent had come from Victoria. Clearly there needs to be a greater national co-operation if the study of Polish is to remain strong in the long term … and the Dandenong model is a worthwhile one to follow.
The VSL School Council 2010 Election

The following details are provided to the VSL community about the 2010 School Council Election.

The Victorian School of Languages is a government school providing instruction to approximately 15,000 students in languages other than English. The school’s language program is delivered through both face to face teaching in centres across the State and through distance education mode. The face to face classes are held during out of school hours in 32 metropolitan and 12 country and regional centres. The VSL distance education section offers 10 languages from beginners to VCE.

School Council

The VSL is governed by a School Council and this body provides leadership and direction in language programs offered by the school. Parents of VSL students are eligible to stand for election and/or vote for parent candidates.

SCHOOL COUNCIL COMPOSITION

The Council of the Victorian School of Languages comprises the following membership:

- 6 Parents (non DE&T employees) (elected)
- 2 DE&T staff* employed more than 8 hours per week (elected)
- 2 staff* employed less than 8 hours per week (elected)
- 4 representatives from relevant agencies (nominated)
- 1 representative from DE&T (nominated)
- 2 community members (nominated)
- 1 Principal

*Staff refers to VSL employees. (DE&T is now DEECD)

President to be appointed from one of these categories.

1. FOR PARENTS OF VSL STUDENTS

There are 3 vacancies for 2010-2012, and 1 vacancy for 2010-2011.

CANDIDATES for one of the above positions should nominate on the correct form (see the next page of this Bulletin). Nominations must be delivered to the Head Office of the VSL, 315 Clarendon Street Thornbury, or mailed to PO Box 1172 Thornbury 3071, no later than 4pm on 22 February 2010. The PARENTS category also includes guardians or people who have the custody of a VSL student.

2. FOR VSL STAFF EMPLOYED WITH THE VSL MORE THAN EIGHT HOURS.

There is one vacancy for 2010-2012.

A separate nomination form is available from the Centre or the VSL Head Office. The nomination date is the same.

3. FOR VSL STAFF EMPLOYED LESS THAN 8 HOURS PER WEEK

(i.e. Instructors/non teaching staff in VSL centres)

There is one vacancy for 2010-2012. CANDIDATES for this position should nominate on the correct form available from the Centre or the Head Office and deliver nominations no later than 4pm on 2 February 2010 to the Head Office of the VSL or mail PO Box 1172 Thornbury 3071.

THOSE WHO NOMINATE AND/OR SECOND A CANDIDATE MUST BE ELIGIBLE VOTERS.

A LIST OF CANDIDATES will be posted at each VSL centre and the VSL Head Office on 22 February 2010.

ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

To be eligible to vote you must either be a parent guardian of a student, or be employed by the VSL.

VOTING FOR CANDIDATES

For all people eligible to vote - you may vote by post

To collect the ballot papers and envelopes, you need to attend the VSL centre listed in the section below marked - VOTING BY POST OR, for parents in country locations, a ballot paper and envelopes could be forwarded on request by the VSL (Tel. 03 9474 0500) OR you may vote by coming to the Head Office on 16 March 2010 before 4pm. The Election Meeting will be convened at 3.30pm although you may vote at any time during the day between 9am and 4pm.

VOTING BY POST

To collect a ballot paper and envelopes for voting you should attend a nearby VSL Centre at the times indicated. If uncertain, ring the VSL Head Office.

Metropolitan and Geelong Centres – 27 February

Voting will take place at all metropolitan and Geelong Centres on Saturday 27 February 2010.

Other Centres – Between 27 February and 13 March

The following country centres will be contacted by the Area Manager separately Ballarat, Bendigo, Doncaster (mid-wee Gisborne, Glen Waverley (mid-week), Horsham, Leongath: McKinnon, Mildura, Sale, Shepparton, Traralgon, Warrnambool, and Wodonga.

VSL Head Office – 10 March

Staff based at the VSL Head Office will vote on 10 March.

VOTING TIMETABLE

The postal votes, whether mailed or hand delivered, must reach the Head Office of the VSL by no later than 4pm on 16 March 2010.

Frank Merlino
Principal
**School Council Elections - Schedule 5A**

**Nomination Form for Parent Member Category 2010**

The persons whose names appear under Nominator and Seconder, nominate -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (Print full name)</th>
<th>Residential Address</th>
<th>Telephone (H)</th>
<th>Telephone (W)</th>
<th>VSL Centre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Notice of Election and Call for Nominations 2010**

Names of nominations may be obtained from the school and must be lodged at the Head Office of the VSL by 4pm on 22 February 2010.

The ballot will close at 4pm on 16 March 2010. Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Term of Office</th>
<th>No. of Positions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent member</td>
<td>From 16 March 2010 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent member (casual)</td>
<td>From 16 March 2010 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2011</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEECD employee member (now DEECD)</td>
<td>From 16 March 2010 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Council Elections**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2010**

An election is to be conducted for members of the School Council of the Victorian School of Languages. Nomination forms may be obtained from the school and must be lodged at the Head Office of the VSL by 4pm on 22 February 2010.

