# Welcome to Term 1

What a great start we have had to the 2016 school year. Welcome back to all our families, and in particular I extend a very warm welcome to new families that are joining Auburn High School. Last Thursday our Year 7s and VCE students had their first day and it was great to see that by the end of the day all student lockers were allocated and students were straight into their learning. On Friday, all students had resumed and we ran a special morning program to ease our students back into the daily routines. Tutor Group teachers spent the first period going through timetables, uniform, our school values and expectations. In the next session, teachers showed students how to use Compass (our online portal) and how to effectively use their laptops. They were shown how to organise their electronic files (naming and creating folders), use their school email, the school calendar, and locate resources for their subjects. The laptop is an integral tool in both teaching and learning at our school and we explicitly teach our students how to best utilise it.

I would also like to warmly welcome back all our staff and thank the many staff (particularly Education Support staff) who have worked over the past two weeks to ensure we have had a smooth start to the year. We welcome nine new staff to our growing school who are joining us for the first time. Welcome to: Sophie Oldfield (French Binational, Science), Miriam Saward (French, English, Humanities), Thomas Firth (English, Humanities), Dr Louisa Phillipson (Chemistry, Science), Oliver Lamb (Physics, Mathematics, Science), Katia Lewis (French Binational), Anthony Smith (School Chaplain), Nadia Sartori (Guitar) and Jia (Glória) Guo (Chinese Language Assistant). There are brief biographies on each of the new staff further in this newsletter.

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## Important Dates

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 8</td>
<td>• Photo Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>• Building, Grounds and Fundraising Committee 6:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 9</td>
<td>Shortened Day: 1:15 pm dismissal (AHS Staff Professional Development)</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>VCE Study Skills Day</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 16</td>
<td>School Council meeting: 6:30–8:30 pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>February 17</td>
<td>Year 7 Information Night: 6:30–8:00 pm (current Year 7s)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 18</td>
<td>Year 8 Information Night: 6:30–8:00 pm</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 19</td>
<td>• Senior Sports Day</td>
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<td>• Resilience Project, Year 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 22</td>
<td>Resilience Project Community Presentation: 6:30–8:30 pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>Parents’ Association: Meet and Greet Function. 6:00–8:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>Parents’ Association AGM: 7:00–8:00 pm</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 26</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival, Years 7–10</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 29</td>
<td>Intermediate Sports Day</td>
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<td>Mon Feb 29 –</td>
<td>Fri March 4</td>
<td>Arts and Technology Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>Future of Learning at AHS (all families): 6:30–7:30 pm</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 14</td>
<td>Labour Day Holiday</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>• Year 7 Sports Day</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Building, Grounds and Fundraising Committee 6:00 pm</td>
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<td>Tues Mar 15 –</td>
<td>Fri Mar 18</td>
<td>Francophonie Week</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 17</td>
<td>No classes. Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews: 12:00–7:00 pm</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Year 8 Sports Day</td>
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<td>Mon Mar 21 –</td>
<td>Wed Mar 23</td>
<td>Year 7 Camp, Waratah Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March 22</td>
<td>School Council Meeting: 7:00–8:30 pm</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 24</td>
<td>End of Term 1: 1:15 pm Dismissal</td>
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Whole School Assembly

Our first whole school assembly was held on Tuesday and it was great to see our growing student body all looking very smart in their uniforms and settling in so well. I spoke to the students about the importance of setting achievable and aspirational goals for the year and how we will support them in their learning. I also explained that success comes to those who put in the effort and persist even when things get difficult. Year 8 student Will Surjenko did a marvellous job on the keyboard playing *Satin Doll* by Duke Ellington. Our 2016 School Captains, Harry Holden and Hannah Viet of Year 12, were introduced and they spoke with excitement about how they aim to be great role models to others and what they hope to achieve this year. We will be having another whole school assembly in the next few weeks, where all the 2016 House Captains (Junior, Middle and Senior) will be introduced to the school.

Building Works over the Holidays

Over the summer break we have had tradesmen in, carrying out repairs and some refurbishments. On the ground floor in the Food Technology room, we have removed part of a brick wall and put in new windows, which allows more light into the adjoining spaces. On the first floor we took out a wall between two small classrooms and have created a larger classroom to accommodate our growing numbers. Finally, on the top floor, we put more windows in the blue staffroom and the adjoining classroom. This has now opened up that entire area, allowing more light in and making it a more inviting space to work in for both staff and students. We are committed to enhancing our learning environment and the outdoor areas in our school. I would like to thank all the parents who contribute to the school building fund for their exceptional generosity which enables us to improve our physical environment. I encourage families to continue to support our school through financial contributions and participation in our fundraising events and working bees. I can assure you that all the funds and your efforts go directly into improving our school.

