



Lavalla Catholic College

ISSUE 10
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2012

this issue

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RUOK?™

A conversation could change a life.

FMSI - Help needed

FMSI is ready to provide aid to the people of Aleppo, involved in these days in internal conflict. For several days, in fact, the Foundation has been in contact with the Marist Brothers who are assisting the people in flight from quarter to quarter, and will soon be in a position to send the first financial aid to cope with the emergency.

The Marist Brothers are working with an Imam and a group of volunteers at a post in the district of Jabal El Sayde. At least 2000 have fled there, having abandoned their homes and taken refuge in a public garden for fear of being taken hostage or killed. Another 900 have found shelter in two public schools. This involves poor and large families, some having 10 children per family. The Marist Brothers are occupied particularly with about 400 children among the displaced, providing psychological help, medical assistance, milk.

The Marist Brothers and their collaborators are a group of 30 volunteers. There is great solidarity among the people of the quarter and ever more persons are offering help to the displaced. All the same, the most necessary items, drinkable water, health products are beginning to run out, in a situation which is becoming ever more dramatic from every point of view.

From the Principal

Dear members of the Lavalla community

Thursday 13th September is our National 'Are you OK?' day - a day of action dedicated to inspiring all Australians to ask family, friends and colleagues, 'Are you ok?' By regularly reaching out to one another and having open and honest conversations, we can all help build a more connected community and reduce our country's high suicide rate.

More than 2,200 Australians suicide each year, and men are around three times more likely to die by suicide than females (ABS 2012). For each person that takes their life, another 30 people attempt to end their own life (SANE Australia). Most people don't openly share their feelings, particularly if they're struggling. The best thing we can all do is regularly talk to the people we care about - regardless of whether they are at risk - because connection is good for us all.

We all need to take responsibility with this because the loss of a loved one through suicide is perhaps the most devastating for all. None of us want to be in this position, nor do we want to see our friends or family disconnected or alone when what they need most is someone to ask, "Are you okay?", "What's been happening?" or "How are things going?". Staying connected, having a few good friends or strong family relationships, is essential for our

general health and wellbeing because meaningful conversations can protect people and could possibly save a life.

The R U OK? Foundation is asking that we all ask this question of those closest to us and if the answer is "Well, actually no, I'm not?" that you know what to do. Encourage them to talk with family, to see their doctors, to find supportive networks through the R U OK? Foundation (ruok.org) that will provide all the information that is needed.

Marist-Blue Day

In support of the Marist work that is under threat with the uprising in Syria, the College, with other Marist schools in Australia, has shown its solidarity through fund-raising, supported by prayer and reflection. Below is an extract from a letter written by our Brothers and lay people who are assisting the local people survive on a daily basis:

"Aleppo, our city, second city of the country, financial capital, major centre of commerce and craft industry, is in its death throes. It has been suffocated for more than a week. The war is in train of spreading into the neighbourhoods. The people flee, become refugees, wander, take shelter in the streets, the public gardens, the schools, everywhere. The inhabitants take in their relatives, the houses are open... Bread is lacking, electricity is lacking, fuel is lacking, milk is lacking, medicines are lacking; the only thing not lacking is the spectre of war. It is on the prowl, it is everywhere. A nauseous smell rises from the streets... The city is completely encircled. There is risk of being taken away

or killed. The people are afraid... A fear which depresses, which paralyses, which kills... So the question is posed: what do we do? Flee, as so many families have done? Stay in place paralysed? Act? What to do? At the beginning, we chose to continue all our activities. We launched holiday camp projects, and educational activities... But all discretely, we realized the danger was enormous, and that it would be necessary to halt. This was last Tuesday's decision. But stopping our activities does not mean stopping our mission."

What a heart wrenching account. Life in Aleppo must be terrifying. If you would like to make a special donation for the people of Aleppo, the College will very gladly pass it on to the Marist Solidarity Group.

