



# LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

**SEMESTER 1, 2007.**

Dear Parents and Students,

Our theme for 2007 is Audacity and Hope capturing the notion of moving forward with discernment, deliberation and purpose. We have set for ourselves an ambitious agenda this year that will require us to listen, to contemplate, to re-affirm our identity and to respond to contemporary educational and social needs in our community and in the world. We will carry with us our history but will be open to new possibilities the future presents. It is what Marcellin Champagnat has called us to do: - To face the future with audacity and hope.

The College Agenda for this year has largely to do with future planning:

1. College Review and Renewal with the view of developing a Strategic Plan. Members of Staff, parents and students will be invited to participate in this feedback.
2. Development of a Gifted Education programme. The College has spent the last 12 months researching this area and we now feel informed and ready to proceed.
3. Development of a Building Master Plan. The College is due for some major refurbishments across all three campus and the initial consultation period is about to begin.
4. Increasing the College symbols and signage. We have identified a shortage of Marist and Christian symbols on the campuses. Being aware of the power of these in our Catholic tradition we will seek to broaden the students' exposure to a variety of signs and symbols.

It has been wonderful to meet the new families who have joined us this year and on behalf of us all at Lavalla Catholic College we extend a warm welcome to them all. We trust you have found the College welcoming and that your daughters or sons have settled into the routine of secondary life with relative ease. Certainly the Year 7 group seemed relaxed and excited on the first day and the same emotions seemed to spill over into the camps.

We also acknowledge our returning families and thank them for their continued support of the College. Parents give their support in the ways they choose to work with us in the education process. When we are united in one voice on matters to do with healthy and respectful relationship we are providing students with a firm foundation upon which to

build a good life. Underpinning our daily interactions and withstanding the test of time are our Christian values; values that are respectful of peoples' dignity and worth; that encourage co-operation and harmony and that challenge us not only to be better people but to make this world a better place in which to live. We know that it is not easy and at times we find ourselves struggling to meet these ideals but the test of true cooperation between us is the strength of the lasting relationships that exist abundantly in our community.

I wish you all a successful and prosperous 2007 and look forward to working with you as we begin the next chapter in the history of Lavalla Catholic College.

*Erica Pegorer*  
Principal

## COLLEGE ORGANISATION:

The responsibility of nine members of the College Leadership team is to ensure that every facet of College life is represented during our deliberations and planning. Pictured here are the team and a list of their responsibilities. Clockwise from front left:

- Deputy Principal: Director of Student Learning – Rita Nainie.  
Deputy Principal: Director of Kildare Campus – Marco DiCesare.  
Business Manager – Robert Tarraran.  
Deputy Principal: Director of St Paul's Campus – Chris Roga.  
Director of Presentation Campus – Chris O'Brien.  
Director of Faith and Ministry – Michael Hansen.  
Director of Educational Resources – Ben Verghese.  
Deputy Principal: Director of Staff Development – Lee McKenzie.  
Principal – Erica Pegorer.





## PROFILE CAMPUS DIRECTORS

Find below a brief introduction of our two Campus Directors even though they hardly need an introduction because each has had a long association with the College.

### Mr. Chris Roga: Director of St Paul's Campus

Born in Lucknow (India), Mr. Roga has been teaching for almost 30 years. He arrived in Australia four years ago from the Sultanate of Oman, where he taught Year 12 for many years and was deeply involved in improving student life. He has been at Lavalla Catholic College since January 2003. His wife is also a teacher and his two daughters work and study in Melbourne.



### Mr. Marco DiCesare: Director of Kildare Campus

Mr. DiCesare has held many roles at the College and as a Leadership member held the Director of Learning Technologies portfolio. He has taught Accounting, Information Technology and Religious Education over his 14 year career. Mr. DiCesare has been heavily involved in Marist youth work, Vocational Education and Training and has provided professional development for staff in information technology across a number of Dioceses. His wife is a science teacher and they enjoy the challenges of raising four small children.

