

12 March 2010

Lavalla Catholic College

News



*As members of staff...
we undertake to work
together -
committed to school
improvement
and to the welfare and
education of you all.*

*We are called to be for you
and with you
as you reach out to engage
the world.*

*We will offer support and
encouragement
as you develop your talents
and hone your skills
and strive for excellence in
all that you do.*

*We will celebrate your
successes and share your
concerns.*

*We pray that God will be
with you
and bless your efforts as
you grow in age,
grace and maturity.*

Dear parents, students and staff

We were blessed with a beautiful day for our Commissioning Mass last Wednesday. Twelve young men and women who have been identified as outstanding leaders in our College community were commissioned in front of their peers, teachers and family members. Br Julian Casey, Provincial of the Marist Brothers was also present and was able to offer these students their badges, clearly identifying them as student leaders but also as ambassadors of the College. In the Marist tradition these are not positions of prestige, they are positions of service. We are most grateful to these leaders for their willingness to give of themselves for the good of the community and we wish them well. We congratulate:

College Captains	Presentation Campus Leaders	St Paul's Campus Leaders
Brooke Ward Joey Black Andrew Ware Kosta Psinas	Chynche Laurens Emily Jeffrey Mark Larkins Steph Schena	Cassie Forester Stephanie Spehar Mitchell McDonald Mubtasim Murshed

This year the College motto, **Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts** is also our year's theme. As a school in the Marist tradition we are hopeful people, we value good scholarship and we have a love of learning. We are also asked to work hard at finding an affinity with those less fortunate than ourselves and at being empathetic to the marginalised.

We plan to renew our commitment to working with the marginalised through our compassionate hearts and developing our minds through clear thinking to improve learning and to resolve conflict. As stewards of Marcellin Champagnat's dream and charism, we need to be able to look on the world and its entire people with strong minds and compassionate hearts.

So by the end of the year how will we know if we have given proper expression to our theme, **Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts?** For **Compassionate Hearts**, you will be able to see our work with the marginalised through our solidarity programmes at the Kildare Campus and through our activities with year 8 students that will require students to commit to community work. You will see more active involvement in charity work and fundraising events. Programmes co-ordinated by our VCAL and VALU teams and Religious Education teachers will also focus on our Community Service.

From the Principal...

It is true to say that the theme of **Strong Minds** is always with us. As teachers of this fine College we are highly motivated to improve the quality of education that is offered to our students and we seek ways to ensure our students remain engaged and focused. This year we have already launched the **Learner Advisor Programme** in Year 8 and you will remember that the same programme was launched in Year 10 last year. If you have a child in year 8 or Year 10, you will be invited to attend the first Learner Advisor meeting next week. As you are already aware, this first meeting is to assist your child to set learning goals and for the parents to gauge how well their child is focused on learning at this stage. The greatest benefit of these meetings is the regular feedback that parents will receive about their child's academic progress.

The Mastering Learning programme and the **Master Survivor** programme in year 9 are also important initiatives to enhance strong minds. The Year 9 programmes are designed to be delivered in a term and parents should expect to receive progress reports each term. We believe that learning should be celebrated and we are planning an occasion each term where Year 9 students will be able to display their work to their parents. **Year 9 on Display**, will aim to inform and reward Year 9 students from both the St Paul's Campus and the Presentation Campus on Thursday 22 April. Please earmark this date on your calendar!

Highly motivated and talented students in years 11 and 12 will be invited to participate in an **enhanced learning programme**. The aim is to provide extra support for students who want to achieve particularly high scores in VCE.

Our **gifted and talented programme** is in its third year. For those students selected to be in the programme, camps, excursions and incursions are already planned. The new co-ordinator **Ms Gloria Zahra** and her team of four are building an excellent and rigorous programme.

I share with you the staff pledge, read to our students during our Commissioning Mass. In it you will see our commitment to the care of your child and/or children and our continual strive for excellence.



College Leaders

Back row: Stephanie Spehar, Chynche Laurins, Cassie Forester, Emily Jeffrey
Middle row: Mubtasim Murshed, Mitchell McDonald, Steph Schena, Mark Larkins
Front row: Andrew Ware, Brooke Ward, Kosta Psinas, Joey Black

Erica Pegorer
Principal

Presentation Campus

Swimming, cyclists, community service and camps have all shared centre stage in recent days. Delany were the official victors but it was our community that really won. The wonderful support of so many parents who worked along with staff made the day such an enjoyable one for all who attended. Students were generous with their congratulations of one another and took great pride in their own achievements.



