The Bulletin

Statewide Vision Resource Centre

Number 13

Monday 2nd September 2013

This issue was edited by Deb Lewis and Lyn Robinson, Statewide Vision Resource Centre.

Professional Development Activities for Term 3-4, 2013

Event	Date
Dot Power – for braille readers from pre-school to grade 3	Tuesday 10 August
Texpo – Vision Australia - <u>www.visionaustralia.org/texpo</u>	13-14 September
SPEVI Day at Vision Australia (see attached for program & registration info)	Monday 7 October
Support Skills Program Try Day (information attached)	Friday 8 November
Dot Power – for braille readers from pre-school to grade 3	Tues 19 November
SVRC Educational Expo	Monday 25 November
SVRC Masterclass – Ike Presley (program coming soon)	27-28 November
SVRC Christmas Morning Tea – all welcome!!!	Wed 4 December

The program for 2013 is available from this link: http://www.svrc.vic.edu.au/PL.shtml

SPEVI Day 2013 – Tools in the Toolbox

SPEVI Day – organised annually for everyone who supports students with vision impairments – will again be held on the first day of Term 4 at Vision Australia in Kooyong.

Organised by the new SPEVI counsellors, Laura Hunt (Guide Dogs Victoria), Melinda Mitchell-Daws (Vision Australia), Lea Nagel (Statewide Vision Resource Centre) and Geraldine Ryan (Vision Australia), SPEVI Day is an annual opportunity to meet your colleagues and network with inter-agency folks!

The program will focus on technology and skills for education and life and also feature Bernadette Glass speaking about strength-based practice.

Cost is \$50 for SPEVI members or \$60 for non-members including lunch – please see attached for further details.

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VT 'Special Interest Groups' Meeting Day at SVRC, August 13

Report on day by Marion Blazé

There has been so much happening that we wondered if we should even run our scheduled PD day for VTs this term. But by popular demand (and some terrific initiative - thanks Heidi!!), yesterday was a very successful day of technology training sessions, discussion groups and PD on particular impairments.

Our thanks go to Lyn Robinson, who again showed us the many possibilities of iPads for our students, Lea Nagel who demonstrated various ways of using technology to produce tactile graphics or scan and read text, and to Heidi Littleford and Holly Beasley for facilitating two great discussion sessions. The first was all about what a braille using student and their schools need when transitioning from Year 6 to Year 7. Heidi compiled a terrific list of what needs to happen in Year 6 and then in Year 7, combining the collective wisdom of the group. The second session was a healthy discussion about report writing, with several regions sharing the proformas they use.

If you missed the day and would like any information on iPads, Nystagmus, Duxbury, QuickTac, drawing kits, year 6/7 transition, report writing, or Pearl scanners, just contact SVRC.

Transitioning to Year 7 for Braille Using Students – August 15

Report on PD day from Marion Blazé

There are currently three students in the South-Western Victoria Region moving into Year 7 in 2014 who use braille as their primary reading medium. Today SVRC hosted a day for their new aides and integration coordinator to find out about teaching blind students, learn about braille, see and get their hands on the technology these students will be bringing with them and try out sighted guide and long cane techniques.

Congratulations to Myriam and Heidi who organised their schools to get these enthusiastic people together to find out what they needed to find out about and prepare them for the exciting year ahead. I'm pleased to say they seemed pretty excited by the time they left! Thanks go to Lea Nagel who juggled technology took them through the basics and Darren Moyle from Guide Dogs who took them outside under blind-fold.

Braille eLearning Resources

SPEVI List: from Leona Holloway

I came across the Perkins eLEARNING website today, which offers a range of web-based content for teachers, families and others interested in the education of children who are blind or visually impaired. The main site is at http://www.perkinselearning.org/
Some items that may be of interest include:

- <u>Braille and Tactile Graphics</u> two free webcasts on teaching braille and tactile graphics to young students
- "<u>Flying Fingers: Fluency Instruction for Beginning Braille Readers</u>" an academic paper about the importance of reading fluency, the impact of using braille and contractions on reading fluency, and how to improve reading fluency
- <u>Braille Resource Packet for Parents of Young Children</u> a compilation of resources available for free download

Top iPad Tips for Beginners

From Lyn Robinson

- 1. Use Zoom in Accessibility to enlarge print or buttons that are a little too small to see. Go to Settings, General, Accessibility. Use "Three Finger Double Tap" to turn on and off.
- 2. Organise your apps. Place your finger on an app. Press the app until it starts to jiggle. Drag one app on top of another to make a folder. Type in the name of the folder.
- 3. The dock. The dock is at the bottom of the iPad screen. It stays there even when you swipe to another page. Use it for your most used apps or folders. E.g. Create a folder of favourite apps and put it on the dock, or put an app that you use a lot on the dock e.g. Settings
- 4. Use "The Bubble" to listen to text. Turn on "Speak Selection" in Accessibility in Settings. Use the bubble to listen to text in Pages, Notes, iBooks and web pages.
- 5. The Camera's hidden power.

