



# NEWSLETTER

## Lavalla Catholic College

10 November 2006

### From the Principal

Dear parents and students

The overwhelming effects that the drought is having on the farming communities have of late been the focus of our concern. If we really begin to unpack the far reaching effects of this natural disaster the future can look grim and maintaining faith and hope can seem difficult. As a Christian community, we can plant the seeds of hope by offering support, by paying attention to this desperate situation and by engaging in responsible water use. Bishop Coffey draws our attention to the fact that some farmers can feel isolated or trapped. In his call for **Prayer for Rain**, our Bishop helps us foster optimism by reminding us that, "...it is important for us to reflect that God is with us in our times of joyful gratitude and also in our times of greatest need. We pray to God to be with our communities in love and hope, and that He will provide resources to sustain them in the future" (Bishop Coffey).

In your reflective moments I encourage you to think about our farming communities. This prayer might help:

*We pray for Australia and its people in this time of drought, for those on farms and in rural areas deprived of harvests and livestock, livelihood and hope. May God send rain to water the earth and help for those in need.*

*We pray for agencies and individuals working to support those affected by the drought. May their endeavours be blessed and their efforts richly rewarded.*

*For those organisations aimed at the conservation and restoration of the natural environment. May they inspire all people to treat God's creation with respect and reverence and to use the resources of the earth wisely.*

#### New Appointments - St Paul's Campus

It gives me great pleasure to announce that **Mr Christopher Roga** has been appointed the **Director of the St Paul's Campus** for 2007. As many are aware, Mr Roga is the current Assistant Head of Campus and will bring to the position great wisdom, breadth of experience and an enthusiasm for working with young people. **Mrs Anne Wilson** has been appointed the new Assistant Campus Director for the St Paul's campus. I congratulate both Mr Roga and Mrs Wilson on their appointments and thank them for accepting such responsible positions in the College.

#### College Captains

In a symbolic and moving ceremony, the light was passed from this year's captains to the new incumbents during the Year 12 farewell ceremony. The College Captains for 2007 are Jeremy Waanders (Traralgon) and Melissa Germano (Morwell). Brendan Smith (Traralgon) and Monique De Carli (Newborough) have been elected and appointed as vice-captain. On behalf of the whole College community we congratulate these four leaders on their appointment. Together with the other Campus leaders their commissioning will take place next year.



**Above: (left to right)** 2007 Captains - Monique DeCarli (Vice Captain), Jeremy Waanders (Captain), Melissa Germano (Captain), Brendan Smith (Vice Captain).

#### Academic Excellence and Diligence Evening

The College is very excited to announce that preparation for our Award's Night is well under way. Year 12 accomplishments will be acknowledged at the Graduation evening on the 23rd November and Years 7-11 awards will be take place on **Monday 11th December at 7pm** when the community will gather at the Champagnat centre on the St Paul's campus. The following achievements will be recognised on that night:

- Subject Awards for the highest achieving student in Religious Education, English and Mathematics
- Subject Awards for the highest achieving student in every subject in Year 11
- Academic Diligence and Academic Excellence
- All Round Achievement Awards
- Community Leadership Awards for Community Building; Environment; Sport and Culture
- Dux of Year 11 and Dux of Year 12
- Special awards sponsored by the community

All families and students are invited to attend this significant occasion to give witness to and to celebrate the academic, sporting and community building achievements that we have experienced this year.

### Letter to Parents

Within the week, parents will receive from the College important communication about the uniform requirements for 2007. The letter outlines clear expectations about the shoes, College backpack, personal grooming and shirts. It also informs parents of the introduction of the blazer at Year 7 and year 9. I urge parents to pay particular attention to this correspondence.

Enclosed in this letter you will also find information about the State Government funding to Catholic Schools. The brochure outlines some funding discrepancies and invites you to make contact with our local representatives to discuss the issues further.

### Transition to Kildare Campus

Year 9 students from the St Paul's campus and the Presentation campus will be involved in a two day camp experience that will introduce them to some aspects of Life and Study at the Kildare Campus. It is an opportunity for the two groups of year 9s to meet as a cohort, to meet the co-ordinators from the Kildare campus and to express and to address any anxiety they might be feeling about transferring campus. The two day programme offers a balanced mix of active learning and reflection and it is important that all students attend.

### Finishing well

Teachers and students are focusing now on completing major pieces of work. Student planners should reflect this busy time of year and I suggest that you discuss with your child her/his work schedule and to encourage them to keep on track and up to date. The College always welcomes your feedback and I invite you to make contact with the College as soon as you have concerns about your child's progress rather than wait for a call from us.

