



From the Principal.....

Welcome to the 2012 School Year.

Year 12 Results for 2011

I am very pleased to report the outstanding results achieved by our Year 12 students last year. These results are the best we have achieved in a number of years. More students achieved A's and B's and significantly less students achieved D and E grades than in the last five years. We are very proud of our students and their teachers. Our students worked hard and our teachers showed the kind of dedication that really makes a difference. Thanks also to our families who supported our Year 12 students in their success.

Our students between them gained six hundred A and B grades, almost 64% of all of the grades our Year 12's achieved. This compares very favourably with the 59% A and B grades we received in 2010 and 2011. In addition we also had significantly less D and E grades. For example 8.8% were in the D and E band compared with 15% and 16% in previous years.

Our students gained eleven merits, or perfect scores, with thirty nine students achieving an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank) of over 90. An additional twenty eight students received an ATAR of over 80.

Amanda Li had the highest ATAR with a result of 99.2.

Merit students were;

Jane Hill	Psychology and Research Project	Amanda Li	Classical Studies and Research Project
Dion di Falco	Furniture Construction	Rachael Gill	Food and Hospitality
Vasilios Halikias	Research Project	Inessa Harpas	Psychology
Lauren Hussey	Child Studies	Lachlan Kerr	Health
		Indiana Wishart	Research Project

Our sincere congratulations to these students.

These results do not happen overnight. They are the cumulative result of years of very good preparation. Students who achieve highly at Year 12 generally do so from Year 8 and experience high levels of practical support from their teachers and families.

But we are not satisfied

We aim to be the best school we can be. Our measure of that is whether every student does the very best they can achieve. Listed below are a range of plans we have put in place to support even greater success.

- Continued focus on Student Engagement so that how we teach supports students to think deeply.
- We have put extra resources into Maths as a priority.
- Providing students with the best ICT infrastructure and Learning Programs we can.
- Retaining and employing the very best teachers.
- Maintaining our very strong commitment to sport and our other co-curricular programs. Students get good results by having a balanced approach to their lives. Maintaining social and sporting involvement is crucial.
- Seeking student advice about new policies and directions we take. For example;
Although our Year 12 results are excellent, we are not satisfied with our Year 11 results. We gathered more than one hundred of our Year 11 students in Term 4, 2011 to gain their perspective. They provided us with a lot of very useful ideas about how to support their achievement and improve their experience.

I have allocated the task of increasing work completion and success for our Year 11's - and indeed all of our students - to three teachers this year. Their progress will be reported to you later in the year.

Unley High School culture

In order to support student success the right school culture is imperative. Unley High School's culture must be orderly and settled so that people can focus on their work.

We will be maintaining our strong focus on uniform. Congratulations on the vast majority of students who have shown the self-discipline and organisation to be in correct uniform. Those who have not will bear the consequences of their choices. I do not wish to send anyone home as it will limit class time, however, students will be sent home to get changed if they are out of uniform with no valid explanation.

Punctuality

Perhaps the most crucial learning time in a lesson is the beginning.

Students who are late miss out on key routines and miss important information, including new concepts and work requirements. Lateness causes tension as it is frustrating, annoying, disruptive and time consuming. It causes a loss of instructional time for everyone. Habitual lateness shows a lack of respect for a student's teachers, other students and themselves.

We expect students to be at lessons on time. Teachers will be making their expectations and consequences for lateness very clear. Emphasis on this important precondition will benefit everyone in our school.

You will notice that we are beginning the school day with lesson one. Home Group will now be after recess each day. Please ensure that students are organised in the morning and are at school in time to start lesson one promptly.

Term 1 Events

I am looking forward to an excellent first term. In addition to work in classrooms we have;

- Year 8 Camp and Swimming Carnival
- Aquatics and Outdoor Education camps
- Student Voice induction
- Clean up Australia Day
- Local and Inter school Sports Days
- Rowing Regatta's, Head of the River and Rowing Nationals
- Year 12 Formal

I warmly welcome you to the 2012 School Year and wish you an enjoyable and successful year.

Susan Cameron, Principal

Materials and Services Charges 2012

The Materials and Services charge for 2012 has been formally approved by the Principal as a 'prescribed sum' in accordance with DECD requirements. A polling process was conducted in Term 4 2011 and of the parents who responded to the Poll 89% voted in favor of the fee being legally recoverable. The charge is \$665 plus appropriate subject levies.

Invoices have been issued and are now due and payable. Subject charges for Semester 2 will be invoiced later in the year and will become part of the 'prescribed sum'.

Your early attention to School Card applications and payment of fees will be appreciated. School Card applications can be collected from Student Services or downloaded from the DECD website www.decs.sa.gov.au/goldbook

An Education Tax Refund may be available to eligible parents. Information is available through the ATO. Please retain your invoice to assist you in making a claim. Items on your invoice that may be claimed include Text Book Hire, Stationary Items, and subject charges which are for Workbooks (Year 8, 9 & 10 Language subjects). Some Year 12 charges may also include claimable components.