The ballot will close at 4pm on 16 March 2010. Following the closing of nominations, a list of the nominations received will be posted at the school. The terms of office, membership categories and number of positions in each membership category open for election are as follows:

<table>
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<td>From 16 March 2010 to and inclusive of the date of the declaration of the poll in 2012</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the number of nominations is less than the number of vacancies, a notice to that effect and calling for further nominations will be posted in a prominent position at the school.

Frank Merlino, Principal

Notes:
1. "Electorate of the school" means the DEECD employee electorate of the school and the parent electorate of the school.
2. "Parent electorate of the school" means all persons (except the principal) who are parents of students of the school, or the employees of the school and who neither opt nor are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school.
3. "DEECD employee electorate of the school" means the principal of the school and:
   a. DEECD employees engaged in work at and for the school (other than those who are parents of students of the school and who neither opt nor are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school); and
   b. other DEECD employees who are parents of students of the school and who opt or are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school.
4. "DEECD employee" -
   a. means a person employed for eight hours or more per week in either an ongoing capacity or for a fixed term of not less than 90 days -
      (i) under the Teaching Service Act 1981; or
      (ii) by the DEECD under the Public Sector Management and Employment Act 1998; or
      (iii) by a school council of a State school; or
      (iv) under section 5 or 5A of the Education Act 1985; or
      (v) under more than one of the paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, and does not mean a person employed under a contract for service or the employees or the contracted personnel of such a person.
5. Notes:
   a. "Electorate of the school" means the DEECD employee electorate of the school and the parent electorate of the school.
   b. "Parent electorate of the school" means all persons (except the principal) who are parents of students of the school, or the employees of the school and who neither opt nor are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school.
   c. "DEECD employee electorate of the school" means the principal of the school and:
      a. DEECD employees engaged in work at and for the school (other than those who are parents of students of the school and who neither opt nor are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school); and
      b. other DEECD employees who are parents of students of the school and who opt or are deemed to opt in accordance with clause 22 to be members of the DEECD employee electorate of the school.
   d. "DEECD employee" -
      a. means a person employed for eight hours or more per week in either an ongoing capacity or for a fixed term of not less than 90 days -
         (i) under the Teaching Service Act 1981; or
         (ii) by the DEECD under the Public Sector Management and Employment Act 1998; or
         (iii) by a school council of a State school; or
         (iv) under section 5 or 5A of the Education Act 1985; or
         (v) under more than one of the paragraphs (i) to (iv) above, and does not mean a person employed under a contract for service or the employees or the contracted personnel of such a person.
   e. Votes may be posted to the principal or placed in the ballot box at the VSL Head Office on any school day up to the closure of the ballot. Further details on how votes may be lodged will be provided when ballot papers are sent to the electorate of the school.
Key Dates Term 1 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21 January</td>
<td>Head Office Staff return</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 January</td>
<td>Distance Ed and Head Office Teachers return</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 January</td>
<td>Whole School Conference and 75th Anniversary Launch by Education Minister</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 February</td>
<td>Centre Classes commence (student enrolments continue)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 February</td>
<td>Seminars for new VSL Teachers and new VCE Teachers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Feb-13 March</td>
<td>School Council Elections (see inside of this Bulletin for details)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 March</td>
<td>Labour Day Weekend - no classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 March</td>
<td>VCE Top Scorers Awards Evening (Melbourne University)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 March</td>
<td>Final Day Centre classes for Term 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 April</td>
<td>Term 2 Centre classes commence</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Term 1 Teacher Professional Development Program

Professional development sessions for teachers will continue to be offered in all VSL Areas in 2010.

VSL Publications

The following key curriculum and administrative publications for staff and students were produced late last year and were available electronically to staff on a 75th Anniversary commemorative USB stick.

- VCE LOTE Teacher Manual
- VCE LOTE Student Handbook
- Year 1-10 Class Planning and Assessment Book
- Staff Handbook

The Class Record Book and VSL Passport are printed and available in Centres.
The VCE LOTE Student Handbook is available online for VCE students.
The school also published LOTE specific materials in a variety of languages and these have been distributed to Centres.

New Chinese Textbooks

Since the introduction of Chinese in the distance education section of the VSL, our teacher, Ms Deweng Song, has developed a lot of new Chinese teaching materials in line with Victorian Department of Education requirements and the latest language teaching methodology. The teaching materials aim to give students a rigorous language course and thoroughly prepare them for their examinations.

To this point we have developed four distance education courses, for Year 11 and 12 First and Second Language. These materials have now been adapted for classroom use. The latest is the Year 12 Chinese Second Language textbook released this month. The books have been used in distance education, at VSL Centres, and are now available for purchase by the public (schools, teachers, students). They have been welcomed by staff and students. We have even had an order recently from China! Congratulations to Deweng Song and her team. A launch of all new Chinese materials developed by the school will be held in Semester 1.

Ms Deweng Song, Chinese Coordinator and Course Developer

Year 12 VCE Chinese First Language textbook

Year 12 Chinese Second Language textbook