



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

23 May 2003

Dear Parents,

Lavalla Catholic College is a catholic school in the Marist Tradition that focuses on creating a centre for learning, for life and for faith. We do this by providing a framework in which can keep us focussed on what is important and life-giving. There are many aspects to this framework; but I would like to say something about the framework of community, which must be a significant part of the student's experience at the College.

If young people are to be people of compassion and to commit themselves to justice in their own lives and in the world around them, they must experience justice in how they themselves are treated and see how others are treated within the College. This implies a predictable and fair system of discipline, fairness in learning and assessment situations, and mutual respect.

Just at this time there have been a few instances where some students have, in quite serious ways, failed to respect other people or other people's property. Dealing with misbehaviour summarily cannot apply to serious matters. Rather the response to serious matters must enable students to learn from their mistakes, which is after all the basis for human wisdom. (There are nonetheless, matters so serious that they result in a student forfeiting his or her right to membership of the College Community. Fortunately this is a very rare occurrence.)

Consequences for serious lack of respect are generally worked out with the student and their family and are intended to remind the student of the damage that can be caused and to help them make amends with those who have been hurt by the behaviour, be they other students, staff or members of the community. I am in admiration of our Heads of Campus and their assistants for their unrelenting diligence in "getting to the bottom of issues" and for their patience and care in listening to all sides. I urge parents to work with our staff in dealing with these matters in order to come to a solution that is in the long term best interests of the student.

Br Julian Casey
Principal

CHURCHILL BUSES

The situation with the overcrowding on the Churchill and Hazelwood North buses is currently being looked at. New bus routes through Churchill town have been proposed and students are being assigned to these new routes; this will only effect some travellers in Churchill, but not those from Yinnar, Yinnar South, Booloara and Jeeralang Junction. A larger bus on at least one of those runs is also likely. The new proposal will be sent home within the next 2 weeks and I would ask for any queries about the proposal to be forwarded to me as soon as possible. Hopefully the new scheme will be in operation by June 2.

Mr. Van Berkel - Bus Co-ordinator.

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Like all good weather forecasters, we got it wrong. Given that Davidson Street offers no seating and little shelter, our athletics carnival scheduled for Tuesday was cancelled due to the severe weather alert. The storms did not eventuate. Mr Sizeland, who had organised the Carnival, arranged plan B; various heats and events were run on Wednesday so that we could select competitors for the inter-school Carnival to be held on May 27th.

Congratulations

Our congratulations and best wishes to the Presentation Campus as it celebrates the formal opening of its refurbished classroom and new food room this weekend.

Musical

Our Yr 9 musical students are in the throes of major rehearsals and workshops as they prepare for this year's extravaganza. Hopefully you'll be able to attend one of the performances on the 23rd, 24th or 25th of June.

Yr 6 visits

This week Maureen McIntosh, Rita Nainie and I completed the first round of Yr 6 visits. It is always lovely to meet the Yr 6 students and to answer their questions.

They are always well prepared by their primary schools and seem eager to join the Lavalla community.

We will be arranging opportunities for them to visit the campus and have a taste of life in Yr 7. Our thanks to the children and their teachers for the warm welcomes we received.

Supervised Study

At this stage of the term students will be busy completing work requirements. For a few students organisation is a problem; if work hasn't been completed on time you may receive a supervised study letter. This will mean that your child should remain after school on the nominated Wednesday to complete the work. If the task is completed and submitted before the Wednesday they do not need to attend.

Uniform

Please remember that correct wearing of the uniform is important. It shows a student's sense of belonging to the school and pride in themselves and their school. It is disheartening to have students and sometimes parents trying to circumvent the uniform policy.

"If you begin to live life looking for the God that is all around you, every moment becomes a prayer".--Frank Bianco

Lee McKenzie
Head of Campus

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

On Tuesday Ms Maryanne Wilson from St Paul's Campus came to speak with our Year 8's about her recent Study Tour to Japan.

She presented an in-depth PowerPoint Presentation which illustrated ancient and contemporary cultural traditions, rituals and religious landscapes.

Students showed great enthusiasm and interest to the Presentation and continued to talk about it over the coming week.

Open days and Information evenings are a test of the calibre of the College and in particular the campus.

We invite people to inspect the campus in operation. This is a way of saying we are proud of our students, we are confident in the way which the curriculum is delivered and we are prepared to give witness to our mission statement.

