



## NEWSLETTER

# Lavalla Catholic College

20 October 2005

Dear Parents

In these last two weeks I have had the opportunity to meet with most of the students 'close-up' through year level assemblies. What struck me most as I focused on the sea of faces in front of me was their freshness and youth. Granted, it seems an obvious thing to observe in a secondary school but sometimes I wonder if we don't forget that adolescents are neither children nor adults, and that they still need room to discover who they are within supportive and loving structures. The young faces reminded me that as teachers we are in a privileged and influential position and that these young people we care about look to us for guidance, support, love and care – despite needing at times to resist it, balk against it and even refuse it.

This time of year calls for us adults to offer caution and parameters as all our students prepare for their end of year celebrations. With a sensible attitude and some planning it can be a joyous time for all involved. For the Year 12's this week signals the beginning of the end of their formal schooling and it brings me to send a special message of thanks to their parents and teachers. Over the six years of their secondary schooling, we have received many blessings from their life journeys and we can take heart that we have offered them the best education we could, with a solid value base that will allow them to help shape and transform our society.

Our Year 11 and Year 8 students begin to face the process of electing the new *Student Leadership* for our College... the ongoing cycle of life is evident! Much energy is invested by the student body to ensure that they make the right choices and being nominated brings with it a sense of affirmation and responsibility. I wish all the nominees the very best of luck and look forward to the gifts that they will bring to the College.

**Erica Pegorer**  
**Principal**

### ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

#### **Yr 12 Students**

The students and staff of the St Paul's Campus extend their best wishes to the Yr 12's as they begin the final stage of the VCE journey. Hopefully "swat vac" will be a profitable time for you all and the

exams will give you an opportunity to demonstrate all your talents. We wish you calm, peace and wisdom as you face this final hurdle in your secondary education. You will be in our prayers as you enter the next phase of your life in 2006.

St Paul's (contd....)

### **Youth Mission**

Next week the Yr 9 students will have the opportunity to participate in a one day retreat run by the Youth Mission Team. In past years the Yr 9 students have found these retreats really thought-provoking and engaging. The timing of the retreats make them ideal for helping the Yr 9 students take a mature look at their lives and faith before moving to senior schooling. Students in 9.1- 9.4 will have the retreat on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> and 9.5 - 9.8 will have theirs on Friday 28<sup>th</sup>. While students can be apprehensive or dismissive of the day it always works very well and I urge parents to ensure that students do not come down with a 'mysterious illness' on the allotted day.

### **Power Works**

This week a number of the Yr 9 science students visited Power Works and took tours of the open cut mines and power generating sites. We think it is important that the young people in our towns have an understanding of the power industry, its significance as an employer and its environmental effects.

### **Christmas Hampers**

As we have done for many years, the students of this campus will be organising

Christmas hampers for St Vincent De Paul. Generally we ask each student to donate a minimum of \$5.00 to his or her homeroom collections. Designated students then purchase and compile a hamper to present on the last day of term. Please encourage your son or daughter to share the spirit of Christmas through these hampers.

### **Thanks**

During the week we finished work on the rose garden around the chapel. A number of students volunteered to help with the planting: Toni Medew, Vincent Bonnici, Moega Wright, Humberto Uykipang and Hayden Clarke. We are most grateful for their work. Please have a look at the garden next time you visit the campus. You will also note that we have planted three lilac trees to remind us of the original donation of the land; "Glen Lilac" by the Stoddart Family, which has become the site of our campus.

*"If all flowers wanted to be roses, nature would lose her springtime beauty, and the fields would no longer be decked out with little wildflowers."-- Saint Therese of Lisieux*

*Lee McKenzie  
Head of St Paul's Campus*

## **PRESENTATION CAMPUS**

### **Year 9**

On Friday all Year 9 students attended a **Work Experience Workshop** at Kildare Campus focusing on their placement opportunities in term 1, 2006. All forms were due back by today, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October. The Year 9 students have a **Retreat Day** on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of this month. This is a valuable experience for all students and is led by the Youth Retreat Team from Melbourne.

Preparation is well underway for the Year 9 forthcoming **camp at Tamboritha** from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of November. Abseiling, Mountain Biking, Bush Walking, Horse

Riding, Art, Bush Cooking and Fishing will be offered. Due to our small student population we will be taking all our Year 9's at the one time.

The **Year 9 Graduation Mass** is on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 6:00pm at St Mary's. It will be followed by a meal at the Moe Golf Club. The end of the year is fast approaching. It will be important that all students in Year 9 make the most of the next 4 weeks before and the 2 weeks following the camp to complete all assignments and work requirements. Year 9 will have **exams** on the 30<sup>th</sup> November.