## COLLEGE COUNCIL

The College Council meets regularly to discuss matters pertinent to the life and development of the College. Members of the Council provide support for and advice to the Principal. Pictured below is the Lavalla Catholic College Council in 2007.



(Pictured from L to R) Robert Tarraran, Norma Bellerby, Fr. John Dunlea, Mara Bormanis, Fr. Peter Bickley, Irene Bramstedt, Gary Foster, Kathleen Roberts, Erica Pegorer. [Absent : Vincent Carr (CEO, Warragul) Br. Paul Kane (Catholic College, Sale, Peter Cefala (Chair)

## COLLEGE LEADERS – 2007



Clockwise from left: Melissa Germano, Jeremy Waanders, Brendan Smith and Monique De Carli.

## ENROLMENTS – February 8, 2007

### St Paul's Campus

Year 7	221
Year 8	196
Year 9	195
<b>Total:</b>	<b>612</b>

### Presentation Campus

Year 7	47
Year 8	53
Year 9	52
<b>Total:</b>	<b>152</b>

### Kildare Campus

Year 10	254
Year 11	231
Year 12	190
<b>Total:</b>	<b>675</b>

**Total College Enrolment: 1439**

## NEW STAFF

We welcome to the College Community and to the Leadership Team Mr. Ben Verghese who has been employed as the Director of Educational Resources.

We warmly welcome to the College our new and returning members of staff:

### Teachers:

Mr. Ben Verghese	Kildare Campus	(Information Technology)
Mr. Bill Antonopoulos	St. Paul's Campus	(Science/Maths)
Ms. Maria Hagget	Kildare Campus	(History/Food/ RE)
Mrs. Gay Jenkins	Kildare Campus	(English/SOSE)
Mr. Michael McKenna	St. Paul's Campus	(English/SOSE/RE)
Miss. Janice Stiglich	St. Paul's Campus	(Food/Science)
Mr. Andrew Wood	Kildare Campus	(Maths/RE)
Mrs. Sallie Davies	Presentation Campus	(English /SOSE)
Mrs. Vivian Haupt	St. Paul's Campus	(English/SOSE/RE)

### Support Staff:

Mrs. Carolyn McCabe	St. Paul's Campus	(Integration Aide)
Ms. Sam Worley	St. Paul's Campus	(Integration Aide)
Miss. Marie Scholtes	St. Paul's Campus	(Sports' Trainee)
Mrs. Jenny Lovatt	Kildare Campus	(Laboratory Technician)

## REQUIESCANT IN PACE

We were all saddened by the recent deaths of Craig Thorpe (Year 11, 1998), Michael English (Year 11, 2002) and of 2006 VCE student, Daniel Lee. All were killed in motor vehicle accidents in the last month. The College extends its sympathy to their families and loved ones.

## UNIFORM

The beginning of the school year has seen a vast improvement in the presentation of our students and I would like to thank parents for their support in this important matter. Please note the brochure that accompanies this bulletin which outlines the required garments and clearly indicates acceptable shoes. Also, the College backpack is a compulsory item of uniform and needs to be purchased without delay.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

The College expects that all students attend school each day, participate in all classes and remain on the property for the duration of the day. The College has a legal responsibility to account for the presence of students at school and in each class and such records are maintained by the teachers. This policy is best read in conjunction with the Attendance at School regulations as outlined in the student planner.

To develop the whole person the College academic program is enhanced by a wide range of extra curricula activities and students are encouraged to participate. However, such participation should not jeopardise the required 85% attendance regulation for all academic classes.

The 85% attendance regulation for all classes is a compulsory requirement and contributes to a student's eligibility for promotion. (See Academic Promotions Policy)

### Authorised Absence from Class

In considering regular attendance the following reasons will be deemed as authorised absence and therefore will not jeopardise the 85% attendance requirement:

- Compulsory activities – camps, retreats, VET courses, work experience, College liturgies, subject based excursions and timetable clashes at VCE level;
- Serious illness with a medical certificate; and
- Bereavement.