Donations can be made at Marcellin House, or by mail directed to:

Marist Blue
PO BOX 1080
TRARALGON VIC 3844

Decision Time

This is a very important time of year for students as they start to make their selections for next year. Students experienced EXPO at Kildare last Friday and a number of information nights. Across the three campuses, students have been familiarising themselves with all the very many

options that are available to them. It is worth continuing the conversation with your student to ensure they are making the right selection for their strengths and talents. Parents are the most important influence on students at this time and I encourage you to stay in-touch about the subject selection process. Of course, the College is always able to assist families in making the right choices; should you have some concerns or need further clarification. Congratulations to the EXPO organisers on another successful EXPO event and to the year 7 teachers for a successful Grade 5 transition visit.

Baby Boy

We congratulate Mrs Kim Gee and her husband Simon on the arrival of Harry James on Saturday, 5th August.

Mother and baby doing well.

Have a good week and keep warm!

Your faithfully

Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal

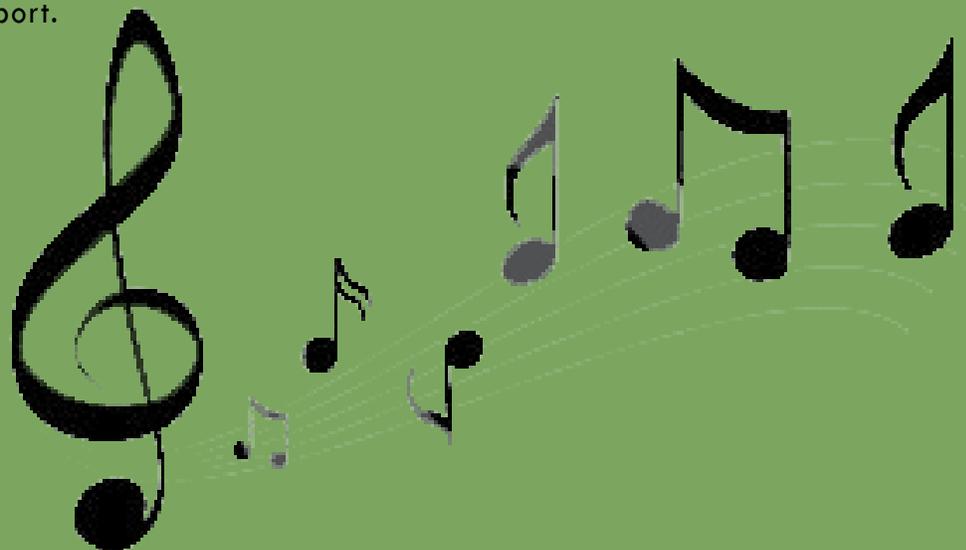
Music Support Group

On Tuesday, 11th September, the Annual College Music Concert will be held in the Kildare Hall, commencing at 7.00 pm. I invite you to come and support this wonderful event and experience for yourself the outstanding ability of our Choirs and Bands. A venue filled with a receptive and enthusiastic audience always provides a wonderful atmosphere for our musicians to perform in.

Entry is free, however, we would appreciate a gold coin donation. We are holding a raffle during the course of the evening to raise funds to purchase two French horns. The prizes in the raffle will be a number of gift hampers. Donations of items for the gift hampers would be greatly appreciated.

We thank you in anticipation of your support.

Mike Matthyssen
President



St Paul's Campus Update

Andy Martin - Campus Director

We are blessed at Lavalla Catholic College to have many of our students engaged as active participants in the sporting arena, both as representatives of the school and in sports conducted outside school activity. Lately, I have become aware of a number of our students who have qualified for or competed at national or state team level.

In swimming, Maggie 'O Keefe and Taylah de Ros have left impressions in places as far off as China while Nathan Catherwood in Yr 7 is heading to America with the Vic Country U14's Basketball Team. David Howe has won two Australian ranked tennis tournaments in 2012.