On Monday last week we visited the Catholic Primary schools and invited all students to Lavalla Catholic College for the next 6 years of their secondary schooling. I would like to acknowledge the support we received from both St. Kieran's and St. Mary's staff. The schools radiated warmth and a genuine interest in their students and their well being.

Wednesday was the **Open day** for both the St. Paul's and Presentation Campuses. On Wednesday some 25 families visited the campus. Our SRC reps acted as tour guides and to their credit responded in a mature and responsible manner answering all questions in an open and honest manner. This was commented on by all who attended the Open day. They remarked on the student's genuineness, commitment to and pride in the College. At the Information Evening our Student Leaders led the prayer and introduced the speakers. The evening was well attended and my thanks to the staff who

gave of their time and energy in making the evening a memorable one.

As mentioned last week, the Parent Support Group are offering an **Adult Computer Course** beginning on 28th May. The Course is open to all adults and will cater for beginners and those with some experience. If you are interested please contact the College on Ph 5127 1311.

The front drive and entrance are now nearing completion. My thanks to all parents who endured the wait, the rain, and the difficult traffic conditions over the past two weeks.

The recent **Year 8 Activity Days** at Inverloch were a great success. The weather was excellent, the surf good and the students responsive and attentive to the instruction. Our instructors, not long out of school themselves, remarked on the good manners and behaviour of our Year 8's.

My thanks to Mr Perona and Mr Briggs for their organisation and assistance on the day.

Yours in the Spirit of strong minds and compassionate hearts,

Chris O'Brien
Head of Campus

KILDARE CAMPUS

Debutante Ball – 2003

The 2003 Debutante Ball Committee was established last week. It is timely to remind the students and their parents about the College policy concerning participation in this important event for the Year 11 students.

"This is for current students only. Students who leave before the payment of the deposit are not accepted as debutantes or partners. Students who leave after the payment of the deposit may

*continue, provided that an undertaking or bond is made to cover good, appropriate behaviour." **Registration will take place on Wednesday, May 28 at 1.00 p.m.***

I would like to thank the following parents who have accepted the challenge of arranging for the 2003 Debutante Balls:

Team Leader: Libby Witchell
Assistant: Margaret Corponi
Secretary: Glenda Marino

Assistant: Bob Faulkner
Treasurer: Belinda Issell
Assistant: Still to be arranged

Committee: Vicki McGrath, Debbie Williams, Karen Patten, Jody Neil, Bev Kerrigan, Jenny Hansch, Rosa Lambert, Christine Burge, Jo Quinn, Karen Galea, Anne Zaghet, Gayle Kosakiewicz, Kim Patterson, Angela Waanders, Jo Ruane, Ros Young, Judith Power.

Dresses for the Debutantes came under some discussion at our meeting last Wednesday. In essence, the consensual agreement amongst the Members was that the Committee would provide some direction for students and their parents in the purchase or hire of the debutante gowns.

Debutante Ball dresses are typically white and style is not only tasteful but also appropriate to the occasion.

Parents and young ladies are asked to exercise good taste with the choice of dress and are advised that **bare midriffs are not permitted.** It is recommended that the gowns be 5 cm above the ground to prevent tripping and that Debutantes wear more than one petticoat, especially if the skirt of the dress is not full. Debutantes are also advised that gloves are compulsory, the length and style of the glove is left purely to the individual. As a general rule, short sleeves are matched with long gloves and long sleeves with short gloves.

Parents are welcome to attend the Meetings of the Committee and if issues or concerns emerge, please come and discuss them at Committee level.

Peter Schneider
 Head of Campus

CANTEEN ROSTERS

	Presentation	St Paul's	Kildare
Mon 26/5/03	J Caffrey	S Mills, L Barrett	C Jackiw, J Adams
Tues 27/5/03	C Risol	D Berryman, K Manson	D Miller, K Daniels
Wed 28/5/03	W Gibson	P Radovich, L Weckman	M Tonkins, M Leahy
Thur 29/5/03	M Bortignon	A Scully, S Dalarymple	S Zammut, K Licciardi
Frid 30/5/03	D Paulet	C Shippen, J Kivisalu, R Hadjistefanis	J Farquahar, B Fulton

ST MICHAEL'S YOUTH PROGRAM
VIDEO NIGHT
FRIDAY 30 MAY 2003

Relax & enjoy a movie on the BIG screen.....BYO snacks to eat
 St Michael's Hall - 6.30-9pmNo Cost

Phone Sharon (5176 6844) or Sally (5174 9661) for more info

Louise Varsaci – St Michael's Youth Leader
 PH: 5175 0877

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
---	---	--	---	--