



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

7 April 2006

Dear Parents and Students

It has been a week of anniversaries as we remembered in our quiet moments of reflection the great works of Pope John Paul II and Martin Luther King. We remember them not only because they were inspirational leaders with an ability to mobilise thousands of followers but also because they championed their cause with persuasion, determination and a profound belief in the good of what they were doing. In helping define what it means to be human, each man tried to influence the way we live our lives and to help us recognise that as humans we are all connected to each other and that our individual actions impacts on the community.

For example, in the paper the other day I read with interest the story of a Mai Muktar, who runs a school in Pakistan by day, as well as a sanctuary for women and girls in her own house. Mai is remarkable in that she is teaching some of these women whose ages range from 7 to 50 years, to 'reclaim their rights' in terms of legal representation, medical care and spiritual guidance. The international reporter reflected that, "around Muktar Mai [he] sensed the presence of greatness that others might have felt around Gandhi or King". I was struck by Mai's determination and courage and by her commitment to improve the life of her community of women.

Great leaders like these touch our hearts because their concern for social justice affect us all and crosses the boundaries of colour, creed or class. Of course we could all name other famous leaders who have had some affect on human kind and hopefully we can also name many everyday people within our own circle who offer this kind of selfless example.

We see clearly that embedded in their inspirational work are the teachings and life examples offered to us by Jesus in his work with the poor, the sick and the needy. We are approaching the anniversary of Jesus' death and we are reminded that in his suffering, death and resurrection he brings us hope in our lives. During the Easter season, may you invite those in your circle into a new life of hope so that you send them into a new tomorrow with anticipation and optimism.

Wishing you every blessing for coming Easter Season.

Erica Pegorer
Principal

A separate Calender Dates sheet for Term 2 has been distributed with today's newsletter

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews

The teachers and staff at the College would like to see the Parent/ Student/Teacher Interviews become a more positive experience for all involved. We would like to encourage all parents to meet with teachers, view displays of student work and take part in workshops on Wednesday, April 12th. The workshops are a new initiative and have been developed in response to feedback from parents.

Life's a Ball

Yesterday and today, Yr 8 students heard speakers from the Life's a Ball program. The speakers were high profile athletes who shared stories of determination and endurance with the students. Sometimes young people in this age group can struggle with what they see as difficulties in their lives. These speakers try to inspire them to strive for 'personal bests' in whatever their field of interest is. Thanks to Ms Francois for organising this activity. Guest speakers, **Allie Douglas** and **Janne Errington-Smith**, attended both days. Allie is a member of the Women's National Basketball League, and Janne is a wheel chair basketballer.

Project Compassion

We are in the final stages of raising funds for Project for term 1. Yr 9.2 held a successful mini fete Thursday 6th. Other activities have included bad hair day, coloured sock day. As a finale to all this great work, the campus will be holding a **coloured clothes day on Tuesday 11 April**. Students and staff are asked make a gold coin donation for the privilege of wearing neat, casual attire.

AIM Tests

Over Tuesday and Wednesday of this week Yr 9 students sat AIMs tests in both English and Maths. As you are aware these tests do not form part of the students' assessment. The results will be passed on to you when they are sent to the College.

Walk for Life

This walk passed through the Latrobe Valley during the week. Its aim is to draw attention to the preciousness of human life and to speak for those who are unable to speak for themselves. **Maria Barrett**, Year 9.7, was part of this walk and she is to be commended for demonstrating her concern for others in this way.

Yr 9 Camps

These camps have been delayed. Because of the unusual pattern of the school holidays this year, it has not been possible to fit the camps into term 1 and, equally, the risks associated with extreme temperatures in the mountains mean that the camps cannot go ahead in terms 2 or 3. Consequently we will look to an arrangement for term 4. This will mean the camps will help give closure to Yr 9 and may also help with the transition to Kildare Campus.

Yr 8 Camps

These camps provide the students with a Melbourne experience and will take place in term 3.

The greatest use of a life is to spend it on something which will outlast it. ... William James.

*Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus*

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

Parent Support Group

On Tuesday evening the Parent Support Group held the AGM. It was attended by a small, but enthusiastic, group of parents. The group assists the campus in a variety of ways, raising funds that are used for development of facilities. Some \$3,500.00 was raised. New positions for 2006 are:

President: Irene Bramstedt
Secretary: Geraldine Stevens
Treasurer: Doris Aquilina

My thanks and appreciation to our new executives for 2006, Irene, Geraldine, Doris, Annie Maunder and Mary Storie.

Also, thanks to **Carol Wilson** for her 3 years as President of the Support Group and **Rita Warren** as Treasurer. They were both instrumental in the formation and establishment of this group.

AIMS Testing

Aims Tests were conducted for all Year 9's this week, Maths on Tuesday and English on Wednesday. All students approached the tests in a responsible manner. My thanks to Mrs. Gaulton who co-ordinated the tests. Results will be available early term 3. AIM Tests have now been conducted for your son or daughter in Grades 3 & 5 and Years 7 & 9.