 The camera has some features you might not know about. When the camera is on there is a button at the bottom left hand side of the screen called "options". Tap on this and an option for turning on a grid correspond. The "cap". The grid divides the garage into 0 agreed parts. This
 - for turning on a grid comes up. Tap "on". The grid divides the screen into 9 equal parts. This can help to frame a picture, but there's more. If you tap twice in one of the rectangles a box comes up. The camera will automatically focus this area. You can also zoom in on an object by pinching open on the screen to zoom. Finally the camera has a front and back camera. When using the camera, a square finds the face and automatically focuses it.
- 6. Multi-tasking. Double click the home button to get to the multi-tasking dock. Use this to get to recently used apps quickly. Before closing down the iPad, jiggle the apps (refer to tip 1) and delete all the open apps to save the battery.
- 7. Take a picture of what's on your screen using Screen Capture. Press power button and on/off button together.
- 8. Spotlight Search. Use this to quickly find the apps you need. Swipe once to the right from the homepage and type in the app you're looking for.
- 9. Apps I couldn't be without.... Something to write in "Pages" and something to file my documents in "Documents".
- 10. Orientate the home button on the right hand side of the screen and use "lock screen" to stop the screen swinging around. Lock Screen can be found in Setting, General.

Amazing App - "Tap Tap See"

Ridiculously useful and free!!! Tap Tap See – with VoiceOver on – will identify and announce the most ridiculous array of items! Nola's cup of coffee was a "white mug with light brown contents"; the recycle bin was a "recycle bin"!

Take a photo of an item to be identified and within a few seconds, you'll have an audio description. The app appears to have text recognition so a visit to the supermarket may now include the brand of soup in the can and the kind of biscuit in the packet. And all for free!!! Enjoy!

Access Evening in Monet's Garden

From Janene Sadhu, Co-ordinator Audio Description, Vision Australia

I have heard from people who have been to the Monet's Garden exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria that it is an extraordinary exhibition not to be missed by admirers of Monet's work and the National Gallery of Victoria are making it accessible for everyone...

An evening viewing of Monet's Garden. Experience the most extraordinary collection of paintings by Claude Monet on loan from The Musée Marmottan in Paris. Participate in a guided tour, browse in the shop and experience the magic of Monet. Food & beverages available for purchase in Gallery Kitchen.

Tours available include:

- Auslan,
- Audio Describing
- All abilities
- Art & Memory for people living with dementia

What: An Evening in Monet's Garden

Where: NGV International, 180 St Kilda Rd **When:** Wednesday 4th September, 5.30 to 7.30 pm

Cost: \$26 Adult / \$21 NGV Member Adult / \$22.50 Concession / \$10 Child / \$65 Family

(2 adults and 3 children) Companion Cards accepted

Bookings essential

Please phone 03 8662 1555. If you are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment you can call through the National Relay Service (NRS): TTY users can phone 133677 then ask for 03 8662 1555

For further information please phone Janene Sadhu (03) 9864 9384.

Photo Exhibition "Density" by Andrew Follows

Exhibition dates: Tuesday 27 August to Saturday 7 September 2013

Where: The Anita Traverso Gallery

Address: 7 Albert Street Richmond, Victoria

Gallery Hours: Wed-Sat 11am-5pm + by appointment Artist's Floor Talk: 3pm Saturday 7 September

Andrew is an artist who is legally blind and his camera a tool for expressing his imagination and documenting his vision. The works premiered in this solo exhibition are the culmination of a mentorship between Andrew and Dr Marcus Bunyan, and supported by Arts Access Victoria as part of the Boost Pathways Program.

Andrew Follows says, "This layering (of space, of image, of meaning) is how I see the world. To enable this insight the lens of the camera becomes my eyes, the shutter my very existence, the computer my medium of vision in order that the photographs form an expression of my imagination. My vision is intrinsic to my existence and these photographs, as an expression of that vision, allow you to see the world through my eyes."

The exhibition will be Audio Described.

