



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

5 May 2006

Dear Parents and Students

From time to time, in various ways, we experience God's presence within us and recognize the gift of hope in our lives. This stirring is not something which we can always control and sometimes it is stirred by a moving and emotional event.

Who among us was not stirred by the discovery of the two Beaconsfield miners, still alive after five days of being buried underground? Hopefully when you receive this newsletter Grant Webb and Todd Russell might have been rescued from 8 or 9 days of darkness. No doubt during those long hours when they didn't know if they would be found, they would have drawn on their own strength, courage and resilience to remain calm, focused and hopeful. The Nation has pinned its hope on their rescue and we spare a thought for the rescuers and the great responsibility placed on their shoulders.

The families of dead miner, Larry Knight, and Jake Kovco, the first Australian soldier to die in Iraq, are also called to have strength and to be courageous to face their future without their loved ones. God's presence within us can be stirred by feelings of both hope and despair and what's important is that He is there, within us, to help us face the challenges that life presents and rejoice in the miracles.

Erica Pegorer
Principal

Winter Uniform

Year 10-12 students have been made aware that the rule regarding the wearing the College blazer has not changed. It is the compulsory outer garment and it is to be worn all day. That is, to and from school, in class and during the breaks. Similarly the kilt for girls at all year levels is to be worn at or below the knee and some girls have been approached to lengthen the kilt in keeping with this regulation. Year 7-9 students are permitted to wear a plain navy blue coat during the colder months and on wet days all students are permitted to wear a navy blue rain/wind coat.

Those of you who have bought new kilts this year might have noticed that there is a slight difference in the dye lot compared to previous years. The College is investigating this issue with the suppliers and we will inform those families directly affected about the outcome.

The second hand uniform shop has a very good supply of kilts (approx 60) and blazers (approx 30) and I recommend this option to you. The uniform committee are unable to accept the grey school trousers for sale until further notice as they have an oversupply in stock.

The uniform shop is open on

Thursday 18 May, Thursday 15 June and Thursday 20 July
from 3.30-4.30pm
at the St Paul's Campus

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

At the time of writing there is a real sense of a miracle in our midst with news that the Tasmanian gold miners are alive. We will continue our prayers for their safe retrieval.

Thanks to all those families who ensured that students presented in full winter uniform. We all appreciate the pride it shows in themselves and their school when the students are well presented.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Tim Northe** and **Sky Hammer** who have been selected for the VSSSA Under 15 Football try outs.

Open Morning

As part of the enrolment process for Yr 5 and 6 students we will hold our annual Open Morning on Wednesday **May 17th from 9:00am – 1:00pm**. The morning provides an opportunity for parents of existing students to come and have a look at the school and to see their child going through a normal day of schooling. Please feel most welcome to come on the day and

allow some of our students to take you on a guided tour.

Family Life

Yr 7 students will be taken through the Family Life program in class groups. This program is auspiced by the Catholic Education Office, and seeks to present the facts and values that are becoming significant as these young people work through adolescence and growing sexual awareness. Yr 7 parents will receive invitations to attend an evening session so that they can hold meaningful conversations with their children about the subject matter. My thanks to Miss Matters who arranges these sessions, and Mrs Sue Collis who delivers them.

The best way to make your spouse and children feel secure is not with big deposits in bank accounts, but with little deposits of thoughtfulness and affection in the "love account."--Zig Ziglar (Zig Ziglar's Little Book of Big Quotes)

Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

The focus for the coming weeks will be enrolments for 2007.

On Wednesday, Mrs. McIntosh, myself and our SRC Leaders visited St Mary's and St Kieran's Primary Schools. The purpose of this visit was to invite all Grade 5 and 6 students to visit this Campus over the coming weeks.

On Wednesday, 10th (St Mary's) and Friday, 12th May (St. Kieran's) will be invited to buddy up with our Year 7's, tour the Campus, view the promotional video and engage in activities. My special thanks to Mrs Teresa Greenough and Mrs Cath Bryant for their organisation of this visit.

On Friday, 28th April all Year 8's were offered a surfing experience at Inverloch. It was part of the Activity Day Program held at this Campus for Year 8's.

Mrs. Allen and Mr. Flahavin attended the day and my thanks to both these teachers for their organisation and assistance on the day. The students were enthusiastic and co-operative – well done!

The following article has been contributed by Ms Rachel Allen

"Last Friday the Year 8s headed to Inverloch for a day of surfing. The weather turned out to be perfect on the beach, it was sunny and mild and the surf was just right. Students were given a short, safety briefing before getting all of their surf gear. Once changed and organised they enthusiastically made their way onto the sand with their boards. Before getting into the water, everyone had to do a warm up and skill session.

