

LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER



8 AUGUST 2008

Dear Parents and Students

Since our return this term, the College has been immersed in an aura of joy and celebration. Not only has the euphoria of the World Youth Day and the Marist International Festival transformed so many of our students, the excitement of hosting visitors from overseas has made the world a little smaller and our otherwise routine days, a little more remarkable.

Immediately after World Youth Day, the College was extremely privileged to host three Marist Brothers. **Br Emili** (General Councillor from Rome), **Br Antonio** (General House in Rome) and **Br Cesar** (United Nations in Geneva) were able to spend a few days learning more about the education system in Victoria and talking with our students about serious issues that affect young children and teenagers around the world. Br Cesar enthralled our year 9 students and some of our senior students with stories about his work as the United Nations representative on the committee for the **Rights of the Child**. You might have seen Br Cesar on WIN TV news!

It was impossible not to notice the influx of 82 Mexicans last week. They were music students and teachers accepting invitations to Marist schools to perform and share music skills and techniques. All of the student musicians were between the ages of 14 and 19 who have had some experience in singing with professional choirs. We heard the power of this choir when they sang parts of the Champagnat Mass and then again at the Inaugural Marist Music Festival where the remaining ensembles were able to perform.

The travelling groups were **Rondalla** of Centro Universitario México, **Female Choir** of Centro Univeristario México and Instituto México Secondary, **Bellaurus Jazz Band** and **Junior Marist Chamber Orchestra**. Apart from us and the schools from Mexico, other Marist schools who participated in the Marist Music Festival were **Marcellin College** – Bulleen and **Assumption College** – Kilmore. Unfortunately, Catholic College Sale and Bendigo Catholic College were apologies for the evening. The festival was an entertaining, memorable and delightful night and musicians from every school and their teachers need to be congratulated. It was marvellous to be able to celebrate excellence in music that is obviously built on hard work, self discipline and well as innate talent.

Ms Erica Pegorer

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On Sunday 26 July, during the Marist Family Day, we acknowledged and celebrated the Jubilees of **Br Peter Howes** and **Br Bill Dillon**. Celebrating 50 and 60 years respectively, both brothers have given selflessly of themselves for their commitment to the Marist Brothers and their work. Both brothers have worked in many schools all over Australia and still give generously and happily of their time. We at Lavalla Catholic College feel privileged to

have these two great men still actively contributing to our College community.

Each year we look forward to the announcement of the Champagnat medals. The winners this year are:

- (Year 7) **Brenda Hua** and **Mitchell McDonald**
- (Year 8) **Kate Troy** and **Ryan Ward**
- (Year 9) **Hannah Maunder** and **David Moulton**
- (Year 10) **Hollie Johnson** and **Lindsay Templeton**
- (Year 11) **Sandra Cultrera** and **James Silvestro**
- (Year 12) **Jessica Edwards** and **Terrance English**

St Paul's Campus

Time flies. It is already week four of Term 3. Before we know it Term 3 will end.

It is heartening to note that the students are wearing the uniform well in general. While for some people this is a trifle, Michelangelo said *'Trifles make perfection and Perfection is no trifle.'* Wearing the uniform correctly signals that the student is ready and willing to learn. And that is a good start to the day.

One practise that is not so good is the use of the PA system during class times. I understand parents are busy and often rush to school to take their children to appointments. Calling a child to the Front Office during class time disturbs every single class in the school. The correct procedure is for parents to write a note in the student planner. The student then shows the teacher the note and comes to the Front Office at the right time. Easy. Everyone is satisfied.

Champagnat Medal Winners.

The entire College assembled in the Champagnat Centre on Tuesday 29th August to celebrate the Champagnat Mass. The College Choir and the visiting Mexican singers added to the occasion. Towards the end of Mass, **Mitchell McDonald, Brenda Hua, Ryan Ward** and **David Moulton** were awarded the Champagnat Medal. We congratulate them and their families on this significant achievement!

Campus Assembly

On Thursday 31st July, we gathered for a Campus Assembly. The students watched a presentation on child labour in India. The audience listened attentively. We hope this raises some awareness of the rights of children in third world countries.



Students nominated and voted for the staff medals and the commendable recipients this year were **Ms Karen Joyce** (St Paul's Campus) and **Ms Natalia Nadsadina** (Kildare Campus). Congratulations are extended to all our worthy recipients this year.

Careers and Course Expo

The next few weeks promises a calmer pace and time to turn our attention to planning for next year. The **Careers and Course Expo** will be held on Friday 15th August and it is most important that students and families make the most of this opportunity to discuss and plan future courses and programmes.

Enjoy the Olympics

Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal

David Moulton shared his experiences and photographs of World Youth Day. Science Awards were also presented to award winners from Years 7, 8 and 9.