### Unauthorised Absence from Class

In considering regular attendance the following reasons will be deemed as unauthorised absence and therefore will contribute to the 85% attendance requirement:

- Parental approval via note (for absences other than those listed above, the absence is deemed to be 'explained' but unauthorised);
- Late arrival/early departure (an explanatory note is required but the lateness or early departure remains unauthorised);
- Suspension – both internal and from school;
- Optional external College commitments.

### Pastoral Provision

Pastoral provision for personal circumstances may be granted at the discretion of the Assistant Director of Campus or the Student Welfare Co-ordinator (at the Presentation Campus), the Director of Campus or the Principal.

## SCHOOL TIMES

Please note the following times:

### St. Paul's and Kildare Campuses:

#### Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

Homeroom commences at	8.50am.
Recess is from	10.45am to 11.05am.
Lunch is from	2.55pm to 1.45pm.

Dismissal is at	3.25pm.
Thursday (7 period day)	
Homeroom commences at	8.50am.
Recess is from	10.30am to 10.55am.
Lunch is from	1.10pm to 1.55pm.
Dismissal is at	3.25pm.

### Presentation Campus:

#### Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday

Homeroom commences at	8.50am.
Recess is from	10.40am to 11.00am.
Lunch is from	12.40pm to 1.35pm.
Dismissal is at	3.10pm.

#### Thursday (7 period day)

Homeroom commences at	8.50am.
Recess is from	10.30am to 10.50am.
Lunch is from	1.10pm to 1.55pm.
Dismissal is at	3.10pm.

A 5-minute movement time has been included within the timetable to eliminate any lateness to classes.

## MUSIC ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL TIMETABLE – 2007:

### Before school: (7.40 – 9.00 am)

Monday	- Senior Wind Ensemble [Mr. Harris] (Kildare Campus)
	- Junior Choir [Miss. Teychenne] (St. Paul's Campus)
Tuesday	- Senior Choir [Mr. Reid] (Kildare Campus)
Wednesday	- Senior Jazz Ensemble [Mr. Reid] (Kildare Campus)
	Intermediate Concert Band [Miss. Teychenne] (Kildare Campus)
	Training Band [Mr. Harris] (St. Paul's Campus)
Thursday	- Junior Jazz Ensemble [Mr. Reid] (St. Paul's Campus)
Friday	- Senior Wind Ensemble [Mr. Harris] (Kildare Campus)

### After school: (3.30 – 5.00 pm)

Thursday	Senior Jazz Combo [Mr. Harris] (Kildare Campus)
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## ACADEMIC PROMOTION POLICY:

The College has refined its Academic Promotion Policy. Outlined below are the criteria for promotion:

### Satisfactory Completion

Successful completion of a unit of work (either semester or year long) and/or a year level is determined by:

- Satisfactorily completing the learning outcomes of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards (Years 7 – 10) or the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority (VCE and VCAL);
- Demonstrating appropriate learning behaviours;
- Attending a minimum of 85% of all classes. (see Attendance Policy)

### *Eligibility for further study*

Students who have met the attendance requirement, the learning behaviour requirements and/or the learning outcomes, and who have met the minimum attendance requirement of 85% will be eligible to continue their study at the next level.

### *Ineligibility for further study*

Students who have not met the learning behaviour requirements and/or the learning outcomes, or the 85% attendance requirement will be awarded an N result indicating an unsatisfactory completion of the unit and/or year level. Students receiving an N result will not have acquired the essential level of knowledge, skills, competencies and/or maturity to continue in this field of study and will therefore be deemed unsuitable to continue.

Student who have been awarded an unsatisfactorily result for the unit/year may be required to meet with an academic review panel.