We welcome **Sue Rankin** to the campus. Sue was appointed the new campus student administration officer on Friday last week. She began work on Monday. Sue will take over the position from **Tracy Kipping** who has overseen the running of the office for the past 6 weeks. Tracy has also been offered a supporting office position and will be co-ordinating the canteen facility. We wish both Sue and Tracy every success for the remainder of this year and in the coming years.

The **Year 7's have their Hep B Injections next Thursday 27th of October**. These will be at 1:30pm.

**Masses** this term will be at St. Mary's on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November for our Year 7's and

at St. Kieran's for our Year 8's on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November.

On Thursday and Friday of this week the students and staff were asked to donate a gold coin to the Earthquake appeal in Pakistan. At the time of writing about \$300 had been raised.

A reminder about the Year 9 Fashion Parade being **held tonight at 7:00pm** in the Circulation Area. Please come along to see the latest fashions and our students stepping out on the catwalk.

Yours in the spirit of strong minds and compassionate hearts.

*Chris O'Brien*  
*Head of Campus*

## KILDARE CAMPUS

### **End of Year:**

Last Thursday, the end of the year became very apparent to all the Year 12 students. For some it was a shock that all is soon to come to an end, for others there is an expectant "can't wait" attitude.

However, at the Year 12 Assembly, expectations were raised and consequences outlined. Further, Senior Constable Darren Anderson of the Traralgon Police made an excellent presentation to all the Year 12's following the very confronting and graphic video "Muck Up Day." The last thing we all want is another tragedy, especially if it involves one of our own, so he asked all students to exercise responsibility, to look out for each other, to make sensible decisions, to respond "... to your gut feelings" and to have the courage to make choices against the pressure of the crowd – wise words, after such a sobering video presentation.

**Student Leadership 2006:** We are about to embark on a process of decision

concerning College leadership for next year. Our School Captains and Vice-Captains spoke at a Year 11 assembly last week and launched the election campaign for the Year 11's to make choices about Captains and Vice-captains for 2006. I wish all students well with their selections and the announcement about who will be Captains and Vice-Captains will be made before Year 11's finish the year.

Student leadership is an important office at the College. The position is one of service to fellow students, to be a mouthpiece for student attitudes and concerns, to be a front face for the student body, to unify the campuses and to be a role model for all students. Generous Year 11 students will soon have the opportunity to speak to the assembled Years 10 and 11, to place their vision for the role in the public domain, and students will then have the opportunity to exercise their vote. I wish all prospective candidates well with the process.

*Peter Schneider*  
*Head of Kildare Campus*

**FAITH & MINISTRY NEWS**

**Year 9 Reflection Days**

During the last week of October, the Year 9 students will be attending a reflection day conducted by **The Youth Mission Team** from Melbourne. The reflection day will address the importance of personal contribution towards making a difference in the world as well as developing a deeper respect for every human person. The cost of the day has been covered in the school fees. The team comprises 7 young adults and they will be at the college for three days.

The team was with us earlier in term 3 when they helped facilitate a **Justice Day**. We are calling on the generosity of parents to assist in the billeting of one or more of the team. Ideally, the host families would be best situated in Traralgon. If you are able to assist with two nights' accommodation on October 26th and 27th would you please give me a call and I can give further details.

***Mike Hansen***  
***Director of Faith & Ministry***

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

	<b>St Paul's</b>	<b>Kildare</b>
Mon 24 Oct	D Webb, M Crawford	B McNulty, (help wanted)
Tue 25 Oct	P Johnston, I Gregson	M Byl, G Breed
Wed 26 Oct	J Clegg, R Mills	D Webb, S Eccles
Thu 27 Oct	A Mooney, M Donovan	M Whitty (help wanted)
Fri 28 Oct	R Gillow, P Brown, S Brady	A Prezioso, A Fogarty

**The Diocese of Sale invites you to attend  
Youth Gathering 2005**

- What:** YG2005 is a forum for young people to gather together and contribute to the direction taken for youth activities within the diocese for the next two years.
- When:** 5.00pm-8.30pm, Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005
- Where:** Teachers' Centre, Catholic Education Office, Connor St, Warragul
- Who:** Young people and those who are active in the youth community within the Diocese of Sale.
- RSVP:** Monday October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Register online at [www.sale.catholic.org.au](http://www.sale.catholic.org.au)  
to be in the running to win fantastic door prizes.

Contact Jess Denehy on 0409 005 125 for more details.

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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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