Many of the students looked as though they had been surfing for a while; the skill level was quite impressive. Most students stood up at one time or another on their board and most importantly all enjoyed themselves. All students participated in a

positive manner and staff enjoyed the day as well" (*Rachel Allen*)

Yours in the 'Spirit of Strong minds and Compassionate Hearts'

Chris O'Brien
Head of Presentation Campus

KILDARE CAMPUS

Premier's VCE Awards 2006

Last week Mrs. Anne English attended the Premier's Awards for 2006 at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre. Nominations for the 2005 Top All-round VCE High Achievers category are based on study scores for 2005 and 2004. Nominations for 2005 study awards and the best three international students are based on 2005 study scores. Individual graded assessment scores are used to determine the top group of students for each VCE study award and includes scored VET studies. For study awards, where individual graded assessment scores are not able to distinguish the top group of students, the Chief Assessor of the examinations can be requested to recommend the best students based on the quality of their exam script.

Awards were presented to the best 20 top all-round VCE high achievers, the best 3 international students, the best 10 students in English, the best 10 students in

Mathematics, up to 10 students who studied a LOTE and the best 5 students in all other VCE studies.

It is with pride that I announce that **Jessica Pattinson** was awarded the Premier's Award for Equine Studies in 2005.

Mr. Russell Henry and I will be attending the VCAL Achievement Awards for 2005 at BMW Edge, Federation Square on Tuesday to be present for the presentation to **Finbarr Moylan** who receives the VCAL Intermediate Award for 2005.

It is clear that focussed and highly motivated students are able to achieve with excellence against all-comers and we congratulate them on their fine performances. They also provide encouragement and inspiration to present students who are embarking upon their own quest for excellence.

Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus

CURRICULUM NEWS

The Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS)

For some time now, teachers have been working on changes to the Year 7 – 10 curriculum in the transition to the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (VELS). *Monday, 1st May* was a very valuable Curriculum Day that enabled teachers to spend time working together on the finer details of these changes.

It is important to note that the VELs have been set at a *challenging level*, they are not a minimum standard. This encourages students to aim for excellence and high achievement.

The New Semester Report in English & Maths for Year 7 – 10 students

As a result of these changes, the semester reports in Year 7 – 10 English and Mathematics will have different elements as follows:

- A chart with an A-E rating, showing your child's current *progress against the expected statewide standard*.
- A chart showing work habits with the focus on *level of effort* and *class behaviour*

The A-E Rating

C will mean that your child has met the state-wide standard expected of children of their age at the time of reporting. *As the standards are set at a challenging level, this is a good result.*

B will mean that a child is above the standard expected for their year level at the time of reporting.

A will mean a child is well above the standard expected for their year level at the time of reporting.

D will mean a child is below the standard expected at the time of reporting.

E will mean a child is well below the standard expected for their year level at the time of reporting

The Rating Chart

Students will generally receive a rating in *three aspects of English* (Reading – Writing - Speaking & listening) and *five aspects of Mathematics* (Number – Space – Measurement, chance & data – Structure – Working Mathematically).

Next week , we will show you a sample of the chart that will appear on these reports. In the coming weeks, further information about these changes will be published and opportunities for parent workshops will be provided.

In the meantime, teachers are continuing to integrate these changes in classroom programs and to familiarize students with the processes involved. The Curriculum Teams are working closely with teachers to ensure that the best interests of students are the priority in this time of change.

If you have any queries about the VELs and reporting at this stage, please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.

Rita Nainie
Director of Curriculum

PARENTS EDUCATION FORUM

Our next meeting night is on Monday **8th May** at the Kildare Campus in the Principal's Conference Room. **Help will be needed** – at the meeting we will be going through the archived school magazines, marking information and pictures that can be used for the **50th Marist Anniversary celebrations** later this year. We would be grateful to anyone who is interested in giving a hand to go through the boxes of memorabilia. It is

great looking back at the old photos etc that have been kept. **We will also be looking for old uniforms, school bags, hats, pins, ties etc to borrow and use for display during the anniversary.**

If anyone has some of these things could they please contact me, **Norma Bellerby** phone **51341677 BH or 51 221908 AH**

CANTEEN ROSTER

	St Paul's	Kildare
Mon 8 May	L Hare, R Gillow	K Manson, D Berryman
Tue 9 May	T Pledge, S Garrett	G Breed, M Byl
Wed 10 May	K Lowdon	T Sloan, S Hillier
Thu 11 May	help required	H Symons, help required
Fri 12 May	L Weckmann, P Atkinson	A Fogarty, A Prezioso

Postal address PO Box 1080 Traralgon 3844		Kildare Campus Kosciuszko St Traralgon Ph 5174 8111	Presentation Campus John Field Drive Newborough Ph 5127 1311	St Paul's Campus Grey St Traralgon Ph 5174 7355
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