

LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER



5 SEPTEMBER 2008

Dear parents and students

On behalf of Lavalla Catholic College we congratulate **Mr Peter Ryan** on his appointment as Director of Catholic Education in the Sale Diocese. His appointment was confirmed last week by Fr Peter Slater. Mr Ryan has been in this role for some months now and comes well qualified and experienced to take on this significant and challenging role in the Diocese. We wish upon him God's every blessing as he leads the Catholic communities in the Diocese.

Mr Bradley Silver is the newly appointed parent representative on the College Council. You will remember that Mr Silver replaces Mrs Norma Bellerby and he and his family have had a long association with the College. At a time when families are extremely busy with numerous commitments and making time for another meeting is a challenge for everyone, we thank Mr Silver for his generosity and also his willingness to assist in the stewardship of the College.

Br Peter Howes has been offered a wonderful opportunity to attend an extended retreat in Rome. This retreat can be seen as enrichment leave, offering brothers who have dedicated their lives an opportunity to refresh, renew and refocus on their life commitment. As you are all aware, Br Peter celebrated his 50th Jubilee earlier this year and I am sure he is looking forward to this experience. Br Peter leaves at the end of September and will return by mid December. We wish for him, that he achieves all he hopes for while away.

Father's Day

Does anyone know when we celebrated the first Father's Day? Apparently, it was on the 15 July, 1908 in a small community in West Virginia (USA), when Dr Robert Webb dedicated a Sunday service to honour the role of fathers in our lives, unlike the Mother's Day tradition that finds its roots in the customs of ancient Greece where Mother Goddesses were often recognised and celebrated. However, it is President Calvin Coolidge who is best known for being the first to recognise father's day in 1924 and in 1972 President Richard Nixon first established a permanent national observance of Father's Day.

In comparison to mother's day, recognising the importance of fathers and fatherhood is therefore a relatively new realisation. A study conducted by child psychologist Kevin McDonald found the following:

- ⌘ Excellence in both academic and social spheres is strongly linked to the child's relationship with her/his father.
- ⌘ When children spend more time playing with their father, the teachers consistently rated them as well-liked by their peers.
- ⌘ When fathers take an active role in their children's lives, it not only helps them to develop healthy friendships and achieve good grades, but it plays a major role in their success as adults.
- ⌘ When fathers were highly involved with their children, children generally attend more schooling and gain higher average salary than those with lower father involvement.

Children glean much more from their interaction with their fathers than we realise.

Even though our dads may not be perfect, Father's day is about appreciating their expressions of love and kindness and the important role they play in our lives. From our own tenderness and thoughtfulness let Sunday be a day of celebrating our own father whether we are able to share in his company or over the phone or sadly in prayer remembering him in your life.

Continue Page 2.....

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Let us not forget to spare a thought to our heavenly Father as well who loves and protects us always.

*God our Father,
in your wisdom and love you made all things.
Bless these men,
that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers.
Let the example of their faith and love shine forth.
Grant that we, their sons and daughters,
may honour them always
with a spirit of profound respect.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.
Amen*

**Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal**

Kildare Campus

Students are currently enrolling and planning for 2009. I recently took the opportunity to remind our students that while we are entering into planning for next year, it is important that they focus on finishing well this year. I reminded students of the College Promotion Policy and the importance of having a study plan and the effect of a positive approach to learning and classes. Students need to demonstrate significant skill development in subject areas to be promoted to the next year level or subject. Please spend time discussing with your children their work habits and how the Promotions Policy may impact on them. For the majority of students now is the time to congratulate them on their work so far and encourage them in their studies for the rest of the year.

150 Years of AFL Celebrations

Earlier this month the Kildare Campus spent a week celebrating the 150 years of Australian football. A house based footy competition was run throughout the week by our House Leaders. The competition included House based matches, where we saw female and male teams compete. There were also daily competitions such as handball competitions, banner making, footy sprint competitions and much more.

The week culminated with a trip to the MCG with 32 students and 7 staff on the train to the MCG. Included in the group was our newly arrived Canadian exchange student, Thomas. While the wind was harsh we braved the freezing temperature and the rain. Our spirits weren't dampened by the low numbers at the game. We convinced our new Australian - Thomas - to barrack for Melbourne. He was very excited when at the 20 minute mark of the 2nd quarter they scored a behind. The match was a non contest, with Geelong winning by 116 points. There was further entertainment for our students when 2 staff missed their station.

It was an entertaining week. We would like to thank our local AFL store who supplied us with Prizes. Congratulations to all our students who involved themselves in the celebration and especially to **Mr John Edwards** for his support and organisation during the week.