Parent Sessions this Term

On Wednesday 17th February (Year 7) and Thursday 18th February (Year 8) at 6:30 pm we will be hosting parent evenings for our current Year 7 and 8 families. We will meet in the VCE Common Room with a light supper where parents can meet all staff. At 6:45 pm tutor group teachers will then take parents into their child’s classroom where they will explain how the Year 7 and 8 program is running and parents can ask any questions they may have. The evening will conclude just after 7:30 pm. The year 9, 10 and VCE information nights will be held next term.

On Wednesday 9th March at 6:30 pm we are hosting an evening for all our current families titled “Future of Learning at Auburn High School”. On the night we will discuss our new School Strategic Plan and our goals for the next 4 years. We will also explain the teaching and learning strategies we are using in our classrooms with your children. I welcome all our families to attend this evening and look forward to your input on the night.

Maria Karvouni
Principal

Uniform Shop: Opening Hours

Monday and Wednesday: 1:20 pm – 1:50 pm
Tuesday and Thursday: 3:00 pm – 3:30 pm
From the Assistant Principal

Welcome Back!

I would like to welcome all parents and students to another busy and exciting year at Auburn High School. It is always remarkable to observe the way students have grown over the break, and it was a pleasure to see them attending last week full of enthusiasm for the new school year.

Student Concession Cards for Public Transport

There are two passes for students that can be obtained from Public Transport Victoria. One is for concession entitlement for older students and the other is a Victorian Student pass for use on all metropolitan services. More information can be found at: http://ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/regional-fares/

Uniform

The updated school uniform policy was distributed via a Compass newsfeed at the end of last year. If you have any questions, or would like me to email you a copy of the policy then contact me at goodman.john.j@edumail.vic.gov.au

Ambulance Insurance

A reminder that the school does not have any cover or meet any costs for ambulance transport while at school or on camp. We also do not provide cover for accidents requiring medical attention that take place at school or while on camp. It is important that you have cover in place to meet these expenses – we sometimes do need to use ambulance evacuations.

Photo Day on Monday February 8th

Photographs will be taken this Monday the 8th of February. Order envelopes have been sent home this week. Please note that the school does not handle any money in this process, and that there is a late fee for late orders sent after Monday the 8th. Please have correct money in the envelopes to hand to the photographers on Monday.

Early Dismissal on Tuesday February 9th

On Tuesday the 9th of February we will be having an early dismissal of students at 1:15 pm as we are conducting a professional development session with staff on building leadership skills. As Auburn High School continues to grow and develop we need more staff able to step into leadership roles. It is essential that we provide guidance and direction in this vital area.

Lateness or Absences

A reminder that all approved lateness or absences should be reported to the Sub-school Manager for that year level. Please phone the school to let us know. We will be turning on the school SMS function for students who are late/absent in the next few weeks, and I will give you advice with regard to the protocol for this in the next newsletter.

Compass

We strongly encourage all parents/guardians to try to ensure that you are regularly entering Compass to keep an eye on news feeds and other events that are taking place. Compass is the central point of our communication with home, and we encourage you to log on to Compass often.

John Goodman
Assistant Principal

2016 Uniform Reminder:

All students are to be in full summer uniform, including the blazer, from day 1 of 2016.

Please note:

Girls need to wear the new white ankle socks with the AHS colours.

Boys need to wear the summer ankle marle grey socks, which are sold from the uniform shop.
Welcome to AHS, from the Parents’ Association

Welcome to Auburn High School: to the families returning and to those who have arrived for the first time. We look forward to a successful 2016, building on the achievements of our first two years.

Auburn High School is a dynamic, focussed and caring school, with a growing sense of community. The School Council is quietly working to upgrade the aged buildings and grounds. But the school is small and it needs help from families and friends to help raise funds and to volunteer for the school’s many activities. If you can contribute some of your time or expertise, the Parents’ Association (PA) would love to hear from you.