#### **Possible outcomes:**

- Complete outstanding work;
- Complete additional work;
- Sit an exam;
- Repeat the unit;
- Repeat the year level.

### *Pastoral Provision*

Pastoral provision for personal circumstances (medical or environmental) may be granted at the discretion of the Director of Campus or the Principal.

## **PARENT GROUPS**

### *Parents and Friends:*

An invitation is extended to all parents of students attending Lavalla Catholic College to our meetings in 2007. We would encourage any new parents to come along. Meetings are held on a Monday night beginning at 7.30pm in the St. Paul's Information Service Centre. The meetings' schedule for 2007 is:

- Monday, March 19.
- Monday, May 7.
- Monday, June 18.
- Monday, August 13.
- Monday, September 17.
- Monday, October 22.
- Wednesday, November 28. (in Staffroom)

The Presentation campus Parents and Friends meet on the first Tuesday of each month commencing at 7.30 pm in the Staffroom.

The Tamboritha Committee meets in the Staffroom of the Kildare Campus on the last Tuesday of each month commencing at 8.00 pm. More members are always welcome.

## **TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT**

Parents who use their own vehicles to bring students to school or to bus stops so they can catch school buses

could be eligible for travel reimbursement. The conditions are that the distance is over 4.8 km and there is no bus service available at that time or in that locality. This is particularly relevant to parents who bring their children in for music rehearsals early in the day. There would be no bus service running at that time so a reimbursement for travel expenses could be made. Also parents in outlying areas who bring their children in to a bus stop so they can catch a school bus could also be eligible. A private car allowance form needs to be collected from the office and submitted. Payment is usually made at the end of each semester in a lump sum. For further information or clarification, please ring Mr. Van Berkel, St. Paul's Campus.

## **PARISH PRIESTS and ASSISTANTS**

Churchill:	Fr. Hugh Brown (Fri – Sun)	5622 6611
	Rev. Deacon Terry Rooney	5122 2226
Moe:	Fr. John Dunlea	5127 1057
	Fr. Bernie O'Brien	5127 1057
Morwell:	Fr. Tom Cleary	5133 8132
Newborough:	Fr. Mark Godridge	5127 3260
Traralgon:	Fr. Peter Bickley	5174 2060
	Fr. Peter Mizera	5174 2060

## **KILDARE AND ST. PAUL'S CANTEENS**

We are still endeavouring to maintain these Canteens through the use of volunteer parents and the Canteens on both of these campuses are absolutely desperate for helpers. Numbers of volunteers have dropped and we are unfortunately considering the possibility of cutting back on what we can offer. We simply cannot go ahead with our present number of helpers.

Please ring either Canteen if you can help. If your son or daughter is discouraging you from volunteering, you would be most welcome on the other Campus. The Canteen is not only a convenience for parents and students but also a source of significant income for College equipment and projects.

## **BUS TRAVELLERS**

All bus travellers must carry their swipe card and present them to the driver or supervising teacher. Students are only to travel on the bus allocated to them and they should have an endorsement on their swipe card (underneath their ID photo) for that bus.

On rare occasions some students using 'country buses' invite a friend to come on the bus to travel to their home. This is not allowed by law. Only registered bus travellers can use the service. Notes from their parents are not acceptable.

## **STUDENT PARKING**

The College parking area is not available for student parking as it is reserved for visitors, parents and staff. If students really need to bring their motor vehicles to school, then they are asked to park in Kosciuszko Street. The

College, on the advice of the College Council, cannot afford to carry the legal liability and responsibility incurred when students use official College car parking spaces.

### PARENT PARKING

The front of each campus has designated areas for parents to park if they need to attend an appointment at the campus or if sick children need to be collected. There is also disabled parking allocated in the same area.