Report: Soccer Clinic

From: Robert Aaltonen, Visiting Teacher Southern Region Catholic Education Office

On July 24th three of my students in both primary and secondary schools attended the soccer clinic with team coaches from the English Premier League Football Club, Liverpool. The day was enjoyed immensely by my students and it was great for them to spend time with some past greats of the games who were helping out. I would to thank all those who were involved in organising this sensational event. The students have added their thoughts about the day

Report from Dylan Grade 2

On Wednesday July 24th, 2013, I went to the soccer clinic with Liverpool coaches. I had the day off school and went with my Dad in the car.



We were put into groups and Eddie and Ian were our coaches. Ian was a famous Liverpool player. We did some soccer exercises such as kicking, dribbling and lifting the ball above our heads. In the end we had a presentation and I got a hat, a certificate and a show bag. In the show bag was a scarf, a whistle, a poster, a white cap, a bookmark and a drink bottle. It was the best Liverpool day!

Report from Ella-Maree Grade 1

On Wednesday 24th July I went to a special soccer clinic with Liverpool Soccer Club, I woke up on the day a little bit excited but once I was there, I felt really excited! It was also good because I was missing out on school! When I got there, I was given a Liverpool t-shirt to wear. There were five professional soccer players from Liverpool and I met some of them. I was in the green group and had fun kicking the ball. At the end of the clinic I was given a Liverpool Soccer Club show bag. Inside the bag there was: a soccer ball, a whistle, a white Liverpool hat, a Liverpool scarf and a poster! It was fun!

Report from Sam Year 7

I found out on Saturday that I got into go to a clinic to see some of the Liverpool football club players and coaches. It was a once in a lifetime experience and I doubt if it would happen again. It started at nine o'clock on Wednesday and went to 10:30 and we did lots of things. We started with dribbling then went to a goal scoring competition and after that we got autographs and a bag with a hat, a mini ball a drink bottle a scarf and a certificate of participation. I really enjoyed it and overall it was a great day.

Why Access Matters: Graeme Innes

Graeme Innes is Australia's Disability Discrimination Commissioner and is blind. Graeme is a lawyer, mediator, company director and has been a human rights practitioner for 30 years in NSW, WA and nationally. Graeme Innes speaks about his use of technology and his hopes for access in the future.

Visit: https://www.voutube.com/watch?v=WO6X0WV7N-M&feature=voutube_gdata_player

VIBE Ski Club

From Peggy Soo

Winter Bookings

VIBE Ski Club is open for winter bookings. If you would like to book a ski weekend or mid-week trip for you and your family, contact Anita at <u>bookings@vibeskiclub.org.au</u>.

You can check availability of beds at Rob Gray at http://www.vibeskiclub.org.au/.

Super Skier applications are now open – a great skiing opportunity

Applications are now open for 2013 to Vision Impaired people of all ages and VIBE Ski Club members. The successful applicant will receive a VIBE Ski Club Super Skier Package which includes:

- resort entry to Mt Baw Baw Alpine Resort
- 1 personal lesson with a fully qualified ski instructor
- 1 day ski hire
- 1 day lift ticket

Note: The Super Skier Package must be redeemed at the VIBE Ski club Winter Weekend or at a weekend where a VIBE Ski club Committee Member is present.

To apply, visit the website or email: <u>info@vibeskiclub.org.au</u>

Indoor Ski Vouchers

Tell us in 25 words or less why you want to try skiing or improve your skills to win a voucher to Ski City Indoor Ski Centre!! Contact president@vibeskiclub.org.au to put in your entry.

More information about VIBE Ski Club

Website: http://www.vibeskiclub.org.au Contact: info@vibeskiclub.org.au

Vision Australia's New Alternative Format Library Catalogue

The VA library now has a new catalogue where you can download or request a posted copy from one accessible and user-friendly site!

There are over 27,000 free books in braille and audio, and magazines, newspapers and Vision Australia Radio podcasts. The new site also features:

- Request braille or discs by selecting the link "Request a posted copy"
- Download an item by selecting the link "Add to download queue"
- More search options including language, narrator, format, date added, featured titles, reading age
- Subscribe to a magazine or newspaper
- Customise your account
- No images or advertisements when reading a newspapers online
- Free to anyone with a print disability

For more information, visit <u>i-accessonline.visionaustralia.org</u> or contact the Vision Australia Library on 1300 656 656.

