



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

2 December 2004

Dear Parents,

It is appropriate for this, the last newsletter of 2004, to thank you all for your co-operation, assistance and encouragement during the year. For those families whose association with the College will come to a conclusion this year I offer my best wishes and blessings for you in the years ahead. To all, I wish a peaceful and joyful Christmas.

I also pay tribute to all our staff members and on behalf of the College I thank them most sincerely for their efforts. This year we will be farewelling a number of teachers:- Mr Xavier Gargan, (3 years) Mrs Marian Jenkinson, (5 Years), Mrs Rachel Rachiele (7½ Years), Mrs Val Robertson (10 Years), Mr Alan Ryan (24 Years), Leave of Absence for Raewyn Taylor (7 Years), Ms Maryanne Wilson (5 years), Dr Weihong Zhang (2½ Years) and Mr Gerry Clarke one of our groundsmen.

They go with our blessings, our good wishes and above all, our thanks. In thanking them and wishing them well in the years to come, I am sure that no one will begrudge my giving special mention and thanks to a longer serving member, Mr Alan Ryan who after 24 years in catholic secondary education has decided to retire from full time permanent teaching. We have all benefited from Alan's enthusiasm for Catholic Education, his interest in students and his way of motivating them to strive for better things. He has given years of wonderful service to the junior secondary classes, all of which demand much energy and more patience. Many students have benefited from his care, his clear directions and his attention. We are most grateful for his efforts and he will be sorely missed.

We also acknowledge Val Robertson who has been cleaning here for 10 years, always reliable, bright and cheerful, she has now turned her attention to recovering from a serious illness. We wish her better health and peaceful days.

Br Julian Casey
Principal

RETURN DATES 2005

Students return on the following dates

Year 7 Year 10 and Year 12 - - - - Thursday 27th January 2005

Year 8, Year 9 and Year 11 - - - - Friday 28th January 2005

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

As the school year draws to a close I wish to thank a number of people for their efforts throughout the year. Firstly, to the students who have all made such a positive contribution to the campus this year. Our student leaders: **Tom, Melissa, Belle and Vincent** who have been diligent and active, the **energisers** who have assisted with so many projects around the campus; the **SRC representatives** who have supported various initiatives, the **House Captains and Vice Captains** who have assisted the staff with many sporting activities. Thanks also to the many **parents** who have volunteered for various tasks that add life to the College. Thanks to all the **staff** of the campus who work at their tasks throughout the year to ensure that our young people have the best grounds, facilities, classrooms and education that we can give them.

Farewell

We are farewelling some staff: **Mr Alan Ryan** who has been an institution at St Paul's and in the last twelve months has been Yr 9 Coordinator. **Ms Raewyn Taylor** who has worked in the Art area and been a caring Homeroom teacher, **Ms Maryanne Wilson** whose work has predominantly been in SOSE as well as being a firm and nurturing Homeroom teacher. We wish them well and know that they have had a huge impact on the lives of the students, parents and colleagues they have touched. **Mrs Meaghan Ambrose** will be taking maternity leave and we wish her well as she launches into parenthood.

Yr 9 Transition

Families are most welcome to attend the Transition Ceremony to be held on Thursday 9th at approx 2:15pm in the Champagnat Centre. However we understand that work commitments mean that most parents will only attend the mass at 6:00pm that evening.

Reports

Hopefully all students will end the year with a sense of satisfaction when they collect their reports on 15th December. The report should reflect the effort that each student has made through the semester.

Christmas Spirit

We recently received a letter from **Mitchell House** thanking the Yr 9 students who decorated the hostel. *"Our residents obtain great pleasure from seeing so many young, happy people around our building and look forward to their visit with anticipation."*

*"Off to one side sits a group of shepherds. They sit silently on the floor, perhaps perplexed, perhaps in awe, no doubt in amazement. Their night watch had been interrupted by an explosion of light from heaven and a symphony of angels. God goes to those who have time to hear him ... and so on this cloudless night he went to simple shepherds".-- Max Lucado ("The Arrival" in *Christmas Stories for the Heart*)*

Best wishes to you all and may the joy of Christmas fill your hearts and homes.

**Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus**

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

As this will be the last Report for 2004, may I take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with this Campus. I wish them a very **Holy and Happy Christmas and a Productive New Year.**

This Friday is a student free day. Next week all students begin their Orientation Program for 2005. A copy of the program was given to all students last week.

Monday 6th

All students "Promoted"

Tuesday 7th

Year 9's to Kildare Campus
Grade 6's here for Orientation

Wednesday 8th

Year 9's lay tiles
Year 9 Graduation Mass and Meal

Thursday 9th

Last day for Year 9 students

Friday 10th

Last day for Year 7 and 8 students
**Second hand book sale -
Presentation Campus 10.00am to
1.00pm**

The last week of Term 4 is an important one for all students. I would encourage all students to make the most of the Orientation Program and to be involved in all the activities planned.

Student Leaders, SRC reps and Sports Captains will be elected during this week. All students are encouraged to nominate for positions of leadership. Speeches and elections will be held on Tuesday 9th of December.

Once again my thanks to everyone for a very successful year. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a safe and restful break and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

"Your in the Spirit of Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts"

Chris O'Brien
HEAD OF CAMPUS

KILDARE CAMPUS

Farewell Year 12:

Year 12 students were farewelled last Thursday with the celebration of the Eucharist at St. Michael's Church. The Mass was a most memorable occasion with the Liturgy being enhanced with lovely singing by the senior choir under the direction of Mrs. Marian Jenkinson and accompanied by Mrs Sophy Morley.

After Mass we all adjourned to Kernot Hall in Morwell for the Awards Presentation. The evening was a warm, family occasion and students

made their own efforts to especially thank their teachers and other members of staff for their assistance during the last six years.

I would like to especially thank Mr. Mark Judd who did an enormous amount of work in preparation for the night. Also, to Mrs. Bev O'Brien and Mrs. Mary Giddens who spent hours writing and proof-reading references, and finalising arrangements to ensure the evening was the success it was.

Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus



**PEACE and GOODWILL
TO ALL MANKIND**

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