### FRONT OF SCHOOL

At the beginning and end of each day the campus traffic can cause congestion and we ask that you are particularly aware of pedestrians, buses and other vehicles entering and exiting the campuses. Parents are reminded that Kildare Campus students can be dropped-off and picked up at the turning circle adjacent to the south entry of the Virtual Services Centre and not along Kosciuszko Street.

### SCHOOL RENEWAL

Lavalla Catholic College is currently undertaking the school renewal process in order to set in place strategic planning for the next five years. Already, staff has met to discuss the five mission directions of the Journeying Together document of the Sale Diocese. We join other Primary and Secondary schools in reviewing where we have come from and how we wish to proceed in the next five years. Staff across the College has held discussions on faith development and curriculum innovation in our school program. We look forward to gathering data from students and parents about the College in developing a vision and formulating effective school programs from 2008. School renewal provides us with a wonderful opportunity to enrich the work already being undertaken on all three campuses of the College. Ms. Fran Renehan has been appointed the School Renewal Co-ordinator for 2007.

### STUDENT PLANNER

This year marks a significant change in the contents of the Student Planner. Please take the time to digest the information that is contained in the planner. Students have access to sound advice, both academic and pastoral. They can record their assignments, due dates, lateness to class and access helpful information related to many of their subjects. The planner is still the main means of communication between the home and school.

### SECOND HAND BOOKS and UNIFORM SHOP AUXILIARY

The second sales shop is generally open on the third Thursday of each month during the school term between 3.30 and 4.30 pm for uniform sales and the collection of any unsold books that have not been collected. This service is largely dependent on the generosity of parent volunteers and we are always in need of some assistance. Please contact the campuses if you feel that you would like to help out in some small way.

### SHROVE TUESDAY AND ASH WEDNESDAY

Each Campus celebrated the start of Lent in the traditional way. On Shrove Tuesday, the day before the start of Lent, pancakes were cooked and shared and there was a sense of participation in something beyond the eating. Students were aware that this occasion was in support of CARITAS and the traditional almsgiving venture, Project Compassion.

Ashes were distributed on Wednesday, marking the official forty days leading up to the great Easter feast of the Resurrection of Jesus. Our Campus gatherings were in solidarity with Christian communities all over the world in the hope that our prayers, fasting and almsgiving will help bring justice and peace to the world. Classes are being urged to support Project Compassion by being involved in class and campus activities. The special focus for this year is "Fair Play Today." Mr. Felix Rosario of CARITAS Bangladesh spoke to the students at each liturgy.



Photograph by Sean Sprague

The ashes you will receive today have for centuries been a symbol of sorrow, repentance and cleansing. They mark us as people who are sorry for the choices we have made that have cut us off from God, our true self, others in our community and our earth. From the Ash Wednesday Liturgy

### THANKS TO PRIESTS and RETREATS

At the very start of their final year of formal schooling all Year 12 students attended their annual retreat.

The retreat programme is an integral part of the Religious Education curriculum of the school and offers unique opportunities for students to pause and reflect critically on their place in the world, their relationships with themselves, others, family, God and the environment. A retreat is a time to grow together in community and to extend the boundaries of trust so necessary for personal growth towards integrity.

Within the context of large and small group dynamics the retreat experience is thus an opportunity for personal exploration. It is a time for fun together, reflective prayer, personal sharing and can be a powerful impetus for personal and spiritual growth.

As part of their time together, students and adult leaders reflected on preparing for the journey into young adulthood. They shared what they needed to take with them to make sure that this journey is an exciting adventure and a growth filled experience. Reflecting on what would be their walking stick, that thing that would most support them, they represented this symbolically by creating a Journey Stick. These walking aides have been placed in the Kildare chapel as a reminder of their deeper significance for the senior students.

As is their custom, the Priests of the area celebrated Mass at each of the Retreat venues. We are most grateful to Fr. Peter Bickley, Fr. Peter Mizera, Fr. Bernie O'Brien and Fr. Mark Godridge, for their continued support and for the ministry they exercise to our young people.



