



## NEWSLETTER

# Lavalla Catholic College

19 March 2004

Dear Parents,

Forgiveness is a defining characteristic of Christianity and this week in our Lenten Readings we have been invited to reflect on the importance of forgiveness in our daily lives. We have an obligation to forgive and release those who have offended us. Sometimes we can avoid forgiveness, emphasize our status as victims and use it to gain sympathy or to explain why we act as we do. Lack of forgiveness really doesn't do much for us and those who fail to forgive will never be free and never learn to live from the heart.

So how does Lavalla Catholic College reconcile the demand for forgiveness and the need to respond appropriately to student misbehaviour?

Some misbehaviour carries a standard penalty and once students fulfil this requirement the matter is over. It is a bit like a traffic fine. Once paid, the lesson is assumed to be learnt and the matter is over. Whilst we don't have a formal "demerit system" we do become aware of repeat offenders who haven't learnt the lesson and there could well be some consequences. All this is done in a fair and kindly way and students are encouraged to learn from their experience.

Where the offence is against persons, either student or teacher, the process is a bit more involved and that involves reconciliation with the person offended so that those involved can continue working and living together.

Sometimes when the offence is of a serious nature, there is much discussion and the consequences are more significant. This helps the student to appreciate the inappropriateness of what they have done, to understand the causes of their misbehaviour and to undertake to avoid any repetition. Once this is achieved the student is welcome to return and to resume healthy relationships with everyone. Whilst we do not use the term forgiveness, it is clear that the students who offend and face the consequences are forgiven and are able to return, having learnt the lesson we were trying to teach them.

So the culture of forgiveness enables the disciplinary process to be completed without any vindictiveness or feelings of no longer being trusted.

*Br Julian Casey*  
*Principal*

### ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

#### **Parent 'Get to know you' Evenings.**

This week saw the last of these evenings and I would like to thank all the staff, students and Coordinators who arranged these evenings and gave up their time to attend. Feedback from parents was very positive. Hopefully we have helped reinforce positive relationships, which will be built on at further Parent/Teacher encounters.

#### **VRAP9**

The VRAP9 is a state funded program, which seeks to give Yr 9 country students access to Melbourne and the various cultural activities it has to offer. Currently students pay a token amount to attend shows such as Circus Oz. I encourage all of you to support this initiative and to pay the minimal costs to enable your son/daughter to attend these activities as they are offered throughout the year.

*St Paul's Campus (contd....)*

### **Project Compassion**

Last week's total **\$382.05**. **Miss Matters** and **7.1** just managed to beat their nearest contenders to be our highest fund raisers for the week. I am sure that classes will be redoubling their efforts this

week. More importantly this money will improve the lives of many people all over the world.

*"Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does".--  
William James*

*Lee McKenzie  
Head of St Paul's Campus*

## PRESENTATION CAMPUS

By now all families should have received a spreadsheet detailing the **Assignments and Homework** set in most subjects. Omitted from the list were Mr. Perona's subjects. I apologize for this omission and a copy of Mr. Perona's work will be sent home with each student concerned. If you need clarification of any assessment tasks or homework please contact the staff member concerned.

congratulations to all Year 7's on their enthusiastic and positive approach to all aspects of the camp.

Last week our **Year 7's** ventured to **Wilson's Promontory** for their camp. The three-day experience aimed to cement already established friendships and develop co-operation and group cohesion. The activities centred around abseiling, canoeing, surfing and beach activities. My thanks to Mrs Fredrickson, Mrs Roga, Mrs Winfield and Ms Francois for attending the camp. My

Congratulations to Nicole Bortignon, Luke Barrett and Chris Johnston who represented Lavalla College in the Catholic School Swimming Carnival on Tuesday.

Mr Perona is leaving us on March 26<sup>th</sup>. My thanks to Hermes for the nine years at this Campus. He will be missed by all students. We can finally say "Elvis has left the building". We wish Hermes every best wish for the future and success in his new ventures.

Yours in the Spirit of Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts.

*Chris O'Brien  
HEAD OF CAMPUS*

## KILDARE CAMPUS

**Congratulations** to the following students who have accepted leadership roles as our campus **House Leaders**:

<b>Delany</b>	<b>Nagle</b>	<b>Champagnat</b>	<b>MacKillop</b>
Shannyn Treadwell Christopher Giacobbe Angelo Germano Tija Bormanis Damien Dunne Heidi Armstrong Mark DiCorleto	Jessica Davidson Ben Schembri Chloe Hilton Michael Waanders Peter Brady Kimberley Pollard	Jarrold Pirota Julia Lambert Bridie Tomkins Matthew Hardwick Dale Mitchell Roisin Lafferty	Layton Allen Claire Issell Danica Mustac Alex Fievez Phillip Brady Nick Boothman

Our annual '**Shave for a Cure**' was a tremendous success with the campus raising over \$3,000. I hope to have a final amount soon! A special thank you to the Damian McCabe, Ben O'Brien, Stephen McKenna, Jarrod Pirota and Ben Schembri who organised a most successful indoor soccer tournament as part of our fundraising events. The winners of the overall tournament were the '90+ Club' beating Preso and Yates 2 nil on the day. I would like to mention Layton Allen, Matthew

Hammond, Tim Lawless and Alex Poulos, these students raised over \$1000 in individual sponsorship from family and friends. A big thank-you to my Leadership group and to those students who helped on the day. Finally, I would like to make special mention of the contribution made by Alex Poulos.