The PA is a new body and you can make a difference. You can either join the PA as a member or sign up to the PA’s email list for regular updates. Visit our website (www.auburnpa.org.au) for more details about the PA. You can follow us on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/auburnpa) or on twitter (www.twitter.com/AuburnHighPA). You can contact the PA directly via email (contact@auburnpa.org.au) or its French subcommittee (french@auburnpa.org.au).

We have many exciting activities planned for 2016. Some of these include:

• Wine and nibbles on Wednesday 24th February between 6 and 8 pm in the VCE common. Open to all parents wishing to meet and greet each other and the Parents’ Association.

• Parents’ Association Annual General Meeting and elections on Thursday 25th February in the VCE common room from 7 pm. Here is your chance to join the PA.

• Outdoor Cinema Night on Saturday 16th April in a carnival atmosphere. Our first outdoor cinema ever, and we are excited!

• Eurovision Song Contest 2016 on 15th May 2016. We’re planning a genuinely fun night for the parents. Stay tuned for more details.

We also have some regular, but nonetheless important activities scheduled each year. Volunteers are always welcome to help out with the uniform shop, our forthcoming Masters and Bunnings sausage sizzles, our Athletics Carnival and various other activities.

French News

Welcome back to school. We start 2016 with many new students in our classes. Aside from our Year 7 intake, we are very pleased to welcome students with either French background or from the Network of French Schools Abroad, at both Years 8 and 9. We also welcome an international student keen to boost her French while in Australia. These growing numbers are for us the greatest testimony that we are on the path to achieve our aim, to deliver a fully-fledged French Australian binational program, combining the strengths of both programs. We also are very pleased to welcome new staff members to the French team: Sophie Oldfield, Miriam Saward and Katia Lewis. Katia is a registered teacher from France and will be teaching Humanities in the French binational stream. Sophie and Miriam both teach LOTE classes, introducing the AIM methodology in Years 7 and 8. Sophie is also teaching Science in the French binational program. A warm welcome to all.

Next Monday will be a very important day for our growing French binational program, as we will host Mr Michel Heron from the French Ministry of Education for his audit of our school. It is very positive that the French authorities are sending an “inspecteur pedagogique” as part of our French accreditation process. During his visit, Mr Heron will spend some time reviewing the school: its facilities and how it operates. He will meet with the leadership team and teachers, observe classes and meet with student representatives. He also has time set aside in his schedule to meet with parents and members of the local community on Monday the 8th from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Thank you in advance to all parents who will take the time to come and meet with him, as it is an important part of the review to show the support of our local and wider community.

Next week is also the last week before Lent starts. One French tradition is to celebrate “Mardi Gras” by eating crêpes. As we are all very fond of these traditions, students will celebrate Pancake Day by making crêpes and pancakes in Food Technology classes and we will host a CRÊPE STALL on Thursday February 11th at lunch time. It is always a challenge to meet the extremely high demand, so any parents who feel able to send some already baked crêpes on the day are more than welcome to!!!

Genevieve Papon
French Binational Coordinator
Welcome to Year 7

2016 got off to a flying start last Thursday for our new Year 7s. We started the day with a short assembly and then our students moved into their tutor groups to spend the first lesson of the day with their tutor group teachers.

Lockers were found, groaning bags were unpacked, and Orientation Day friendships were strengthened. The first lesson of the day was devoted to working out how to master the opening and closing of our combination locks; not as easy as it might sound, but happily by the end of the lesson, lockers were being opened and closed with lightning speed. After a refresher tour around the school, the Year 7s quickly settled into classes for the day, following their newly acquired timetables and enjoying a variety of classes and activities.

Of course beginning secondary school is a challenging business and just occasionally locks stayed stubbornly closed, pencil cases and books managed to lose themselves and students found themselves in some completely unexpected places. Despite these ‘hiccups’ our Year 7 cohort have characterised themselves as a resilient, cheerful and friendly group. They have asked for help when it has been needed, they have supported each other and are already navigating timetables and classrooms with great confidence.

Just a few quick reminders to students and parents:
• Blazers, books and jumpers are easily misplaced, but just as easily returned when they have been named. Please make sure that all of your belongings are labelled with your name.
• Remember to charge laptops each evening so that they are ready for school the next day.
• Our ‘Meet Your Tutor Group Teacher’ evening will be held on Wednesday 17th of February at 6:30 pm and we would love to see all Year 7 families at this event.

Congratulations to all of our Year 7s on their wonderful start to the year!

