



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

3 June 2005

Dear Parents,

Now that we are into the last part of the first semester, it would be useful to help your son or daughter focus on the more academic demands of these next few weeks. This is the time for assessment, for examinations, for reports and for dealing with attendances. VCE Examinations will take place soon. Unit 3 commences on June 6th and Unit 1 Examinations on June 9th.

Our attendance register shows the vast majority of students have met our attendance targets with many students achieving 100% attendance in all subjects. That is no mean feat and we must encourage them. On the other hand we are currently dealing with a few students whose attendance doesn't meet the requirement and 2 students whose VCE will be adversely affected by poor attendance.

We cannot dilute our message about what constitutes unacceptable attendance. In all but a few cases we experience a healthy partnership as parents and staff work together to ensure that these matters are understood and improvement effected. In thanking our Heads of Campus and Co-ordinators who have to deal with such matters, I also thank the parents who work with them to ensure the good of the students.

Website: www.lavalla.vic.edu.au

Our website has been re-constructed and although it is still in its early stages, it contains some important information. Current parents will be interested in the Newsletter, Calendar and Term Dates.

Br Julian Casey
Principal

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

The staff at St Paul's Campus have been working to positively encourage appropriate behaviours and to reward those students who display these behaviours. Last week your son or daughter may have told you that we were giving out raffle tickets to well-dressed, polite students, and those students who took on special tasks.

On Friday we drew out the winning ticket, which belonged to **Stirling Smith** from **8.2**. For his efforts, Stirling received a pass to the movies. We will continue this program until the end of term, please check with your child to see how many raffle tickets they can acquire in a week.

St Paul's contd...

You will have noticed that the campus has been quite busy with excursions and camps throughout the term. These have now come to an end, the weeks from the 30th May until 9th June have been declared **no interruption weeks**. This is to allow all students and staff to complete this semester's work and assessment before reports are written. Work completed in the last two weeks of term will be reported on in the term 3 and/or semester 2 reports.

Yr 9 Exam Schedule

Science Exam: Tuesday 7th - periods 5 & 6

SOSE Exam: Thursday 9th - periods 5 & 6

Maths: during designated maths classes.

Absences

Families will shortly be receiving letters regarding student absences. Occasionally there are errors in the system and we appreciate you taking the time to help us verify the accuracy of the records. Please

remember that your child needs to bring a note whenever they return from an absence. This is a legal requirement that the College must adhere to.

While I am always delighted to see Lavalla students as altar servers in our various parishes, the **Youth Masses at St Michael's at 6:00 Sunday nights**, are certainly giving young people an opportunity to take on leadership within the church. My congratulations to all the youth who are stepping forward to act as singers, special ministers, readers etc. You give us great hope for the future of our church.

"Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith. .. -Henry Ward Beecher

*Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus*

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

Reporting and Assessment will be the focus for both staff and students over the coming weeks. Please sit down and discuss your son's or daughter's Work Requirements and Due Dates. Check the Planner and do not hesitate to contact staff.

The **Report Writing Day** for staff is on Friday 10th of June. It is a Student Free Day.

On Tuesday the **Year 7's went to St. Paul's Campus** to experience the **Navy Band**. The article below was written by *Krystal Petkovic P702*.

"Navy Band

Tuesday the 31st of May the Year 7's went to St. Paul's to see the Navy Band play.

First they played a song that they usually play at any Navy function, then they played a Star Wars song (that was really, really good).

After that they played a Rock 'N' Roll song and everyone got up and danced. They were rocking hard. The Navy Band played Evan Scents, Spider Bait and many more R & B Rock songs.

It was really good!"

Ms Bianconi and four students from this Campus have been busy preparing for the musical '**How the West was Warped.**' Since the beginning of this year, a number of Year 9 and 10 students have been rehearsing for the musical.

It is a musical comedy set in the old Wild West with all the usual western characters making an appearance.

Four students from Presentation Campus are in the production: Rita Chandra, Katrina Seymour, Rhiannon Kane and Ben Maunder.

All students involved in the musical have been working exceptionally hard and have dedicated a lot of their spare time to rehearsals, including some Sundays.