At school, we have competed and been widely successful in all of the sports played in the SSV Competition this year. Many of our teams made regional finals and a significant number have progressed to state finals of the various competitions. Last week, our Clay Target Team shot their way to a SE Regional championship, with both Samantha Bennison and Tim Sartori placing top three in overall competition. The squad will now contest the State Championships in Bendigo.

In other winter sport, our Yr 7 and 8 boys and girls have made state soccer finals; Yr 7 girls, Yr 8 boys and Yr 9 boys have all qualified for the Netball State Championships. Our junior girls and 9/10 boys football teams have made the SE Conference playoffs. Clearly, these students have a grasp of the interpersonal skills which are essential to their success as a team player and effective communicator.

I am proud to be associated with a school and teams that value sportsmanship and excellence. Thank you to all of our coaches who are making these opportunities available to our students, often running practice sessions in their lunchtimes. It is this sort of commitment to our students which sets Lavalla apart as a school that is focused on building relationships and developing the whole of the person.



Kildare Campus Canteen Helpers

Monday 13th August –

C Jackiw

Tuesday 14th August –

L Zalesiak

Wednesday 15th August –

K Licciardi

Thursday 16th August –

P Richardson

Friday 17th August –

S Darling

Monday 20th August –

R Crowe

Tuesday 21st August –

L Zalesiak

Wednesday 22nd August –

K Licciardi

Thursday 23rd August –

M Nightingale

Friday 24th August –

M Darling

B Taylor

Second Hand Uniform Shop

NEXT OPEN:

Thursday 16th August

Thursday 6th September

3.30pm – 6.00pm

Shop located at: St.Paul's Campus

Payment options: Cash, Cheque or EFTPOS

(Please note Kilts/Skirts must be tried on. They are not sized)



Kildare Update Marco DiCesare - Campus Director

Congratulations once again to our community on the wonderful achievement of the Courses and Careers Expo. There was a buzz around the campus and it was affirming to see so many parents, students and staff working together to ensure good choices and good outcomes for 2013 and beyond. Once again our external providers were impressed with the level of questioning and planning from our students. I certainly noted the increased confidence and determination of students with their future goals. Thank you to the parents and staff who have worked with our young people in sorting through their future years.

Intention Forms

Please note that intentions forms are now overdue for all students planning to study at the Kildare Campus in 2013. Over the next two weeks students will begin to work through their LA's to enrol into their 2013 Subject Preferences. Any outstanding forms will mean that student subject intentions cannot be processed and may result in students not receiving their first preferences. Please attend to this asap. For students who are not intending to return, please ensure that the forms are returned indicating this.

The Dante Alighieri Society Poetry Competition

Once again our committed LOTE (Italian) students participated in the Dante Alighieri Society poetry competition. This year we had a large group enter the finals and it is a credit to them and their past and present Italian teachers that they progressed this far. It is a very prestigious competition where thousands of students from across Victoria recite a poem in Italian. Results have been recently published:

- Korey Kavadias – 1st (Year 10 section)
- Ryan Ward – 2nd (Year 12 section)

Congratulations Korey and Ryan. They will both attend an Awards Ceremony held at Melbourne University in recognition of this achievement. Our thanks to Ms Cataldo for her support of the students.

Presentation Campus Update

Tamsin McCormack - Campus Director



Subject selection time is such a busy and sometimes confusing time for students and parents. This week has seen the Yr 9s start this process.

I congratulate the students on how well they have researched the subjects that they need to study for their future careers, having discussions with staff, attending Expo at Kildare and other open days and searching information relating to their careers. While some students may not get their first choice, this process encourages them to think towards the future and understand that there are many different pathways that will enable them to reach their ultimate goal.

The students have had the opportunity to listen to a letter written by Br Georges, one of the Marists in Syria. This letter was very moving and made the students stop and think through what others are enduring.

This week we are sending home and emailing calendars relating to each year level at Presentation Campus, the home study and assessment task due dates. I would encourage parents to place a copy in a prominent position, so that dates can be checked and students assisted to organise themselves appropriately to submit their work on time.