World Junior Bocce Championships

We congratulate **Megan Griffiths** and **Matt Moffatt**. They are currently in Croatia competing in the Junior World Bocce Championships. At the time of writing Megan and Matt had succeeded in the quarter finals of the Doubles Championships. Perhaps you heard them interviewed on the radio last week.

Music Achievements

Our Music students and staff have continued their achievements. Last week our Senior and Junior Choirs performed at the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod in Traralgon. The Senior Choir won the Secondary Schools Trophy with an inspirational performance of **Mozart's Ave Verum** and **Nkosi Sikeleli Afrika**. Our enthusiastic Junior Choir gave a most enjoyable performance and won second place in the Choral Group Under 20 Years section. Congratulations to all our music students and conductors.

We also congratulate our participants in the Melbourne Bands Festival. The **Senior Jazz Ensemble** won the **Silver Shield** in the Jazz Ensemble competition. Our **Intermediate Concert Band** won the **Bronze Shield** in the Junior Concert Band section in their first ever performance at the festival. Our **Senior Wind Ensemble** received some wonderful feedback but unfortunately did not place this time. While a little tired from all of their music commitments, the campus thanks **Matt Harris, Alison Teychenne, Maria Testa** and **Shane Reid** for their continued passion in the music area.

Acknowledgement of our Students

It is always refreshing to receive notes and telephone calls complimenting our students on their performance, approach or presentation while attending external campus events. Recently, Deakin University and Monash University representatives were full of praise for our students with the level of questioning and preparedness at information sessions. We also had noteworthy praise from a Clerk at the Supreme Court Visit by Year 11's. I congratulate all our students who help to make our College a place where people see **Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts**.

**Mr Marco Di Cesare
Campus Director**

St Paul's Campus

Litter in the yard is becoming an issue. We know our students are civic-minded in public; strangers have been impressed by their excellent behaviour in diverse places such as Melbourne, at sporting competitions and at camps. The constant litter in the yard suggests that this civic-mindedness flies out of their minds during recess and lunch in school. Despite twenty-five bins being strategically available, sandwich bags, wrappers, apple cores, orange peel are dropped on the ground, often just a few feet away from a bin. What is more worrying is the attitude behind the action, a lack of concern for others in the school, a lack of pride in their surroundings, a lack of pride in themselves.

Closing the canteen occasionally is a deterrent, but cannot provide a long term solution. Only a deliberate, thoughtful 'No' to litter is the answer. Students need to make the correct decision to use the bins. If parents could reinforce the message at home, it would go a long way to supporting us at school and helping with the litter issue.

We want a spotless yard! It shows pride and a sense of worth. A clean working area lifts performance; it makes everyone feel good. It builds a sense of team spirit and it improves the quality of education for our students.

Gippspell

Lavalla (St. Paul's) sent a team of four students to the Gippspell competition held at St. Vincent's School, Morwell.

Sam Farmer and **Sam Stoddart** (Year 8) secured the top

two places in their section, while **Tessa Crawford** and **Cassie Forrester** (Year 7) placed first and third in their section. We congratulate them on their efforts so far and wish them well as they now progress to the regional finals to be held later in the year.

Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge

Congratulations to all students and staff for their commitment to the VPRC. Some interesting statistics: students at Lavalla read 10,820 books and 550 students successfully completed the VPRC. It was very encouraging to see 9 Year 10 students complete the VPRC independently. The reading habit lives on!

Touch Footy

The Junior Boys and Junior Girls (Years 7 & 8) and the Intermediate Boys and Intermediate Girls (Years 9 & 10) teams won their Touch footy games. They proceed to the CAS championships at Eltham on 9th September. It will be an early start and a long day. We wish them best of luck.

Anaphylaxis Training

Ambulance Victoria conducted Anaphylaxis training for 19 staff members. To ensure that students at risk of anaphylactic episodes are managed safely, it is planned that every staff member be adequately trained.

Mr Chris Roga
Campus Director

Presentation Campus

In keeping with the College's commitment to review, renew and continually improve the teaching and learning opportunities for our students the past few days have been busy ones.

- Our **Energy Monitors** have settled into their role and are helping to raise our awareness of heaters and lights left on needlessly and of our responsibility to care for the environment.
- The second meeting of the Moe/Newborough Partners in Education group (St Kieran's, St Mary's and Lavalla's Presentation Campus) was held at St Mary's with a tour of the school and professional discussions of how we could support one another in working with our students and their families.
- The **Looking Good, Feeling Good** program is in its third week. Last week it was a visit to the Yallourn TAFE Hair and Beauty Department where a dedicated team worked their magic on tangled hair and nails in need of some TLC. Next it was a Pilates session with the instructor, Kirsten Larkins, a past Presentation student now studying Year 12. Kirsten is already an accredited Pilates instructor.
- The subject selection begun with Expo has continued with interviews for those applying for VET and accelerated VCE options and their electronic entering of course choices begin next week.
- **Sherrie** and **Steven Hibbs** represented our campus at the recent Knockout Athletics at which both managed credit worthy performances.