*Erica Pegorer  
Principal*

### Information for the Parents/Caregivers Year 9 students

Again this year all our Year 9 students were fortunate to have experts from CASA come to speak to them on the topics of Drink Spiking and Sexual Assault. Highly interactive sessions included educating students about: the dangers of binge drinking, dangers of drink spiking that can lead to sexual assault, problem solving and protective strategies. If any parent/guardian wishes to discuss the program please contact Sandy Francois, the School Counsellor at St Paul's Campus on 51747355.

## Kildare Campus

### Year 11 Examination Week:

Next week, November 13 – 17, all Year 11 students, and those wishing to participate from the VCAL Course, will be completing their final exams. All exams, except English (2 hours) and Philosophy (1 hour) will be of 90 minutes duration and will be preceded by 10 minutes reading time.

The following conditions apply to all Year 11 students undertaking their final exams:

1. All students wear full College summer uniform.
2. Students need only attend school for their designated exams.
3. Students need to be at the exam venue no later than 5 minutes before the exam begins.
4. Mobile phones and I-pods must be handed in to the supervisors during reading time. These will be returned to students at the conclusion of the exam.
5. Students remain in the exam room until the conclusion of the exam.
6. Students need to discuss with their subject teacher what materials, including notes and prepared sheets, may be brought into the exam.
7. Students make their own travel arrangements to and from all exams.

The ISC and Study Centre will be open for study throughout the week. Staff will be available during the week to assist students with exam preparation. On Monday morning and Tuesday until lunchtime, I would ask all students not to wander through the St. Paul's Campus, but to gather before the exam on the asphalted car park area.

I would remind students and their parents that the 2007 Unit 3 & 4 Workshops take place the following week, November 20 – 23. These are compulsory for all students, and as work and preparation for Year 12 begins during these workshops, it is essential that all students are present and are ready to commence as soon as the year begins in 2007. The Workshop Program will be distributed to students during the examinations.

Friday, November 24 is a Pupil Free Day as Staff spends the day completing the Semester Two Student Reports.

Finally, I would advise all students to begin preparing for the exams, not only by studying consistently beforehand, but also, practically, by ensuring that pens, pencils, rulers, batteries and other examination essentials are purchased well in advance of the week.

I would like to wish all Year 11's well as they approach their final exams.

*Peter Schneider  
Head of Kildare Campus*

## St Paul's Campus

This week we were grateful for the grey skies and rain. We continue our prayers for more rain. We also pray for those on the land whose livelihood depend on the rain and for those in the cities that they will learn to be moderate in their consumption of this precious resource.

### CASA – Centre Against Sexual Assault

Over the last few years we have invited CASA to speak to our Year 9 students about the problems associated with alcohol consumption and sexual activity. Many parents face the difficulties of helping their son or daughter through these issues at this age; this is one of the ways we assist families to set wise boundaries and have meaningful discussions. It is particularly pertinent as we enter the Festive season and many young people launch into new social settings.

### Year 9 Retreats

We were delighted with the response of the Year 9 students to the Retreat team which worked with them last week. It was a real privilege to hear other young people speak of their faith journey in language our Year 9 students could relate to.

### Year 7 Polaroid in the Park

This is the Year 7 Retreat experience and will take place next week

- 7.1 & 7.3 - Monday 13th
- 7.6 & 7.8 - Tuesday 14th
- 7.2 & 7.4 - Wed 15th
- 7.5 & 7.7 - Thurs 16th

The Year 7's will be accompanied by their Year 9 buddies All students to wear PE gear on the day and to bring rain coats or sun screen as needed.

### Thanks

A special vote of thanks to: Sarah O'Dowd, James Fitzpatrick, Josh Yound, Alex Hawkins, Adam Kemna and Amy Wilson. All of these students helped out with the 50th Celebrations on the 21st of October. We really appreciated their efforts and the wonderful support they offered the College.

Thanks also to all the students, Tamboritha Committee members and staff involved in the Year 9 camps at Tamboritha who made this year's camps so successful. Congratulations to Rohana Atkinson, sadly she will be leaving the College, happily, to take up a place at the Victorian College of the Arts. Rohana's success has been made possible by her hours of dedicated work and many hours on the road for her parents. We wish her well for the future.

### No interruptions

Friday 17th November is the beginning of the no interruptions period. As far as possible all students should be at school to complete all assignments, tests etc. where possible please make Doctors appointments etc, around this time

### Attendance

It is our expectation that all students will be in class completing work and being involved in College activities until the last day of the term. Absences need to be notified in the usual way.

### Year 9 Mass

Advance notice: the Mass will take place at St Michael's at 5:30 on Thursday 7th December. Students are to wear school uniform. Parents are asked to bring a small plate to help with catering. Families of Year 9 students will receive invitations in the coming weeks.

### Remembrance Day

Thanks to Mrs DiSisto for organising our very moving Remembrance Day ceremony. This year we focused on the day as a celebration of peace.