### COMMISSIONING MASS

At the beginning of each year the whole school community gathered to celebrate the start of another academic year with a special Eucharist in the Champagnat Centre. This was an occasion to ask God's blessing on the coming year and to induct the new student leadership in a formal sense. It was a significant liturgical moment for the College and all parents and friends were invited to attend.

### MASS OF THE OILS

For several years representative groups of Grade 6 students from the Catholic Primary Schools of the Diocese have attended the Cathedral church in Sale for the traditional Mass of the Oils. This year all the Grade 6 students will be gathering together with Bishop Coffey and the clergy to celebrate the Mass of the Oils in the Champagnat Centre on Tuesday, March 27th.

### YEAR 7 CAMPS

The Year 7 Camp program has been completed. All students enjoyed their days at Wilson's Promontory under the care and supervision of the staff of First Track Adventures, canoeing, surfing, playing games on the beach, abseiling or just enjoying one another's company. It was an exhausting time for both staff and students but the experience was well worth the effort.



### SWIMMING CARNIVALS

Each Campus has held its annual swimming Carnival. Delany House won at Presentation Campus, Nagle were victorious at Kildare and for the first time there was a tie for first at St. Paul's with MacKillop and Delany Houses unseparated at the end of the day. Not only were there themes for the day but participation was up on years past and all students entered many events.



### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

#### *Australian Brain Bee Challenge*

The Australian Brain Bee Challenge is an Australian and New Zealand neuroscience competition that four of our Year 10 students from last year entered. This is a three-stage competition involving the studying of a book on neuroscience and then responding to test items. The competition is coordinated by the University of Queensland, and involves academics from all states. The first test was last October. It was extremely challenging. The students (Ashleigh Dyer, Quinn McGenniken, Jessica Edwards and Melanie Boom) volunteered and studied in their own time at home, but kept in touch with Mrs. Mara Bormanis. They attended an intensive after-school tutorial prior to the actual test. We were informed that all four of our students had passed the test and were eligible for the second stage. We congratulate them.



Pictured (L to R) Quinn McGenniken, Jessica Edwards, Ashleigh Dyer, Melanie Boom.

#### *Students successful in obtaining apprenticeships*

1. Waanders Chris	Yr 11	Apprentice Boilermaker / Silcar, Loy Yang
2. Vanstan Luke	Yr 11	Apprentice Carpenter / GGT
3. Jacobsen Jack	Yr 11	Apprentice Plumber, Paul McCulloch Plumbers
4. McGann Thomas	Yr 11	Apprentice Boilermaker
5. Sloan Danielle	Yr 11	Apprentice Hairdresser
6. Albanese Frank	Yr 11	Apprentice Boilermaker /GGT
7. Whittle Scott	Yr 11	Apprentice Plumber / GGT
8. Anderson Jordan	Yr 11	Apprentice Plumber / G&T Keast Plumbing
9. Gooding Ryan	Yr 12	Apprentice Electrician / Luddeni Electrical
10. Pace Matthew	Yr 12	Apprentice Boilermaker
11. Kurrle Josh	Yr 12	Apprentice Plumber / GGT
12. Demetrios Jordan	Yr 12	Apprentice Loy Yang Power
13. Gore Mitchell	Yr 12	Apprentice Boilermaker /John Holland

### VIS Soccer Scholarship

The College congratulates Braydon Dunne on his gaining of a full scholarship with the Victorian Institute of Sport Soccer Program. The VIS is committed to the pursuit of excellence in sport and life and will work collaboratively with the College to ensure that a supportive structure is in place that achieves optimal performance with Braydon's study and soccer arrangements.



Braydon Dunne, Year 10.