The Global Burden of Blindness

Source: CERA Eye-news, August 2013

The global prevalence of blindness and moderate to severe vision impairment has reduced markedly in terms of percentage over 1990-2010, according to a comprehensive review published in the journal Ophthalmology.

However, because of population growth and the relative increase in older adults in every region of the world, there has been an overall but relatively small increase in the number of people with vision impairment and blindness.

Globally, there were 32.4 million blind people in 2010, and 191 million people with moderate and severe vision impairment. Of these numbers, the review showed that more than half of the world's blind lived in the most populated countries: India, China, Indonesia, Pakistan and Nigeria.

The burden of vision impairment continues to be greatest among those 50 years of age or older. Within this age category were 85% of the people who are blind and 78% of those with moderate to severe vision impairment.

The prevalence of blindness in women was also greater than men in all world regions. The prevalence of age-standardised blindness for women was more than 1.5 times higher than men in high-income regions.

The review was undertaken by the Vision Loss Expert Group, a global collaboration of almost 80 ophthalmologists and optometrists, including the Centre for Eye Research Australia (CERA) and the University of Melbourne.

According to Department of Ophthalmology honorary and report co-author Professor Jill Keeffe OAM, estimating trends in the global burden of blindness and vision impairment is important in understanding areas of unmet need and the effects of interventions such as cataract surgery.

"The percentage of people across the world with blindness and vision impairment has pleasingly decreased due to a concerted effort by governments and eye health organisations," she said.

"However, the need for further measures is significant and likely to grow with ageing and growing populations in high risk countries."

New Product: Prodigi

Humanware have a new product – Prodigi – an electronic magnifier with a difference! It features a large screen desktop device and a go-anywhere tablet magnifier. The hand-held tablet attaches to the desktop unit via a docking station and becomes both the camera and processor of the desktop system. Magnification to 80x is available on the desktop unit – text can be viewed as a scrolling column or in line mode. Voice output is also available.

For more information visit: http://www.humanware.com/microsite/prodigi/

Inclusion Online Courses Available in Term 4

Source: DEECD email S338-2013

Teachers, visiting teachers, and allied health staff are invited to participate in online professional learning courses focusing on the understanding, assessment and classroom support of students with disabilities and learning difficulties.

Completion of a course can be credited as 20 hours professional development.

The following Inclusion Online courses are available in Term 4 2013:

- Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Inclusion of Students with Speech, Language and Communication Needs
- Understanding Dyslexia and Significant Difficulties in Reading
- Understanding Hearing Loss

Link from: https://edugate.eduweb.vic.gov.au/newsevents/schoolbull/Pages/B027-2013.aspx (DEECD login required)

Getting Ready for Life After School

Source: Jodie Hoger via the SPEVI listserv

A website aimed at people with a disability who are planning for future study and employment. There are workbooks, guidebooks for parents, tips for students, parents/carers and schools.

Visit: http://pubsites.uws.edu.au/ndco/get-ready%20NDCO/index.htm

New Technology List

From Group D's Thomas:

Technology: Got a question? Need an answer?

Blind Technology (Australia) is a list for the discussion of technology, with a primary focus on accessibility.

Check it out at: http://www.freelists.org/webpage/blink tech-aus

Subscribe at: http://www.freelists.org/list/blink tech-aus

or by sending a blank email to: blink tech-aus-request@freelists.org

Vale Lilli Nielsen

Source: http://www.pathstoliteracy.org/lilli-nielsen-and-active-learning

When Dr Lilli Nielsen died last month, the fields of blindness, deafblindness, and the education of children with multiple disabilities lost a great friend and teacher. Dr Nielsen was born in Denmark in 1926, and worked as a preschool teacher, a psychologist, and a teacher of the blind. She wrote numerous books on the development of children who are blind, and was perhaps best known for her work on Active Learning. She grew up with four siblings who were blind and she maintained that this influenced her approach to people who are blind, especially in being respectful of hands and not grabbing them or making them touch things. Dr Lilli Nielsen pioneered Active Learning, based on her belief that all children can learn. She will be sadly missed.

In Memorium

Associate Professor Hector Maclean, MB, ChB St And DO Lond. FRCS Edin., FRANZCO FRCOphth - 1.12.1937 - 21.08.2013

The staff of the Statewide Vision Resource Centre and Visiting Teacher Services of Victoria, mourn the passing of a wonderful friend and colleague, Professor Hector Maclean

Hector passed away at home after a long illness. His funeral was held at Scots Church, Melbourne, on August 27 and was attended by a large congregation including SVRC staff, current and retired visiting teachers, past students (patients) and of course many people associated with his working life and various hobbies.