*"Expect to have hope rekindled. Expect your prayers to be answered in wondrous ways. The dry seasons in life do not last. The spring rains will come again".* Sarah Ban Breathnach

**Lee McKenzie**  
*Head of St Paul's Campus*

### Second Hand Book and Uniform Sales Dates

- **Books for Sale / Order Deadline: Monday 4th December at 4.00pm**  
Orders may be handed in any time prior to the due date, at the Campus offices.
- **Uniform Sales (Second Hand)**  
Final 2006 Uniform Shop for current students:  
Thursday 16th November.  
Uniform Shop Sales for New 2007 Students:  
Tuesday 5th December: 12 noon – 2pm.
- **Book Order Collection (Second Hand) Wednesday 13th December.**  
*Presentation Campus: 2007 Yrs 7 – 9*  
*Presentation students: 9am – 1pm.*  
*Kildare Campus: 2007 Yrs 7–12*  
*St Paul's & Kildare students: 10am – 6pm.*  
Pre-packaged orders - pick up and payment.  
All orders must be collected this day.

## Presentation Campus

Our Year 9's devoted one day to self enlightenment and spiritual renewal on Wednesday of last week. A retreat conducted by the Youth Mission Team was a great success. The feedback from all students was one of a positive experience that made them all reassess their lives and their spiritual journey. Members of the retreat team commented favourable on the participation and responsiveness of our students to the program. Our thanks to Mr Hansen for organising the day.

On the 22nd and 28th November Susan Collis from the CEO Warragul will be speaking to our Year 9's and 7's. The lecture is part of the personal development program offered in the Religious Education Curriculum.

The Parent Support Group met on Monday night. **Book sales at the Presentation Campus will be held on Wednesday 13th December between 10.00am and 1.00pm and 5.00-6.00pm. Assistance is needed to sort all books on Tuesday 5th December. Please contact the College if you are able to assist.**

On the 29th and 30th November all Lavalla Year 9 students will be engaged in a two day Transition Experience. Wednesday 29th November will be held at Delhantie Park and Thursday 30th November will be held at the Presentation Campus. The aim of the two days is to have all Year 9's meet as a group; experience the challenges associated with stepping out of one's comfort zone; and share this as a cohort of students all facing the prospect of Senior Secondary School in 2007.

Recently we held a Casual Clothes Day to raise money for the Marist Mission in East Timor. The money will go to Katilosa which is a non-government organisation working with persons with disabilities. It is the ONLY provider of this type of care in East Timor, the poorest nation in Asia. Every student brought a gold coin donation and the staff contributed as well. The total raised was \$468.50 and we thank all those who participated.

Yours in the spirit of Strong minds and Compassionate hearts.

**Chris O'Brien**  
*Head of Presentation Campus*

### Auditions for the College Production **'Another Warped Production'**

are seeking current Year 8 & 9 students

#### Information sessions:

**Monday 13th November** at lunchtime in the St Paul's Lecture Theatre *and*

**Friday 10th November** at lunchtime in the Circulation Area, Presentation Campus

#### Combined Audition:

Tuesday 21st November after school in the St Paul's Lecture Theatre

**Enquiries:** Lisa Williams 5174 7355  
& Adriana Bianconi 5127 1311

## Pupil Free Day Friday 24th November

### CANTEEN ROSTER

#### ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Mon 13 Nov W. Heiser, (help required)  
Tue 14 Nov C. Hinds, M. Norton  
Wed 15 Nov (help required)  
Thu 16 Nov (help required)  
Fri 17 Nov L. Weckman, P. Atkinson

Mon 20 Nov R. Bermingham, J. Hartley  
Tue 21 Nov T. Plege, S. Garrett  
Wed 22 Nov (help required)  
Thu 23 Nov (help required)  
Fri 24 Nov **Student Free Day**

#### KILDARE CAMPUS

Mon 13 Nov K. Manson, D. Berryman  
Tue 14 Oct J. Clarke (help required)  
Wed 15 Nov A. Fletcher (help required)  
Thu 16 Nov M. Johnston (help required)  
Fri 17 Nov C. Barry (help required)

Mon 20 Nov A. Scully, (help required)  
Tue 21 Nov M. Byl, (help required)  
Wed 22 Nov (help required)  
Thu 23 Nov V. Sammut, (help required)  
Fri 24 Nov **Student Free Day**

Postal address	Marcellin House Admin	Kildare Campus	Presentation Campus	St Paul's Campus
PO Box 1080	Coster Circle	Kosciuszko Street	John Field Drive	Grey Street
Traralgon 3844	Traralgon	Traralgon	Newborough	Traralgon
	Ph: 5174 5272	Ph: 5174 8111	Ph: 5127 1311	Ph: 5174 7355