Below is a copy of CareerNews. I will send out each edition via email. It is compiled by Martin Walker, a Careers and Pathways Practitioner from another school. The school subscribes to the newsletter each year.

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1. **WHAT’S IT ALL ABOUT?**
   Welcome to the first Careers Newsletter for 2011. Newsletters will be supplied fortnightly, letting you know about important careers events, new courses, careers, course requirements and how to apply for courses for 2012 (for those in Year 12). Hopefully they will assist you to make realistic and informed choices about your future. Have a great year, and attend career events like Open Days as they come along.

2. **WHY IS ‘CAREERNEWS’ COMPULSORY READING?** If you keep informed, talk to others, attend seminars, go to Open Days and do research you are more likely to make appropriate career decisions, and find it easier to make those decisions. Reading ‘CareerNews’ will keep you informed of when/where/what events are taking place.

3. **CAREERS AND CHANGE** - Remember that choosing a career is an on-going process and that you are likely to have several careers in your lifetime. Many of these careers are not even invented yet, so life-long learning and an ability to adjust to change will be essential. Twenty or thirty years ago jobs in communications relating to the internet and mobile phones scarcely existed – no-one knows what new jobs will be available in another 20-30 years when you are about 35-40 years old, with 30 plus years left in the workforce.

4. **HOW DO I CHOOSE A CAREER?** Some people develop a career interest while quite young and stick with this idea. On the other hand, many find it a very difficult and lengthy process. A good starting point is to answer the following questions:
   What are my interests?
   What am I good at doing?
   What do I value?
   - **THINK ABOUT**: What do I enjoy doing with my spare time? What are my hobbies? What subjects do I enjoy most at school? In which subjects do I obtain the best results? Which subjects seem the most relevant to my life? Do I value making lots of money? Do I value assisting others? Am I a creative person? Am I fascinated by science? Do I enjoy studying? Try to answer questions such as these and you will be on your way to coming up with suitable career ideas.

5. **WHAT IS THEATAR?** The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank is an overall measure of how well a student has performed in VCE studies. The ATAR is calculated solely for the use of tertiary institutions to compare overall achievement of students and select students for courses. You will receive an ATAR after satisfying requirements of the VCE and having study scores for an English and at least three other studies. Students in all Australian states except Queensland receive an ATAR. The ATAR was previously known as an ENTER. ATAR and ENTER are calculated in the same way – it is a change in name only.

6. **WHERE WILL I STUDY AFTER FINISHING AT SCHOOL?** It depends on what you want! If you want to obtain a degree it will usually involve at least three years at university (ACU, Deakin, La Trobe, Monash, RMIT, Swinburne, Uni of Ballarat, Uni of Melbourne or Victoria Uni). This is required for some careers like law, medicine, architecture, nursing, engineering or teaching. Other careers like childcare, hospitality, building design or massage therapy require a TAFE qualification like a diploma or certificate, taking a year or two to complete (eg at Box Hill, RMIT, NMIT or Victoria Uni TAFE). Apprenticeships and traineeships involve on-the-job and off-the-job training, such as for plumbing, carpentry, veterinary nursing and office administration. Sometimes the off-the-job training is provided by TAFE, sometimes by private providers.
7. INTERESTED IN PURSUING MECIDINE AND OTHER HEALTH COURSES IN 2012? If so, you may need to complete the Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admission Test (UMAT) as part of the application process. Monash University requires your ATAR, UMAT result and an interview when selecting students for their medicine and physiotherapy degrees. Pharmacy and Commerce/pharmacy at Monash also require completion of the UMAT. It is also required for medical courses in some other states. Check out the UMAT at http://umatweb.acer.edu.au/. The test will be held on 27 July, 2011; registrations open on Fri 1 April (on-line). NOTE: Some organisations run courses to assist with UMAT preparation (eg MedEntry at www.MedEntry.edu.au.). It is up to you to decide whether to complete such a course.

8. CAREERS INFORMATION FROM ZOOS VICTORIA – During 2011 Melbourne Zoo, Werribee Open Range Zoo and Healesville Sanctuary will offer programs for students interested in careers working with animals. Chat with experts, get hands-on experience, see behind the scenes, and find out about courses and careers. Programs are held in the school holidays; to find out details of dates, costs, and so on, see: http://www.zoo.org.au/Learning/Programs/Student_Conferences/Careers.

9. INTERESTED IN AN INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY CAREER? Then you will need to check out which course will best suit you. Swinburne University has a site which explains what different ICT careers involve and courses that would suit you. See: www.swinburne.edu.au/ict/schools/careers/. Well worth a look!

10. WHEN CAN I CHECK OUT UNIVERSITIES AND TAFE’S? The best time is at OPEN DAYS. You will be able to talk to staff and students, collect information, see the facilities, check out courses and see which institution will best suit you. They are usually held on Sundays in August, however, this year Victoria University in Footscray is holding their Open Day earlier, on Sunday 26 June. Other dates will be provided to you shortly so that you can put them in your diary. If you plan to apply for a course that requires an interview, audition or folio presentation, then attendance at Open Day really is essential.

11. CAREER EXPOS COMING – If you want to obtain careers information from a large variety of sources at one location, Careers Expos are a great way to go. Several of these are held each year. Find out about university and TAFE courses, independent colleges, and so on. Coming up:
   - The National Careers & Employment Expo will run Fri 25 - Sat 26 Mar at the Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre
   - The ‘Age’ VCE and Careers Expo 2011 will run Fri 6 - Sun 8 May at Caulfield Racecourse, Station St, Caulfield
   - The Eastland Future Options Careers Expo will be at 6-8pm, Tues 2 Aug at Eastland SC
   - Information about other Expos as it comes to hand.

12. WANT HELP WITH FOLIO PREPARATION AND CAREERS? Folio preparation and career discovery courses are held at the RMIT City and Brunswick campuses at various times to suit. Courses are mainly designed for Year 11/12. Info: www.shortcourse.rmit.edu.au, 9925 8111. (Note: These courses do not influence selection of students into RMIT award programs nor are they a requirement for gaining a place in an RMIT award program).


14. AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRSHOW – The Airshow and Aerospace & Defence Exposition will be an exciting event, and celebrates the RAAF’s 90th anniversary, the birth of commercial aviation as we know it will be recognised, and the event will celebrate the
centenary of Australia’s first passenger flight. **When:** 1 – 6 March, 4th, 5th and 6th open to the public; **Where:** Avalon; **Info:** [www.airshow.net.au](http://www.airshow.net.au).

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