The whole assembly was conducted efficiently by the four Campus Leaders and student and staff presenters.

Kokoda Leadership Day

Fifteen Year 9 students will visit the Shrine of Remembrance's on Thursday 7 August to attend the Kokoda Leadership Lecture for Students. The lecture is held in honour of the late Reginald and Laura Gregory, and is specifically for regionally located students. This year, schools from the Gippsland Region have been invited to take part. After refreshments, The Hon. Charlie Lynn presented a talk on walking the Kokoda Track which was followed by a discussion. After lunch students saw a short film and was taken on a conducted tour of the Shrine.

Mr Chris Roga
Campus Director

Bringing WYD08 home

Everyone is invited to one last WYD Pilgrim Session to reflect on our time at WYD08, to celebrate, to catch-up with new friends and to discuss the future of youth ministry in our diocese. Sessions will be held at

**St Michael's hall, Traralgon
on Thursday 14th August at 6.30pm.**

Bring a piece of WYD08 (memory / souvenir etc) with you for a bit of show & tell.

Kildare Campus

We are busily preparing for our College Careers and Courses Expo and Open Day. Advertisement have been appearing in our local papers and our commercials will commence this week. It is an exciting time for staff at the Campus as they prepare displays and information for our parents and students. Please ensure that you make time to join with your children as they explore and investigate what it is they want and need for 2009. It is an important day where universities, TAFE's and other employers join us in helping to focus our young people.

Information Evenings

Current Year 9 and 10 students will have received a letter this week inviting them to Information Evenings. Last year these nights were well attended and well appreciated by our parent and student community. They are an important opportunity to discover what 2009 offers to your child. Both sessions will take place in the Kildare Hall at 7.30pm.

Current Year 10 Students - Monday 11th August

Current Year 9 Students - Wednesday 13th August

UN Model Convention - Ms Maria Haggett

Late last term we had a number of students attend the UN Model Convention. They represented the countries of Laos, Samoa and France. The aim of the day was to discuss the 1951 UN convention on refugees, and the 1968 protocol to see what updates could be made. Students had to represent their countries view and not their own. In addition there were two fabulous guest speakers from Rural Australians for Refugees who work closely with the Sudanese community in Wonthaggi (which is growing), and the Asylum Seekers Resource Centre in Melbourne.

Presentation Campus

So many students have come to realise that much of this school year is already behind them and even though many skills have been introduced it is the fine tuning of these in the coming weeks that will enable them to make that smooth transition to the next level. This term highlights their need to make wise decisions about their abilities, their learning and about their choice of subjects. The coming weeks with Subject Information sessions and EXPO will provide valuable insight into the possibilities which lie before them at Lavalla

Fit to Serve

Congratulations to the 21 students from Years 8 and 9 who successfully undertook the Food Handling course provided though GippsTAFE and made possible with funding from School Funded Youth Services. Their sense of achievement and willingness to put what they learnt to practical use, confirms the value of this type of training to our students. It is also to be expected that it will give them an advantage in seeking part time work.

Social Work Placement

Welcome to **Ms. Naomi Elswyk** who is completing her final 14 week placement with us. Naomi brings a quite unique story with her and has a great determination to work with young people to improve their ability to meet the

Well done to **Chris Armatas** who spoke magnificently on behalf of France, as did **Jessica Edwards** on behalf of Laos. These students also took questions from the floor and we were proud of our students' abilities to provide insightful and intelligent comments. All in all it was a fantastic day and one which we were privileged to be a part.

Year 12 University Immersion

The first two days of this term saw over 40 student attend a two day visit to Melbourne based Universities. Under the direction and organisation of Mrs Tamsin McCormack and Mr John Edwards, our student were able to investigate and prepare for their future careers. It was a valuable experience and I thank these two staff for their commitment to the future of our students. At the Kildare Campus we take seriously our preparation of our students and this voluntary trip is an obvious example of this. Well done to the students and staff involved.

Champagnat Winners

Ms Pegorer has already congratulated those who won medals this year and on behalf of the Kildare campus I would like to do the same. Ms Nadsadina has asked that I pass on to the Kildare student body her thanks and feelings of appreciation for being nominated the staff recipient of the Champagnat Medal. It is important for her that you know that receiving the Champagnat Medal and what it signifies was a humbling experience and one that she will always treasure. Unfortunately, since the Champagnat Mass, Ms Nadsadina has not been at all well and is in need of our prayers.

Mr Marco Di Cesare
Campus Director

challenges of modern living. She will assist with our two new student-focussed initiatives which will be held after school commencing August 21st "Looking Good, Feeling Good" is for the female students and "Guy's Stuff" for the males.

Year 8 Camp

Year 802 and Ms Kim Stewart their homeroom teacher thoroughly enjoyed their camp experience in Melbourne last week. Whilst the city mornings were chilly, the camaraderie and good spirit of the group enabled new friendships to be formed.

