



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

28 March 2003

Dear Parents,

Pilgrimage to Marist Heritage Sites

On April 5th Mr Van Berkel, Ms McKenzie and Ms Pegorer will join with other representatives from Marist Schools in the pilgrimage to Marist Places in France, Italy and India. A significant part of their time will be spent in the area where the Marist Brothers originated and of course they will have the opportunity to visit Lavalla, both the existing village and the first Marist school. Lavalla Catholic College is a part of a long history of education and care of young people and it is important for people within the College to connect to the foundations and traditions which have been handed on to us. This is the source of much of our energy and many of our values and goals.

This pilgrimage is a wonderful opportunity both for the College and those who are participating. We wish them safe travel and a fruitful time in these places of special importance to the Marist world and to us all at Lavalla Catholic College.

Br Julian Casey
Principal

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Teachers are now attending to reports for Term 1 2003. They will have entered their responses by March 31st. The next stage is that the reports are then printed and collated and then ready for distribution on Friday April 4th. Parent Teacher Interviews will be conducted on

**Thursday 10th April (4.00pm – 7.30pm) and
Friday 11th April (10.00 am to 12.00 noon).**

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Ms Doganeri has taken the initiative to begin **rosary for peace in the Chapel on Fridays**. Students and parents are most welcome to join her. Particularly in the current climate when many of us feel a heightened level of concern, fear or powerlessness; prayer allows us to place our trust in God and find comfort.

Tax File Numbers

Thursday 3rd April, we will have a visit from a representative of the **Australian Taxation Office**. The purpose of the visit is to inform Yr 9 students about their rights and obligations in the area of taxation and to allow them to

apply for a tax file number. If this is done through school, students do not need to provide the usual range of material for identification as the school authenticates the information.

'Shave for a Cure'

This activity was postponed last Friday. I was most pleased that all students followed directions and did not come to school with coloured hair on the day. The Campus Leaders and the St Vinny's group will be working on plans for another date so that the campus can join together to help others.

St Paul's (contd...)

Telephone Calls

It comes to our attention sometimes that students make unwelcome phone calls to each other. I suggest most strongly that if this is happening to your child, make contact with the parents of the harasser. If you receive no satisfaction this way you should make contact with the police. These young people need to know that this is not considered a 'childish prank' but is actually unlawful.

Yr 9 Welcome Night

My thanks to the Yr 9 Homeroom teachers and parents who attended this evening. Many students become apprehensive about the transition to Yr 10 and parents often feel they

don't have sufficient information to advise their children. Hopefully this evening was the beginning of the process of gathering information to make informed choices at enrolment time.

Family Life

A reminder to all Yr 7 parents that the Family Life program will take place next week; **Monday 31st at 7:30pm.** This program provides a strong support for sexual and moral education in the family and all families are encouraged to attend. My thanks to Miss Matters for facilitating this and Mrs Sue Collis for presenting.

Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

The **Parent Support Group Annual General Meeting** was held last week. Congratulations to our new office bearers for 2003:

President: Mrs Carol Wilson
Treasurer: Mrs Rita Warren
Secretary: Mrs Geraldine Stephens

The Parent Support Group is currently conducting an **Easter Raffle.** All students have received a book of tickets to the value of \$5. Please support this fund-raising activity. Mrs Wilson has also written to all parents outlining the purpose of the group and its aims for 2003.

May I take this opportunity to thank two of the long serving members of the Presentation Regional College Parents & Friends:

Mrs. Jean Kozac for her sterling efforts over the last 10 years in many and varied roles and most recently as President. Her enthusiasm and determination to support all aspects of the College are to be admired and her contribution to fund-raising and the support of College activities are to be commended.

To the Treasurer, **Mr. Pat Shine**, for over 20 years of tireless service. Pat began in 1986 and was actively involved in the maintenance of both campuses in the late 80's and 90's. His attention to detail, belief in the College and his dedication to its growth and development will be the benchmark for those who follow.

We wish both Pat and Jean every best wish for the future and assure them that they will always have a place in the hearts of all who experienced their warmth and generosity. Jean and Pat held the office of President and Treasurer in the inaugural Lavalla Presentation Parent Support Group.

The **SRC** is eager to conduct a social for all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 on Wednesday 9th April from 7.30 till 11.00pm in the Circulation area. Tickets will be on sale next week - \$5 for pre-sold tickets and \$7 for tickets at the door. Full security will be provided and no pass outs will be allowed. The Parent Support Group has indicated its willingness to assist with the canteen on the night. Last year's social was a great success with about 80 student attending.

Chris O'Brien
Head of Campus

LAVALLA PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The next meeting will be held Monday 7th April at the Resource Centre, St Paul's Campus commencing at 7.30pm. Guest speaker will be Mrs Maureen McIntosh who will speak on her role as Year 7 Co-ordinator. If you require further information please contact either Jenny Hansch 5122 1684 or Felicetta Kile 5166 1480.

KILDARE CAMPUS

Mentoring Program

Last week, Mr. Steven McInness, a highly specialised consultant, spent three days of intensive Workshops and Seminars with the students, their parents and staff. His main focus was about motivation, goal setting and approaches to study. On Tuesday evening approximately 120 parents, some students and a few members of staff attended the Parent Seminar. The evening was most successful and I would like to share with you some of the feedback provided by members of the audience at the end of the evening.

“This has given me a good basis to start the process with my Year 10 child”

“Interesting and informative. Thank you for the strategies ... If I'd only known some of this with my older two children.”