UHS School Council AGM

All parents are invited to the UHS School Council AGM, which will be held on the 21 February 2012 at 7.00pm in the Staff Room. Meetings are held twice per term, commencing at 7.00pm until approximately 9.30pm.

There are five vacancies this year. If you wish to nominate for a position, please submit a short background statement addressed to Susan Cameron, Principal, by Friday 17 February 2012. Alternatively, come to the meeting and nominate on the night.

Newsletters for 2012

As part of our ongoing commitment to the environment, all Newsletters are published on our school website in a timely manner. Hard copies are no longer issued to students unless specifically requested.

To ensure that you stay informed on our school activities, Newsletters and announcements you must register to be notified of new information posted on our website. Visit www.uhs.sa.edu.au click on Announcements and then complete the email subscription request.

If you are unable to access our website and require a hard copy, please write a brief letter which includes your student's name, Home Group and your signature, then pass to your student's Home Group Teacher. Arrangements will then be made for you to receive a hard copy.

Parking Control around schools

With the commencement of the new school year, the City of Mitcham will be patrolling parking areas around schools on a regular basis to enforce parking restrictions. Should you have any queries, please contact Wayne Rich on 8372 8888.

Student Absence from school

Unless a student is suffering from an illness, it is the expectation of DECD (Department for Education and Child Development) that all young people attend school. The only exception is where a student has time away from school for the purposes of attending TAFE, or commencing an Apprenticeship or a Traineeship.

Families wishing to take their student/s out of school for reasons other than illness, eg family holidays, travel overseas etc., are required to apply for approval for such absence as set out below.

Application for Exemption from School Attendance and Education Participation *(for all students under 17 years)*

It is a DECD requirement for any student who is not attending school to complete an **Application for Exemption from School** form.

Forms are available from Student Services or DECD website at www.decd.sa.gov.au

LESS THAN ONE MONTH

Application is approved by the Principal and does not need to be lodged with DECD.

Students in Yrs 11 & 12 must also supply a plan from their teachers outlining how missed work will be caught up/completed. This plan must accompany the Exemption

MORE THAN ONE MONTH

Application is recommended by the Principal, then **MUST** be lodged with DECD for Departmental approval. The DECD approval must be received by the school **PRIOR** to the start of the absence.

(please allow several weeks for this process)

It is an UHS requirement that the application must be accompanied by a letter from a parent/caregiver outlining the purpose of the absence. *(A photocopy of a parent/caregiver note*

All students must supply a plan from their teachers outlining how missed work will be caught up/completed during the absence. This plan must accompany the Exemption Form.

*Note * 16 year old students do not require an exemption to participate in vocational training such as TAFE, Apprenticeships or Traineeships, but **MUST** complete a **FORM B Application for Conditional Exemption From School Attendance and Education Participation form.***



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Sturt Blue Light Under Age Rage dates for 2012

Marion Cultural Centre – Domain Theatre 287 Diagonal Road Oaklands Park

9-17 years. 7.30pm – 10.00pm

Events fully supervised by Police. LOCK IN! GREAT PRIZES ON THE NIGHT

\$7.00. tickets available from box office Phone 8375 6855.

17th February

16th March

4th May

29th June

10th August

21st September

9th November

14th December

Thank you for supporting Sturt Blue Light. All monies raised go to supporting youth events/school programs in the local area.

Term 1 2012 Diary Dates...

February 7	Aquaintance Night	6.00pm Year 8	George Cresswell Hall
		6.30pm Year 11	Senior Study Centre
		6.45pm Year 9	George Cresswell Hall
		7.30pm Year 10	George Cresswell Hall
		7.30pm Year 12	Senior Study Centre
February 13	School Photos		
February 13	Parent Voice Meeting		6.30pm - 8.00pm
February 14	Swimming Carnival		
February 17	Student Leaders' Induction Ceremony -	George Cresswell Hall	9.15am
February 21	UHS School Council AGM		7.00pm
February 21-24	Year 8 Camps		
February 27	SSSSA Inter-School Swimming Carnival -	Marion Aquatic Centre	9.00am - 1.00pm
March 6	UHS School Council Meeting		7.00pm
March 8	Year 8 Hepatitis B Dose 1 & HPV Dose 1		
March 12	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - Adelaide Cup Day		
March 13	Parent Voice Meeting		6.30pm - 8.00pm
March 15	Sports Day		
March 16	STUDENT FREE DAY		
March 20	UHS School Council Meeting		7.00pm
April 5	Last Day - early dismissal		2.15pm
April 6	PUBLIC HOLIDAY - GOOD FRIDAY		



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Government of South Australia

Department of Education and
Children's Services