Intermediate Band Camp

A very dedicated group of young musicians left our Campus on the Wednesday morning and after many hours of creative endeavour returned Friday afternoon tired but exhilarated by the experience. They were so generous in their praise of the College Music Team who co-ordinated and presented the event. Congratulations to all concerned!

Finally, sincere congratulations to **Kate Troy** Year 8 and **Hannah Maunder** Year 9, who were worthy recipients of Champagnat Medals at our recent Mass.

Mrs Leanne Mills
Campus Director

Forthcoming Events

TERM 3

AUGUST

11 Aug 2009 Year 11 Parent Information Evening [K]

13 Aug 2009 Year 10 Parent Information Evening [K]

13-15 Aug Year 8.3 [St Paul's] & 8.1 [Pres] Melbourne Camp

14 Aug VIS Netball

Playwrite in Residence

15 Aug Lavalla Careers EXPO & Kildare Open Day

18 Aug Mid Term Break [Student Free Day]

19 Aug Staff Professional Development [Student Free Day]

20 Aug Keys Please Session [K]

20-22 Aug Year 8.1 & 8.2 Melbourne Camp [St Paul's]

21 Aug TIS session

Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN [St Paul's]

22 Aug 2009 Year 10-12 Re-Enrolment Due [K]

Lavalla Group Photographs

25 Aug 2009 Year 10 On-line Enrolment [K]

2009 Year 8-9 Re-Enrolments Due

VCE Legal Studies 2 excursion [K]

Parents & Friends (7.30pm ISC [Library] StPaul's)

27-29 Aug Year 8.4 & 8.5 Melbourne Campus [St Paul's]

28 Aug GCSSSA Touch Football

29 Aug Year 9 ArtConnect [P]

SEPTEMBER

2 Sept 2009 Year 12 On-line Enrolment

CAS Soccer Championships

2-5 Sept Year 11 House Retreats

3 Sept 2009 Year 7 State School Transition [P]

5 Sept Year 7 & 9 Immunisations [P]

9 Sept CAS Touch Football

10 Sept Annual Music Concert [Kildare]

11 Sept Immunisations - Year 10 females [Kildare]

16 Sept CAS Athletics

18 Sept **Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN [St Paul's]**

Parent Teacher Student Interviews (4.00pm-7.45pm)

19-20 Sept Debutante Ball

19 Sept End of Term 3

Parents & Friends Next Meeting

held on Monday 25 August 2008
in the ISC St Paul's Campus
from 7.30pm. All Welcome!!

NIGHT TIME SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

GET READY FOR THE
CHANGE OF SEASON

OPEN ON
THURSDAY 9th October

6.30-8PM

DON'T MISS OUT

Canteen Roster

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Mon 11 Aug M. Korsak, (help needed)

Tue 12 Aug T. Pledge, S. Garrett

Wed 13 Aug E. Panayiotou, L. Hodder

Thu 14 Aug M. Johnston, L. Elliott

Fri 15 Aug EXPO - Canteen Closed

Mon 18 Aug Mid-Term Break

Tue 19 Aug Staff Day - Student Free Day

Wed 20 Aug T. Thornton, S. Fisher

Thu 21 Aug R. Petrucci, G. Breed

Fri 22 Aug K. Nelson, K. Arbuthnot

KILDARE CAMPUS

Mon 11 Aug C. Jackiw, (help needed)

Tue 12 Aug A. Mooney, L. Calabrese

Wed 13 Aug S. Hillier, (help needed)

Thu 14 Aug H. Stoddart, (help needed)

Fri 15 Aug EXPO - Canteen Closed

Mon 18 Aug Mid-Term Break

Tue 19 Aug Staff Day - Student Free Day

Wed 20 Aug G. Fiddelaers, (help needed)

Thu 21 Aug S. Bridges, (help needed)

Fri 22 Aug L. Clarke, (help needed)

Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN

Thursday 21 August
from 3.30pm-4.30pm

School Uniform Alterations

please contact Vivien Agius
on Ph: 5134 1732

Breakfast Club @ Kildare

Every Wednesday from 7.45am-8.45am

Held in the Food Technology room

All Welcome!!

Enquiries contact: Mike Hansen

Refresh Your Marriage

Marriage Encounter is a worldwide marriage enrichment programme that has been in Australia for over 30 years. Enhance your marriage by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend. The weekend is a time for you and your spouse to be alone together, to rediscover each other and focus on your relationship in a very positive way. Your marriage deserves that kind of attention. The next 2 weekends in 2008 will be held at Anglesea on 15-17 August and at Lysterfield on 24-26 October. For further information and bookings contact Peter & Erika Smith (03) 9899 0824 or E-mail erika@hrpartner.com.au. Checkout the website for more information on www.wwme.org.au