Nola Cefai
7/8 Coordinator

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Singapore National Institute of Teaching Visit

Auburn High School was pleased to host a delegation of educators from the Singapore National Institute of Teaching this week, as part of our ongoing partnership with the University of Melbourne. Our visitors are undertaking their Master of Curriculum and Teaching and have visited a number of schools around Melbourne as part of their studies. They spent the afternoon touring our school and observing classes, where they had the opportunity to look at the work being done in classes and to ask questions of teachers and students. They were impressed with the focus and engagement of our students going about their work. They were particularly interested to see our different language programs in action and curious to know more about the very different organisational structure of Victorian schools.

Well done to our students on welcoming these visitors into their classes, and sharing and explaining their work so confidently. Thank you to our overseas colleagues and the University of Melbourne for their interest in the work of our school.

Kristie Satilmis
Leading Teacher Staff Development
The Resilience Project

We would like to extend a warm invitation to parents, guardians and friends of Auburn High School to attend a free community event, The Resilience Project. It will be an entertaining and engaging presentation that will be of particular interest to those with children making the transition from primary to secondary school or into the VCE years, but also to anyone wanting to know more about resilience and the power of positive thinking.

This is a free event, but bookings are essential.
Welcome to New AHS Staff

Thomas Firth
English and Humanities Teacher

Hello, I’m Mr. Firth. I’m looking forward to meeting and teaching year 7s, 8s and 10s this year in English and Humanities at Auburn High School. My background involves teaching, writing plays and short films, directing theatre, as well as studying music history and world mythology, so we should have plenty to be getting on with!

Oliver Lamb
Physics and Maths Teacher

I’m very pleased to be one of the new Maths and Science teachers at Auburn High School. I used to be an engineer and project manager. After helping some new migrants to improve their English pronunciation, I discovered that I loved teaching. I started by teaching English to overseas-trained doctors and nurses, before studying at La Trobe to become a secondary school teacher. My two undergraduate degrees were from the Universities of Melbourne and Monash. I’m really looking forward to sharing my love of science with Auburn High students, and also the amazing ways that maths can help you in almost any field, from relationships to refrigeration and from motor-sport to music.

Sophie Oldfield
French Binational and Science Teacher

Bonjour! I’m Sophie Oldfield. I was born in France, near Paris. I moved permanently to Melbourne in 2003 and became an Australian citizen last year! I have two young daughters, Josephine and Matilda.

Louisa Phillipson
Chemistry and Science Teacher

Originally from Britain, I came to Australia exactly ten years ago this week! I had already completed my PhD in Chemistry, studying the Influenza virus and the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute. I have worked on treatments for organ transplant rejection, Alzheimer’s, cancer and arthritis. Last year I returned to university to study teaching and I am very excited to be starting my new career at Auburn High School.

Outside my professional life, my passion is trampolining. I began first as an athlete, then as a coach and judge. I was privileged to travel to Denmark in December as a member of the Australian team. I also enjoy cycling, am a foundation member of the Melbourne Rebels (Rugby Union) and am a keen knitter and seamstress.

Miriam Saward
French and English Teacher

My background is varied and I come to teaching after working in admin and accounts for several years, both in Australia and France. I have spent time living in the south of France (Marseille), doing some post-grad study in contemporary French literature and cinema, and tutoring at Monash University for the past 5 years. I did my placement at Auburn High School as part of my DipEd last year, and I am thrilled to be joining the French team here this year! Outside of school, I love spending time with family and friends over a meal, being involved in my local communities, taking photos of places I visit, and heading to the cinema (the upcoming French Film Festival is an annual highlight for me)!

We love going on family bike rides on weekends. I’m very happy to be teaching French and Science at Auburn High School this year.
Katia Lewis  
French Binational Teacher

My name is Katia Lewis. Last year my family made the "big voyage" from France to Melbourne. I'm thrilled to be part of Auburn High, in particular, part of the French binational program. I have a degree in teaching Humanities and have been a part of the French education system for 15 years now. I am looking forward to a successful year with the Year 8 and 9 students.

Anthony Smith  
School Chaplain

Hi, my name is Anthony Smith and it is exciting to be starting as your Chaplain at Auburn High School. I look forward to getting to know the students, parents and the staff as we enter into 2016. I also work as the Chaplain at Boronia K–12 College on Mondays and Tuesdays, a job which I began late last year. Before these roles, I have worked with young people for the past 10 years in various roles, both volunteer and paid. These roles include: integration aid, youth group leader, Red Frogs Chaplain (Schoolies week), footy coach, cricket coach, volunteer running breakfast and lunchtime programs in a high school.