The MSP group and our Year 7's have both spent time in Inverloch during their Camp experiences. The MSP group combined a visit to St Joseph's in Wonthaggi and the presentation of PAL, a leadership through activity program. Students then explored the rock pools and the dinosaur dig, a project of Monash University. Later they gathered information about the Desalination debate and enjoyed some time surfing.

Year 7's headed to Melbourne after being congratulated on joining the College community at the Commissioning Mass. Two programs at Scienceworks brought them clearly into focus with their world and their sporting prowess. Then, it was off rock climbing and for many the challenge to confront their fears about heights. Their time after arriving at Inverloch allowed plenty of time to see their classmates in a different light and to work in teams to achieve group success. Again surfing was on the agenda with several hesitant to enter the surf but then "near impossible to get them out" as the session ended. The laughs they had and the beaming smiles said it all.

Many thanks to the staff (**Ms Stewart, Mr Scholes, Ms Nicholls, Mr Williams, Ms Mustoe, Ms Bianconi, Mr Rea, Ms Schroeter and Tim Northe**) who so generously gave their time so that these extra curricula activities can go ahead.

Our Year 8 visits to the Latrobe Valley Community Hostel have commenced and students will journal their experience focussing on what they are learning about themselves. Thanks to **Br Mark** for his support of this program.

OTESHA Visits Presentation Campus

Cyclists involved in the OTESHA project recently paid us a visit to highlight the importance of looking after the environment. They are on a 2 month ride from Melbourne to Sydney and as they go they are using theatre and workshops to spread their environmental message. The group tested student awareness about the impacts of the products and resources they consume, highlighted the number of responsible choices that could be made by young Australians and worked to improve their ability to be role models as stewards of the earth and as sustainability advocates.



As we approach the holiday break, staff are busy preparing Year 8 Learner Advisor reports and interviews and LA teachers are finalising meeting times. As well our donations/ fundraising to support the work of CARITAS Australia continues, enlivened by Mrs Susan Grout and Nicole Travers who spoke about the important work the organisation continues to do in Malawi, and to change the lives of so many poor communities.

Leanne Mills
Campus Director

Kildare Campus

Yr 10 Learner Advisor Meetings

Our Learner Advisor meeting will commence next week. All parents of Year 10 students will be asked to make arrangements to come in and meet their child's Learner Advisor – your child will bring home a 'Staff Availability' sheet this week. Please be aware that you can organise a time during the week that is mutually convenient. I wish all Learners, Parents and Learner Advisors a rewarding start to the partnership that is commencing at the Kildare Campus. Students were recently part of an introduction to the LA process and a 'Goal Setting Seminar' run by **Ms Haggett**.

Diocesan College Leaders Meeting

Our College Student Leaders were recently part of a Diocese wide meeting of College Leaders. It was an informative day held at the Catholic Education Office. Students were able to share with Bishop Christopher some of their experiences as well as hear about the challenges of offering student leadership in the Catholic School. Our students found it a positive experience and it gave them a good opportunity to meet other student leaders from Catholic schools.

Yr 12 Physics Excursion to Luna Park

Year 12 Physics students from Lavalla Catholic College left the books, calculators and formulae at Kildare Campus on Tuesday the 2nd of March and ventured to a classroom of a different type, Luna Park that is.

The day was organised by the Victorian Branch of the Australian Institute of Physics and focused upon the Unit 3 Area of Study – "Motion in one and two dimensions". Rides were selected so that students experienced a "non inertial frame of reference". Put in simple terms they experienced forces that made them change their velocity. The rides varied from the relative safety of the "Dodgem Cars", to the exhilaration of the "Metropolis" and concluded with the stomach churning sensation of the "Enterprise".

When the last ride had been ridden and students were totally exhausted, yet very satisfied, they were treated to a lecture from Dr Roger Rassool from the Physics Department of the University of Melbourne. Dr Rassool delivered a presentation entitled "The Greeks and the English ... Aristotle and Newton!"

Applied Learning Excursion

Our students in VCAL & VALU recently spent a group development day at Coonawarra Adventure Park. Their focus was on Occupational Health and Safety in the workplace, employability skills and group development. Students needed to work as an effective team to complete challenging activities. The Flying Fox, Giant Swing, Canoeing and Archery were just some of the activities that each group completed on the day. Congratulations to the group that scored the highest points in each section: **Reece Storie, Danica Williams, Jeremiah Daniels** and **Kane Barlow**.