This musical is a great opportunity, not only to showcase the amazing talent that the students of Lavalla have, but also as an opportunity for students from all three campuses to come together and continue to strengthen the ties between St. Paul's, Presentation and Kildare Campuses.

We hope that you can all 'mosey on down' on the 16th, 17th or 18th of June at 8pm to

the Kildare Hall to find out for yourselves, 'How the West was Warped'.

We have been notified that the buses will be collecting students at 2.00pm on Friday, 24th June. We will therefore be finishing school at **2.00pm on that final day**. We would expect **all** students to attend until 2.00pm

Yours in the Spirit of Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts.

Chris O'Brien
HEAD OF CAMPUS

KILDARE CAMPUS

The Mid-year Examinations and GAT

All students studying Unit 3 subjects will be involved in either VCAA Exams or School Assessed Coursework (SAC) tasks during the week from **Monday, June 6 to Thursday, June 10**. Consequently all Year 12 (Unit 3) classes have been suspended for the week. Students were issued with their personal timetables and GAT pamphlet on Thursday, June 2 during the Mentoring Period. **All scheduled exams or assessments are compulsory**. Students will need to be at school *at least* 15 minutes before the exam or the assessment task is to commence.

Full school uniform is to be worn on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for presentation at the Exams; however, the uniform will not be required to be worn on Thursday for the English Oral SAC. **Friday is a pupil free day** for Report Writing.

Year 12 Students, who do not have an exam on a particular day during the week, are not required at school. Years 10 and 11 students are required at school as usual. The VCE Study Centre will be open and available for Year 12 students throughout the week. Students will need to check with their teachers concerning their availability during this time.

General Achievement Test

All students doing any VCE Units 3 & 4 are required to sit the General Achievement Test (GAT), unless their school principal exempts them.

The GAT is a test of general knowledge in the areas of written communication, mathematics, science and technology, and humanities, the arts and social sciences. It is an essential part of the VCE assessment procedures. Although the GAT result does not count directly towards a student's VCE results, it does play an important role in checking that the school assessments and exams have been accurately assessed.

It is important that students do as well as they can on the whole test to ensure that they receive full advantage of the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority's additional checks on VCE student assessment. The Authority uses GAT scores as a basis for reviewing school assessments in SAC's and SAT's, requesting authentication checks by schools for particular students' SAC's or SAT's, checking the accuracy of exam marking and contributing to the statistical moderation of SAC's.

Kildare (contd....)

The GAT will take place in a single three-hour session. There will be two writing tasks, each of about half an hour, and a multiple-choice task that will take about two hours. Whilst the tasks may be completed in any order, it is suggested that the writing tasks be completed first, followed by the multiple-choice questions.

Students can go back to any part of the test at any time, because the script books will not be collected until the end of the testing time. I would like to wish all students doing their mid-year exams every success.

Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus

BUS TRAVEL on 24 JUNE
(Moe Network)

On the last day of Term 2, Friday 24th June, Government Schools in the Moe Network will be finishing one hour earlier. As a consequence all the contract buses will be commencing their runs one hour earlier at 2.00pm as opposed to 3.00pm. This includes the buses that travel out of

town to Erica, Rawson, Trafalgar, McDonalds Track, Yallourn North, WillowGrove/Westbury/Tanjil South. Students who connect onto these buses will need to make arrangements to fit in with travel on this day.

"HOW THE WEST WAS WARPED"

Years 9 and 10 Lavalla students have been rehearsing hard this term for the
2005 College Musical

A musical comedy set in the 'Wild West' - this show incorporates students from all 3 campuses who sing and dance their way through John Denver's hilarious Western parody. The venue is Kildare Campus Hall and tickets can be purchased from the front office of each Lavalla Campus for \$7 (adults) and \$5 (students). The show dates are:

Thursday 16th June, 8pm
Friday 17th June, 8pm
Saturday 18th June, 8pm

Come along and support performing arts at Lavalla

CANTEEN ROSTER

	St Paul's	Kildare
Mon. 6 June	Help wanted	J Kurrle, K Manson
Tue 7 June	S Garrett, T Pledge	M Byl, G Breed
Wed 8 June	H Stoddart, help wanted	M Fievez, A Fletcher
Thu 9 June	V Sammut, help wanted	B Boothman, M Armatas

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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