I also work on Wednesdays, supporting VCAL students with their school-based apprenticeships. My hobbies include playing/watching cricket/footy and hanging out with my friends. I have a great passion and desire to see young people supported and encouraged as they navigate through their pre-adult years and have them realise their potential. My work days at Auburn are Thursday and Friday, so please come and say hi if you see me around.

Email: ASmith@auburnhs.vic.edu.au  
Phone: 9804 6346

Nadia Sartori  
Guitar Teacher

Guitarist Nadia Sartori has been teaching her instrument for approximately 20 years. After having studied at the Victorian College of the Arts, Nadia travelled to Germany to pursue post-graduate studies in Performance on Classical Guitar, on a German Government Scholarship. Whilst training with some of the worlds' best teachers and musicians, Nadia herself tutored in guitar at the University of Cologne, as well as at various music schools. She has performed concerts throughout Europe, and in Australia, as well as live on national radio and TV.

Nadia has taught a wide range of styles to a wide range of students and she loves to assist and encourage her students to achieve the best in whichever style of music they choose to play. She also likes to encourage her students to play a variety of styles of music, as well as creating plenty of ensemble/group playing and performance opportunities. Come and share Nadia's love of the guitar and music by enrolling in guitar lessons at Auburn High School!

Jia (Gloria) Guo  
Chinese Language Assistant

Ms Guo is the new Chinese Teacher Assistant at Auburn High School for 2016. She is a first-year postgraduate student, who is studying at Beijing Normal University, and is undertaking the Masters of Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages course. At university, her major is Chinese Language and Literature. In 2014, she worked as a Chinese teacher and a temporary Head Teacher at Beijing Twenty-fourth Middle School. In 2015, she completed the Certificate of Completion from Confucius Institute Headquarters.

She is active and outgoing. At school, she helps Ms Zhang and Mr Lin to prepare teaching materials and she assists with the teaching in class. She is conscientious and trustworthy, and always makes every effort to get things done. In daily life, she loves making Chinese knots, watching movies, doing yoga and swimming. She also sings Beijing opera for fun.
FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE

YEAR 12 – all Year 12 students will have a meeting early in Term 1 to discuss their Career Action Plan.

YEAR 11 – all Year 11 students will meet with the Careers Adviser in Term 1. Prior to this meeting they should have completed their Career Action Plans on the AHS Careers Website.

YEAR 10 – all Year 10 students should now be looking for a placement for the Work Experience Program to be held during the last week of Term 2. Preparations for this will be carried out during your E4L classes.

YEAR 9 students can be looking forward to their Mock Job Interviews to be held on 4th May. Preparations for this will be carried out during E4L. Many thanks to Rotary Hawthorn for their support of this event.

UPCOMING EVENTS:
- Mock Job Interviews: 4 May
- VCE Career Expo: 5-6 May
- Work Experience Week: 20-24 June

A warm welcome to 2016 to all new and returning students, and to parents, caregivers and the wider community. I look forward to working with you during the year to ensure our students receive accurate and timely advice with regard to their individual study and career pathways. I encourage you to visit Auburn High School Careers website at www.auburnhscareers.com – there is a weekly Careers Newsletter available on this site that provides information on a wide range of career events, scholarship options, and careers generally. In the AHS fortnightly Newsletter, The Arrow, you will receive information about up and coming careers events for each year level, time frames and deadlines for careers events and actions, mail and information received by the Careers Office, and job vacancies for students received by the school.

WORK EXPERIENCE 2016

All Year 10 students at Auburn High School will be participating in our Work Experience Program in the last week of Term 2 in 2016. If there are any parents or friends of the school who might be able to provide a real-life work experience to one of our students, please contact Ms Martis in our Careers office on 9804 6313.

... AS FOR THE FUTURE, YOUR TASK IS NOT TO FORESEE IT, BUT TO ENABLE IT.
(Antoine de Saint Exupery)

Remember to visit the Auburn High School Careers website for weekly careers newsletters and in-depth information about VTAC, tertiary study, career options and much more...
HTTP://WWW.AUBURNHSCAREERS.COM/