Hector would have loved the service which featured some beautiful music from the church organist and Scots Church choir (of which Hector was a member for many years) and memories from his friends and colleagues, including Jill Keeffe and Annette Godfrey-Magee.

A tribute to Associate Professor Hector Maclean appears on the SVRC website: http://svrc.vic.edu.au/hm.shtml

Staff News

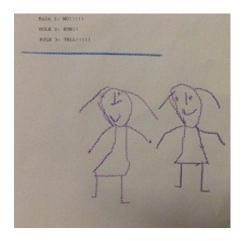
- **Deb Lewis**' twin grandchildren are doing well 8 weeks old this week, they have now reached their "due date"!
- **Joanne Pezzimenti** of Mount View Primary School has recently successfully completed the SVRC Correspondence Course in Braille congratulations!!!
- **Emily White** has returned to work (not full time as yet) after a few weeks off. Great to have her back!

Student Work

Here is one of Anna's drawings. The class are working on safety this term. The topic was Stranger Danger and the children were asked to make a poster. Anna wrote her information on the BrailleNote:

RULE 1: NO!!!!! RULE 2: RUN!! RULE 3: TELL!!!!!

She then went and printed out a copy and created a picture (right) using a wire board.



Student News

Group D students have been in recently to Support Skills, here is some of their news:

- Thomas has been awarded his school's High Achiever Award. Well done Thomas!
- **Jacob** has just been on work experience helping to renovate a house. He enjoyed the work and even got to use the nail gun and other tools required for the job.
- **Justin** has started at a new school and is doing well.
- **Misjah** has also started at a new school this term and is settling in well.

- **Zac** informs us that he will be going to a new school next year which will have over 1300 students at Bendigo Senior College.
- Many of the students will be starting VCE next year and are in the final stages of selecting their subjects.

Group C have also been busy:

- **Geordie** is in Queensland with his family.
- Elliot is in Malaysia with his school.
- Michaela entered an Eisteddfod recently and won three first prizes.
- **Alexandra** entered a school talent quest and says, "it is important to get up and show what you can do".
- Josh has a new iPhone and has been using it to research his favourite authors

Group B's **Matthew** and his family have been in Africa and they write:

We are having fun. We have gotten to see giraffes, lions, lioness' and 2 of the cutest cubs. We also have seen lots of zebras, wilder beast, buffalo and hippos. We have been in the car surrounded by herds of elephants. We went to an animal orphanage where we saw baby elephants and then to a giraffe centre where you could hand feed the giraffes, mum even kissed one! The only animal we have not seen is the rhino. We have visited a Masi village where they live in a small dark hut. The walls are made of sticks and mud mixed with cow poo. We still have Zanzibar to go to, which has lovely beaches, then to Victoria Falls and finishing off in Cape Town. [Editor: Awesome!!!]

Support Skills Try Day

Try Day gives students and families the opportunity to experience the Support Skills Program first hand, meet with staff and make an informed choice as to the suitability of the program. It is a condition of enrolment that all students must attend a Try Day before they can be offered a place in the program.

We invite Visiting Teachers and other professionals to pass the attached notice on to those families whose children they feel would benefit from attending the program.

Who can apply?

- Students who have been deemed eligible to receive support by EVAC.
- Students from any educational sector and from any region of the state.
- Students who will be in Grade 4 to Year 10 in 2014.

The registration form for the Support Skills Try Day is attached.

Finally

And finally thanks to everyone for their contributions to this Bulletin, especially Leigh Morrison and Lea Nagel.

If you have something you would like included in "The Bulletin" please email Lyn Robinson lynrobin@svrc.vic.edu.au

To read The Bulletin online: http://www.svrc.vic.edu.au/Abulletin.shtml



Join SPEVI

Eligibility

Full Membership of our professional organisation is open to anyone who is directly involved in the education of people who have vision impairments. Membership is wide and includes more than just professionals working in the field. Membership may come from any of the following areas:

- teachers
- orientation and mobility instructors
- orthoptists
- medical professionals
- optometrists
- students
- parents
- therapists
- social workers
- teacher aides
- case workers
- welfare agencies
- agencies for people with vision impairments

There are many individuals and groups in addition to those listed above who might like to consider membership.

Cost

All memberships are current for 2 years and are exempt from GST.

Full Membership: \$110 (no GST) NOTE THIS HAS NOT BEEN INCREASED FOR AGES!