*Annemarie Clarke  
Acting Head of Kildare Campus*

## SPORTS NEWS

### **Catholic All Schools – Swimming Competition**

A swimming team from across the College competed in Melbourne last Tuesday. In a competition of over 20 schools, Lavalla finished third. Congratulations to all the swimmers and the parents and staff who coached and supported them.

### **State Championships for Little Aths.**

**Emma Doderico** (St Paul's Campus) in Yr 9 won the high-jump **gold** medal in the U/14 age group to become **State champion**. It was a very tense competition and she came through in great style, winning by count-back. She jumped 1.50 m and showed a lot of poise in doing so.

**Oliver Caffrey** (Presentation Campus) won **gold** in the **100 m and 200 m** sprints and finished out of the medals in eighth spot in the 400 m. Congratulations to both these young athletes.

On Wednesday March 10<sup>th</sup> Lavalla College hosted the **2004 Catholic All Schools Regional Finals at Traralgon Tennis Association**. Students ranged from Year 7 through to Year 12 with all skill levels and came from Catholic schools including Nagle College Bairnsdale, Catholic College Sale, Lavalla Catholic College

Traralgon, St Joseph's Ferntree Gully, Aquinas College and Penola Catholic College Bentleigh.

The format of the day was singles round robin, with 6 sections being played - Senior, Intermediate and Junior Boys and Senior, Intermediate and Junior Girls. The weather held out and the standard of tennis was impressive through the early qualifying rounds. The top 2 players from each division made it through to the qualifying finals, of which the winner would win themselves an invitation to Royal Park on Wednesday 24 March for the Victorian Catholic All School Finals.

Lavalla was well represented in the qualifying finals with the following students playing the important afternoon matches.

Senior Boys – Ben Witts and Laynton Allan.

Intermediate Boys – Ryan Allan and Tim Stephens.

Junior Boys – Jo Commerford and Andrew McLean.

Senior Girls – Louise Membrey, Claire McLean, Lisa Yates and Elise Clegg.

Intermediate Girls – Renee Dugan

## PROJECT COMPASSION

Each year, Lent offers us the opportunity to think outside of ourselves, to look upon 'the other', to share what we have with those who have less. In 2003, Project Compassion raised over 6 million dollars. The generosity of ordinary Australians enabled Caritas Australia to do so much to help so many people in need around the world.

In 2004, the theme for Project Compassion is **'Building Peace, Bringing Hope'**. It has been estimated that throughout the twentieth century at least 180 million people have died as a direct result of war. There are currently as many as 24 wars being waged throughout the world. Significantly, the majority of wars today are civil wars.

*"If you only knew today what was needed for peace. But you cannot see it."* (Luke 19:42)

The need for peace is evident and we all have a role to play in building peace. We all long for peace – peace in our families, our schools, our workplaces, our parishes, our local communities, our nation and our world. But what do we mean when we call for peace; when we march for peace; when we pray for peace?

The students on the St Paul's campus have taken seriously the call to build peace and during the Ash Wednesday ceremony signally the start of Lent they signed a 'Covenant of Compassion'. The commitment certificate reads, "The school community of St Paul's Campus stands in solidarity with the world's poorest people. We promise to support Project Compassion this Lent. We promise to share what we have and to act for justice and peace in all that we do."

### **Among our many projects, Caritas Australia would like to help:**

- The people of the **Solomon Islands** as they rebuild their lives after the violence
- The people of **Uganda** as they overcome war and poverty
- The people of **Papua New Guinea** who are building peace following tribal fighting
- **Indigenous Australians** as they work for the preservation of their culture
- The people of **East Timor** as they continue to rebuild their lives
- The people of **Bangladesh** as they strive to break free from poverty

**Project Compassion (contd...)**

As we continue to challenge unjust structures that bind people to a life of poverty and as we seek to become involved in building peace, may we realise that "to be authentic Christians, we need to take justice wherever we go; we need to

take peace wherever we go." (Cardinal Rodriguez of Honduras)

By doing this we will also be agents of hope in our world.

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

Mon. 22 March  
Tue. 23 March  
Wed. 24 March  
Thu. 25 March  
Fri. 27 March

**St Paul's**

M Grass, M Northover  
M Armatas, help wanted  
A Farley, L Weckmann  
A Scully, S Sammut  
M Lafferty, M Byl, C Hinds

**Kildare**

S Robb, M Rigg  
M Northover, help wanted  
A Fletcher, M Fievez  
B Whittaker, R Freeman  
M Auciello, M McCluskey  
A Fogarty

**Kildare Canteen is in desperate need of assistance on Thursdays.  
If you can help out please ring Canteen.**

**ENROLMENT 2005**

**Students seeking places in Year 7 for 2005:**

??Students in Grade 6 at Catholic Primary schools will automatically receive an enrolment package during April.

??Students attending State / other schools who have a brother or sister currently at Lavalla College should fill in the form below and return it to either St Paul's, Presentation or Kildare Campus office.

??Students who do not have siblings attending Lavalla College and who attend State or other schools should ring the St Paul's Campus office (51747355) to be placed on the application for enrolment list.

**YEAR 7, 2005 ENROLMENT -  
SIBLINGS ATTENDING STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

**Parent name/s and address:**

.....  
.....

**Phone No:** .....

**State Primary School student currently attending:**

.....

**Student name:** .....

Postal address PO Box 1080 Traralgon 3844	Marcellin House Admin Coster Circle Traralgon Ph 5174 5272	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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