Unit 3 OES – Lake Tyers Canoe Tour

Last week the Yr 12 Outdoor & Environmental Studies class spent three days exploring the spectacular upper reaches of Lake Tyers – the Nowa Nowa Arm. This camp was aimed at providing students with knowledge and experiences of ecological, historical and social contexts of relationships between humans and outdoor environments in Australia. We experienced first-hand, the impact of those relationships on the outdoor environment. In addition, this tour was a minimal technology trip. Absent was the usual equipment we would adventure with (tents, camp stoves) as well as the usual range of devices that crowd our everyday lives (iPods, Mobile Phones and watches etc). Students opted to 'sleep under the stars' and the whole group shared a camp oven prepared meal. The absence of technology simplifies our experiences and focuses our attention on the surroundings making us engage with the environment, socialise with the group, as well as having time for personal reflection.



Marco Di Cesare
Campus Director

St Paul's Campus

The three day long weekend was very exciting. Saturday's and Sunday's storms were phenomenal. The media is calling it a 'super cell storm' and it is quite fascinating to see how super cell storms occur, from a meteorologist's perspective. Of course, it meant that the drainage system could not cope with the torrent of water in this short time and water swept into the ISC. Fortunately a number of staff members came into the campus to assess the consequences of the heavy downpour, and they stayed to mop up. We are grateful to these people who did such sterling service. The ISC and the reading pit are recovering, and students should go back in quite soon. Despite this, I am sure that the long weekend was enjoyable. At least my children tell me so. And some of them have great stories to tell about being caught in the hailstorm.

The Netball Court Covers

The cover for the netball courts were installed last week. They are part of the National Pride Grants. The all-weather cover provides a sheltered playing area for students over two netball courts. The Business Manager is "thrilled to provide the students with shade and UV protection while playing." It is also proving to be a gathering point for students during recess and lunch. The courts will be repainted soon. They will be officially opened some time soon.

Outdoor Gym Equipment

The new outdoor gym equipment was installed last week next to the netball courts. Also part of the National Pride Grants, it is already proving to be an attraction for students during lunch and recess time. Students are exercising and having fun at the same time.



Catholic All Schools Eastern Region Tennis Competition

On Wednesday, March 3rd, a group of 36 students represented Lavalla at a regional round robin competition held at the Traralgon courts. The weather was conducive to good tennis and the standard of play was high. In the Senior Boys division **Josh Grumley** and **Marc Koolen** both won through to the semi finals. **Sam Stoddart** also made it into the Intermediate boys semi final. In the Junior boys section **Alastair Salerno** and **David Hough** played out the semis for one of two spots to go on to Melbourne.

Congratulations and best wishes go to the following players who progressed through to the Championships to be played at Bulleen on March 15th; **Sophie Grumley**, Intermediate girls section, **Amelia Charlton** and **Shayla Marsh** our Junior girls and **Alastair Salerno** and **Jarryd Garlick** our Junior boys. It is great to see such talent among our younger players.

Thank you for the encouragement offered by parents and grandparents who turned up on the day to support our players. A special thanks to **Fiona Morrow** and **Nikki Schroeter** who ran the event so capably and to **Mrs. Reynolds** who managed the teams.

Tax File Numbers for Year 9 Students

In Year 9, students start planning careers and looking for part time jobs. Students need a Tax file Number (TFN) for employment, for Centrelink benefits, or to open bank accounts.

The Tax Office, through the college, offers students aged 13 years or over the opportunity to apply for a tax file number (TFN) through school. This is the easier way for students to obtain a TFN for life. Later in the year the college will send the application forms home with the students, to complete at home. The college will certify the application form and students, therefore, are not required to show identifying documentation to school or the Tax Office.

Students will receive their TFN via a notification letter sent to their postal address within 28 days of the application being received by the Tax Office. If you have any further questions or need more information, please phone 13 28 61 and ask for the Client Education and Assistance area.

Chris Roga
Campus Director

Parents & Friends

Change of Venue

Next meeting for St Paul's and Kildare campuses will be held on Monday 22nd March at *Marcellin House* (9 Coster Circle)

Second Hand Book and Uniform Shop.