“I believe that by coming here tonight it has put me more in touch with my son who is in Year 11 and has given me more confidence to approach him about many issues that concern me.”

“I would encourage as many parents as possible to attend this lecture, preferably accompanied by their adolescent children”

I would like to acknowledge the work of Mrs. **Annemarie Clarke** and **Mr. Mark Judd** in facilitating what has been a most successful program.

‘Shave for a Cure’

Mrs. Clarke's Leadership class led this initiative. At lunchtime, hairdressers from Colli's (Katie Rigg and Simone Mingaars) and Sam and Frank's (Christine Della Fortuna, Michael Cauchi and Sebastian Finocchiaro) came to the College and shaved the heads of some staff and students as a way of raising awareness and raising some money for Leukaemia Research. Other students had their hair temporarily coloured. We dedicated the day to the Year 11 student currently in hospital battling the disease. During the course of an energetic two or three weeks, \$2,381.65 was raised on Campus. Congratulations and thank you to all involved.

Full Bore Rifle Championships

The College Full Bore Rifle Team competed in the Howard and Schuback Inter-school Full Bore Rifle Competition and was successful last Friday at the Rosedale rifle range. After two years of being runners-up to Gippsland Grammar School, Sale, Tim Lawless (Captain) led his team to victory for the first time. The team scored 153/160 with 13 centre bullseyes. Best performances: Cameron Freeman 39/40 with 2 centre bullseyes, Tim Lawless 38 with 4, Chris Brady 38 with 4 and Stephen McKenna 38 with 3. Special thanks to **Mr. John Williams** (Coach and Manager) and to **Mr. David Williamson** (Armourer for the Australian Team) for their work with a very dedicated and responsible group of young people.

Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus

FAITH & MINISTRY

‘Give a Damn, Give a Can’

Each year the Traralgon Rotary Club organizes a special collection of canned foodstuffs throughout the district. These food items are given directly to local agencies for distribution to those in our community who have special needs. Promoted as a Lenten activity this was a unique opportunity to assist a local venture in a practical way. It is a specific action to express our concern for the welfare of others.

Work Experience Commissioning

Last Friday the Year 10 students gathered to be commissioned and sent on their way into the community to commence their work experience.

Lavalla Catholic College again offered to assist with the door-to-door collection during the appeal time. We have accepted responsibility for the western end of Traralgon... St. Paul's Campus students will collect in the area between Stockdale Road, Crosses Rd and Grey St. Kildare students will collect in the area between Washington St, Grey St and the highway. This represents about a quarter of Traralgon.

Fr Michael Willemsen of St Michael's parish conducted a liturgy of sending forth during which each student was invited to come forward for an anointing with fragrant oil.

Faith & Ministry (contd...)

Each student was anointed on their temple with the following words...**live the dignity of work and renew the face of the earth.**

Liturgical Choir

Thanks must go to Peter Cavenagh and the liturgical choir who accompanied the liturgy

for the closing of **Senior Citizen's Week** at St Mary's Anglican Church. This was a major ecumenical event and the choir was greatly appreciated by all those who were present.

Mike Hansen
Director of Faith & Ministry

A LIFE-LONG LEARNING COMMUNITY

The pleasure of learning is not restricted to our students. Our Professional Development motto is "Lavalla Catholic College promotes a Life-Long Learning Community'. Through the professional-learning programme, teachers have a positive orientation to life-long learning and they attempt to embrace new ways thinking about teaching and learning and about developing an active learning community. Ultimately, as teachers we try to model a 'learning' approach to adult life and as lifelong learners ourselves we are both learners and teachers.

Already this year, almost 20% of staff members have attended Professional Learning activities. As a result you might hear that teachers are absent from classes. Teachers ensure that the flow of lessons is not interrupted and we are sure that you are supportive of this extra commitment from the staff to stay up-to-date and relevant for the benefit of our students.

Mind Matters+ is a comprehensive 'well-being' programme that promotes resilience, connectedness and developmental growth. A core of very active teachers from the St Paul's and Presentation campuses are designing programmes that can be used during the pastoral care periods. We are part of a government funded pilot programme that

allows us to pool resources with 17 other schools around Australia. Teachers have attended Professional Development activities in Sydney and Melbourne and meet fortnightly to ensure the programme is on target.

Together with the local Catholic Primary Schools, teachers from the St Paul's and Presentation campuses are part of the **Science and Environmental Education for the Middle Years** in a Latrobe Valley Catholic Cluster. This group is focusing on enhancing our year 5 to year 8 students' awareness of 'ecological sustainability' through organising school based activities and curriculum programmes.

Teacher of the Year Awards

Two years ago, we were fortunate to have 6 nominations for and one winner of the Teacher of the Year awards. These awards recognise excellence, commitment and innovation in teaching. As in years past, we encourage students to nominate a teacher or teachers for this prestigious award. There are a number of categories that can be nominated. For more information ask the homeroom teacher to provide a nomination form. **Nominations close by 28 May 2003.**

Erica Pegorer
Director of Professional & Administrative Services

CANTEEN ROSTER

	Presentation	Kildare	St Paul's
Mon. 31 March	C Dougan	A Zaghet, M Auciello	M Grass, M Northover
Tue. 1 April	C Risol	M Matthews	C Deering, A Zaghet
Wed. 2 April	I Koolen	M Wojciechowski	J Adams, K Daniels
Thu. 3 April	-	L Sanders	S Eccles, D Webb
Fri. 4 April	-	N Curnick	S Staley, J McCallum, K Clarke

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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