- The use of Student Planners is slowly improving with some parents finding them as a useful communication tool.
- Our student/teacher **Laynton Allan** has been instrumental in organising the lunchtime basketball competition currently underway. Though the staff were late bloomers, they finally won the staff/student match-up - thanks to Mr Williams and Mr Allan.
- The **Art Connect 9** performance this past visit was called "Dancin' Here Dancin' Now" and added to the wonderful variety in the Arts that our students have been fortunate enough to be exposed to through this program.
- The "Orientation to Coaching" program was offered by Mr Rob Wood from Cricket Victoria. During the four hours he passed on many skill drills and clues for improving a team's chance of success. These students will now be invited to attend the October 17th cricket event in which several past Test cricketers will participate.

These types of programs beyond the traditional classroom are a combination of Applied and Differentiated learning styles. They are part of a greater move "to make this a dynamic, engaged, learning community" with programs to engage our students in many different styles of learning.

Mrs Leanne Mills
Campus Director

Forthcoming Events

TERM 3

SEPTEMBER

9 Sept	CAS Touch Football
10 Sept	Annual Music Concert [Kildare]
11 Sept	Immunisations - Year 10 females [Kildare] Outdoor & Environment Excursion [Kildare]
16 Sept	CAS Athletics Outdoor & Environment Excursion [Kildare]
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

TERM 4

OCTOBER

6 Oct	Term 4 Begins
6-23 Oct	Year 12 VCAL Work Experience
8-10 Oct	Year 9.1 Camp at Tamboritha [St Paul's]
9 Oct	Year 12 Practice English/Literature Exam Night Time Second Hand Uniform Shop
12 Oct	Schools Cycling Cup [Kildare]
13 Oct	Parents & Friends (7.30pm ISC [Library] StPaul's) Year 7 Family Life [St Paul's] Guest Speaker - Dale Simmons, TRUenergy [P]
13-17 Oct	Net Retreats - Year 10 [Kildare]
13-15 Oct	Year 9.2 Camp at Tamboritha [St Paul's]
14 Oct	Year 7 TRUenergy excursion [P]
15-17 Oct	Year 9.3 Camp at Tamboritha [St Paul's]
20 Oct	FULL SUMMER UNIFORM

Good Beginnings Volunteers

If you have a couple of hours spare a week, enjoy children and/or young babies and would like to use your parenting experience supporting families with young children please ring Good Beginnings on 5127 7270.

A 42 hour training programme will commence early in Term 4. Once trained volunteers are able to assist in one of our Playgroups or become a Home Visitor Volunteer.

Contact details: PO Box 786, Moe, 3825
E-mail: latrobe@goodbeginnings.net.au

Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN

Thursday 18 September
from 3.30pm-4.30pm

NIGHT TIME SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

GET READY FOR THE
CHANGE OF SEASON

OPEN ON
THURSDAY 9th October
6.30-8.00 PM

Canteen Roster

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Mon 8 Sept	L. Hare, L. McDonald
Tue 9 Sept	R. Diaz, (help needed)
Wed 10 Sept	T. Grunwald, D. Arandt
Thu 11 Sept	M. Johnston, L. Elliott
Fri 12 Sept	M. Holt, (help needed)
Mon 15 Sept	I. Gregson, V. Agius
Tue 16 Sept	R. Farmer, (help needed)
Wed 17 Sept	S. Thompson, W. Whelan
Thu 18 Sept	K. Licciardi, L. Barrett
Fri 19 Sept	L. Zalesiak, (help needed)

KILDARE CAMPUS

Mon 8 Sept	C. Jackiw, (help needed)
Tue 9 Sept	C. Templeton, A. Mooney
Wed 10 Sept	R. Crowle, (help needed)
Thu 11 Sept	H. Stoddart, (help needed)
Fri 12 Sept	A. Fogarty, (help needed)
Mon 15 Sept	D. Buckley, S. Jacobs
Tue 16 Sept	K. Dugan, H. Van Berkel
Wed 17 Sept	Help Needed x 2
Thu 18 Sept	S. Bridges, (help needed)
Fri 19 Sept	L. Clarke, C. Hinds

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

Parent Teacher Interviews

Thursday 18 September
from 4.00pm-7.45pm

For sale
LOTE and VCAL Food Stall
held at each Campus
Roast Rolls (Kildare),
Cakes and slices (all)