Pacific area residents (including PNG): \$11

Students and parents: \$44

Membership form: Download from our SPEVI website:

http://spevi.net/spevi/join-spevi.php

As a member you receive the Journal of SPEVI and can stay up to date with advances in the field via the listsery and website.

Attendance at SPEVI days and the biennial conference is discounted for members.

UPCOMING EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED 7 OCTOBER 2013

SPEVI DAY AT VISION AUSTRALIA KOOYONG – an exciting agenda is planned.



SPEVI Day October 7 2013

Tools in the Tool Box:

Technology and Skills for Education and Life

Venue: Vision Australia, Kooyong

8:45 Registration

9:15 Strength-Based Practice - Bernadette Glass

Self-determination: Understanding our role in students' learning and decision-making and using a strength-based approach to connect families, communities, colleagues and service providers to promote the best possible outcome for each student.

11:00 Morning Tea

11:30 Soap Box

11:35 Providing the Tools in the Tool Box! – The funding, decision-making, implementation & use of the Tools

Featuring agency presentations from:

- a) Vision Australia
- b) SVRC and EVAC
- c) DEECD Visiting Teacher Service
- d) Catholic Education
- e) Guide Dogs Victoria
- f) Insight Education Centre

12:10 Group discussion – Making the most of the Tools: transition and collaboration

1:00 Soap Box

1:10 Lunch

1:50 SPEVI Conference 2015!!!

Next SPEVI Conference will be held in Melbourne! Consider your potential involvement: planning committees, presentations, hands-on organisation during the conference. Spread the word! Share the love! Let's showcase what Victoria has to offer!

2:00 Panel of Parents and Students - Outcomes: How are the Tools being used?

- a) Pre-School
- b) Primary
- c) Secondary
- d) Post-School

3:00 Finish



7 October 2013 Vision Australia, Kooyong

Registration form

Please note: participant numbers are limited and with this activity happening immediately after school holidays, your registrations need to be received by the RSVP date.

Name:					
Organization:	· ,				
Contact detai	ls:				
Any special d	lietary requirements:				
Alternative format materials requirements:					
I am a SPEVI member and willing to help on the day: YES NO					
Mobile numb	er:				
SPEVI memb	per: (please circle)	YES	NO		
Cost:	\$50 for members	\$60 for non-	members		
Payment met	thod: (please circle): Chequ	ue / Cash / Pa	y on the day		
(If paying by (SPEVI')	cheque please send with re	egistration for	m and make cheques to be made to		
Address for re	eceipt:				

RSVP

Please return this form with payment by 16 September 2013 to:

Di Skillern Statewide Vision Resource Centre PO Box 201 Nunawading 3131

Tel: (03) 9841 0242 Fax: (03) 9841 0878

Email (please include above information): pd@svrc.vic.edu.au



SUPPORT SKILLS PROGRAM TRY DAY 2013

Statewide Vision Resource Centre PO Box 201 Nunawading 3131 Tel: (+613) 9841 0242 Fax: (+613) 9841 0878 Email: svrc@svrc.vic.edu.au

When: Friday 8th November 2013

Time: 9:30am to 1:30pm

Where: SVRC 370 Springvale Rd Donvale

The purpose of the Try Day is to allow students and their families to experience the program first hand, meet with staff and make an informed choice as to the suitability of the program for their child.

It is a condition of enrolment that all students must attend a Try Day before they can be offered a place in the program.

We invite Visiting Teachers and other professionals to pass this notice on to those families whose children they feel would benefit from attending the program.

Who can apply?

- Students who have been deemed eligible to receive support by EVAC.
- Students from any educational sector and from any region of the state.
- Students who will be in Grade 4 to Year 10 in 2014.

Registering for the Try Day

Students can register by visiting the SVRC website and downloading the "Expression of Interest Form" for the Support Skills Program: http://svrc.vic.edu.au/Arefssp.pdf. Send the completed form via email: ssp@svrc.vic.edu.au or post to Garry Stinchcombe here at the SVRC:

Closing date

We need to receive Expressions of Interest by no later than Wednesday 30th October 2013.

Annual Fee

Students who attend 8 times a year pay a fee of \$100. Students who attend once a term pay a fee of \$60.

Further information

For more information about the Support Skills Program please visit the SVRC website: http://svrc.vic.edu.au/EPsupportskills.shtml

Please direct any questions to Garry Stinchcombe (03) 9841 0242 or ssp@svrc.vic.edu.au

Regards,

Garry Stinchcombe and Deb Lewis