NEXT OPEN
Thursday 18th March
3.30pm – 6.00pm

UPCOMING LATE SESSION – UNIFORM SEASON CHANGE

Thursday 15th April 3.30-8pm

Shop located at: St. Paul's Campus
Payment options: Cash, Cheque or EFTPOS

Forthcoming Events

Term 1

15 – 19 March	LA Interviews Yr 8 & Yr 10 (Learning Block 1)
19 March	Unit 3 English Oral Exam (Kildare) No Yr 12 classes
25 March	Parent/Teacher Interviews 4 p.m. – 7.30 p.m. Easter Liturgy
26 March	Parent/Teacher Interviews 9 a.m. – 12 noon Student Free Day
26 Mar - 11 Apr	School Holidays (2 Apr Good Friday, 4 Apr Easter Sunday)
12 April	Students and staff return
14 - 16 April	MSP at Tamboritha
18 – 22 April	AMSA Basketball Carnival
23 April	End of Term 1 Reports distribution

Term 2

26 April	ANZAC Day public holiday
27 April	Term 2 commences MSP Homerooms 9.2 & 9.7 comence
3 May	Full winter uniform
6 May	Immunizations (Presentation Campus)
11 May	NAPLAN Language C & W (Presentation)
12 May	NAPLAN Reading (Presentation Campus)
13 May	NAPLAN Numeracy (St Paul's) Yr 10 Immunizations (Kildare Campus)
14 May	School Photographs (Kildare Campus)
17 – 21 May	LA Interviews Yr 8 & Yr 10 (Learning Block 2)
24 – 26 May	Intermediate Band Camp
25 May	ICAS Computer Skills Competition
26 May	School Photographs (Presentation Campus)
28 May	School Photographs (St Paul's Campus)
31 May	MSP External Activities
31 May - 4 Jun	Yr 10 & Yr 11 Semester 1 Exam Week

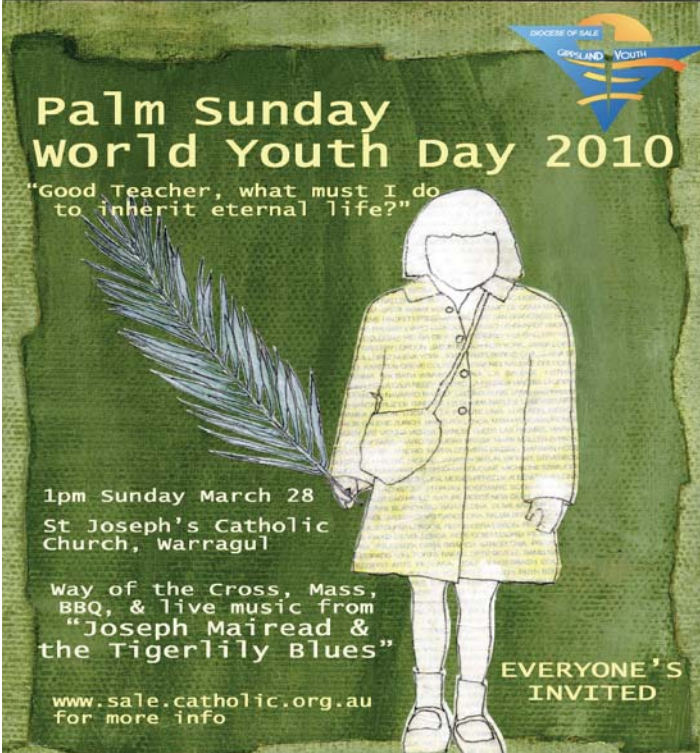
MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

We all do things to enhance our lives. Fitness programs and diets to improve our health, in-service programs to improve our job skills. An opportunity for married couples to give a wonderful gift to your children by enriching your marriage through a Marriage Encounter weekend. It is based around Catholic values, but you don't need to be Catholic to attend. The next 3 weekends will be held on 16-18 April, 25-27 June and 20-22 August. For further information and bookings contact Peter & Erika Smith (03) 9899 0824 or Email vicbookings@wwme.org.au.
Checkout the website for more information on www.wwme.org.au

Tamboritha Committee of Management are having a *Working Bee* on 20th & 21st of March. Firewood cutting and general maintenance to be undertaken. Committee will supply lunch and evening meals. All interested parents and teachers are most welcome.
If transport is required or any enquiries please contact Tony van Rossum, mobile 0438031879.

Important Notice:

Learner Advisor Meetings for Yr 8 and Yr 10 parents held 15th – 19th March on the respective campuses.



**Palm Sunday
World Youth Day 2010**

"Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

1pm Sunday March 28
St Joseph's Catholic Church, Warragul

Way of the Cross, Mass, BBQ, & live music from "Joseph Mairead & the Tigerlily Blues"

www.sale.catholic.org.au
for more info

EVERYONE'S INVITED