Gippspell

On Monday, 6th August, four students from years 7 and 8 competed in the Gippspell Latrobe City Zone Final. Corey Peterson, Lachlan Day, Dylan Sibly and Meg Ruyters travelled to at Lowanna College for the event.

The day provided some great spelling with the final two in the Yr 7 division having to go through to round six to find a winner.

Corey held on to win the Yr 8 section and will proceed to the Provincial Final, to be held at Lavalla Catholic College St Paul's Campus, on Wednesday, 5th September. Dylan was runner up in Yr 7, succumbing to a word he had never seen or heard of before 'bivouac'.

Everyone had a great day. Corey's Dad was there to support him and extremely proud to see him win. Dylan and Meg are looking forward to trying out again next year.



GippsWeb

On Tuesday, 7th August, a presentation evening to the GippsWeb for Business competition was held by Monash University.

This competition asked students to create a website to the requirements of their given business and included much real life experiences with cliental. One of the groups were asked to complete a website for a German club and had much trouble with communication! One group from Lavalla Catholic College managed to make it through the regional finals and gave a presentation to a select board from Monash.

Up against eight other schools, from all over Gippsland, they managed very well and were the top team for the event.

We congratulate Erin Lawn, Ellie Bowtell and Lachlan Kincaid on their fine efforts.

Thank you to Mr Dan Caffrey and the Latrobe Valley Sustainability Group for their efforts and support on the project.

Thank you to all who have settled their accounts to date.

A reminder final payments for school fees for 2012 are due Friday 31st August.

We appreciate your cooperation and thank you in advance for your continued support of the College.



August Dates

Tuesday, August 14

iCAS mathematics

Wednesday, August 15

Feast of the Assumption

Mathletics parent info

night

Thursday, August 16

Year 11 retreats

PISA testing

Friday, August 17

Year 8 Monash visit

Thursday, August 23

Eisteddfod - Choirs

Monday, August 27

Student free day

Tuesday, August 28

LA parent interviews

Friday, August 31

School fees due

here to inspire!

GippsTAFE 2013 Course Guide available now.

Visit our website for more information or to download your copy today.

www.gippstafe.edu.au



www.gippstafe.edu.au



Enrolment Due Dates

Year 12 2013 students (current year 11) = Week of Monday 20th August (done during the week in LA classes)

Year 11 2013 students (current year 10) = Week of Monday 27th August (done during parent/LA meetings)

Year 10 2013 students (current year 9) = Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th September

WYD2013 Rio – want to be part of it?

Considering joining Pope Benedict XVI for World Youth Day 2013 in Rio de Janeiro? Want to find out how you can be part of the biggest youth event on the planet? Come along to an information session to get all the nitty gritty details of the Victorian Dioceses' pilgrimage to WYD2013. Even if you are still just thinking about joining the pilgrimage this is your opportunity to see what's in store and get all of your questions answered. Bring your friends and family and get ready to start the adventure that is WYD2013!

Various WYD2013 info sessions will be held at different locations around Victoria - feel free to attend any session that suits you best.

- WARRAGUL: 7-9pm Monday August 13
Marion Meeting Room, St Joseph's Church
Witton St, Warragul
- LEONGATHA: 7-9pm Tuesday August 14
St Laurence's Parish Hall
Ogilvy St, Leongatha
- CHURCHILL: 7-9pm Monday August 20
Lumen Christi Catholic Church
Williams Ave, Churchill
- BERWICK: 7-9pm Tuesday September 4
St Michael's PS Stadium meeting room
129 High St, Berwick

Email Jess at jessd@sale.catholic.org.au with any enquires.



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(ADMINISTRATION)

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Kosciuszko Street TRARALGON

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Fax. (03) 5174 0783

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Grey Street TRARALGON

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John Field Drive NEWBOROUGH

Ph. (03) 5127 1311

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