Super 8s Presentation Campus (Yr 9/10 Competition, Drouin, 8th March 2006)

A really good sporting day at the annual Super 8s Cricket in Drouin was had by all concerned: great weather, terrific ground conditions and two really focussed and committed teams (boys and girls) ready for all challengers.

Given that we had only year 9 participating we did very well against a much bigger and stronger opposition. Also, having to play three round-robin games and then one finals match in the space of three hours was a testing effort for all players.

The boys' team managed to beat the Warrigal A side in the first match, but then went down to the Warrigal B side in second game. They then bounced back with a good win against Trafalgar in the third match.

Even though the girls team managed only one very good win for the day, they seemed to really enjoy themselves.

Team manager, Anna Di Savia, said that all the girls did really well and all were highly committed in each game.

Boys Best Players:

Batting: Chris Robinson, Brendan Caffrey, Ryan Mills

Bowling: Simon Tatlow

Fielding: None better than Adam Harvey - who was brilliant!

Girls Best Players:

Leah Van Lambaart - who excelled all day; Claire Borthwick and Megan (Bocce) Griffiths
(Dominic de van der Schueren)

Our Students Achievements outside of School

On the weekend of March 25th and 26th the Under 14 Moe Basketball Squad competed in Bendigo at the State Championships. The squad's starting ranking was 26th and successfully completed the competition at 8th ranking.

Three of the boys attend Presentation Campus, **Patrick Frendo, Steven Gelagotis** and **Ryan Broeren**. The assistant coach was Michael Gelagotis.

Over the weekend **Megan Griffiths** represented Victoria in the Australian Junior Open Bocce Championship in Sydney. Megan achieved a creditable 3rd in the Open Singles. Megan also participated in the doubles. Congratulations to Megan on her achievement, the only Victorian female representative. A great effort.

*Yours in the spirit of strong minds and
compassionate hearts*

Head of Presentation Campus
Chris O'Brien

KILDARE CAMPUS

Some excellent Performances

Year 12 students **Jordan Breed** and **Tina Panayiotou** have been selected into this year's Rural Workshop conducted by the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at

Monash University, Clayton. Jordan will complete a two-day medicine workshop and Tina will complete a three day health career workshop, both of which are conducted during the June school holidays.

Kildare Campus (contd...)

These academic workshops are very competitive, with limited numbers of places available. The cost for the fully sponsored residential stay is about \$400, with meals, accommodation and transport provided for the successful students.

They will be given an opportunity to visit the University of Melbourne, LaTrobe and Deakin Universities and speak to lecturers, selection officers, current tertiary health students and health professionals from a wide variety of institutions. We congratulate these students and encourage them in their academic and career aspirations.

Former Students

One of last year's VCE students **Anthony DiDonato** has received a Swinburne University of Technology scholarship. He was presented with the Scholarship at the recent scholarship ceremony at the Hawthorn Town Hall. Anthony received a Relocation Scholarship, based not only on academic merit but also other criteria for non-metropolitan students. The scholarship has resulted in Anthony, who has just commenced his Bachelor of Business / Bachelor of Arts, receiving a payment of \$1500 to assist with relocation costs. Swinburne University of Technology and the College community congratulate Anthony on his accomplishments

and wish him the best of luck in his future studies.

Julia Lambert (Class of 2004) has been offered membership of the Golden Key International Honour Society based upon the excellence of her first year results. Undergraduate students are only offered this membership if their results are in the top 15% of the cohort.

Adrian Schneider (2001) also graduates from Deakin University next week. He completed an Honours Degree in Construction Management and graduates with First Class Honours. He, too, has been offered a place in the Golden Key International Honour Society, however, his offer of membership relates to the results of his Honours Degree (First Class) as a graduate.

The Society is an academic group present in over 335 Universities throughout Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and the United States. It provides recognition of academic achievement of the top 15% of students across all qualifications via scholarship opportunities, certificate and career information. It also offers international networking with students and academics for conferences and postgraduate study.

Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus

TAMBORITHA COMMITTEE

Tamboritha Committee of Management will hold their **wood cut weekend** on 28-30 April. The committee is looking for volunteers to help cart the wood. If you can help out please ring Tony Van Rossum for details 5122 1787 (after hours). Any help would be greatly appreciated.

CANTEEN ROSTER

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|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | St Paul's | Kildare |
| Mon 10 April | W Heiser | A Scully (help required) |
| Tue 11 April | R Gillow | M Northover, B Boothman |
| Wed 12 April | S Jones, S Duncan | A Fletcher (help needed) |
| Thu 13 April | N Ellis, R Hadjistefanis | M Johnston, S Bridges |

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| Postal address PO Box 1080 Traralgon 3844 | | 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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