## Spirit of Anzac Prize School Competition

The Victorian Premier, the Hon. Steve Bracks announced 10 winners in the Spirit of Anzac Competition. Annie Ferguson of Year 10 was selected from over 400 entries, at an awards ceremony on Friday, February 16. She will represent Victoria and Australia as a winner of the 2007 Spirit of Anzac Prize and will tour Anzac sites of historical significance throughout Turkey, France, Belgium and Britain culminating in the Anzac Day ceremony at Gallipoli.

Annie completed a research essay on the Anzac Spirit with a focus on indigenous soldiers in World War I. Entrants were also required to demonstrate their personal community involvement, reflect on the courage and initiative of the Anzacs and discuss how this legacy has influenced Victorian communities of today.

After the announcement was made by Premier Bracks, Annie was one of 3 students selected to respond to the Premier and invited guests. She has also been approached to speak at the Remembrance Day Service at Melbourne's Shrine of Remembrance on November 11.

The Anzac legend has been of significant personal interest to Annie. Her research revealed that several family members had fought for Australia overseas. This study tour (April 13 – 27) will be the realisation of a long held dream. Annie has always actively supported Remembrance Day and Anzac Day services at the College.



Annie with the Hon. Steve Bracks, Premier.

## Genova International Soccer Academy

During the 2006 the Genova International Soccer Academy came to the Latrobe Valley to scout for talent. Their aim was to create a squad that would travel to Europe to play Italian Teams with possible scouting opportunities for international soccer clubs. This year Gianni Romano, Joshua Tanti and Stephen Maselli will travel to Europe to participate in this squad. We wish them well.

## Young Australian of the Year

At the Australia Day Ceremonies this year Robert Bruzzese was awarded the Young Australian of the Year. Robert has contributed on a voluntary basis to local soccer in the region and has been an inspiration for younger students. Robert visited Japan last year as part of the Latrobe City Sports exchange. We congratulate Robert and we are sure that we will hear more of his achievements in the future.



Robert with his Certificate

## COLLEGE AWARD NIGHT

### *Celebrating Achievement and Excellence*

The Inaugural College Awards Night was a great success. In front of a packed Champagnat Centre of staff, parents, grandparents and family members, we celebrated the academic excellence and diligence, community leadership, sporting and cultural achievements of over 150 students. Every facet of College life was recognised and we commend those students who consistently maintained their level of commitment in either the academic, sporting and or community arena

You should have received in the report packages a booklet that lists all the Award Recipients for 2006. There are a few hard copies available at each office but should you wish to view a full list of Award recipients at the Inaugural Awards Ceremony, please visit [www.lavalla.vic.edu.au](http://www.lavalla.vic.edu.au) and follow the link from News.

## COLLEGE DUX 2006

At the College Awards Night, we were privileged to be able to introduce the Lavalla Catholic College Dux to the large audience. Jordan Breed achieved an ENTER of 98.65 which placed him inside the top 2% of the 45,000 students State-wide who received an ENTER in 2006. This is a truly outstanding achievement. At the first Kildare Campus Assembly on Thursday, February 15 this year, Jordan spoke with eloquence and a depth of understanding of what is required to achieve excellence in learning. He presented himself as a fine role model and a source of inspiration for both students and staff. In recognition of this achievement, the College presented Jordan with a Certificate, a plaque and a cheque for \$500. He has chosen to defer his studies this year to work and travel and will commence his course in Bio-medical Science at Monash University, Clayton in 2008.



Dux of the College (2006) Jordan Breed

## CELEBRATING THE BRIGIDINE STORY (Bicentenary 1807 - 2007)

*'Heritage and Horizon'*

In 2007 the Brigidine Sisters will be celebrating their Bicentenary. Brigid of Kildare, a 5th Century woman, established monasteries in Ireland as centres of learning and hospitality. These monasteries were eventually suppressed during the Reformation, then in 1807 Bishop Daniel Delany and six founding women rekindled the flame and established the Congregation of St. Brigid.

The first Brigidine foundations in Victoria were in Echuca and Beechworth, both established in 1886, and since then they have worked in education in many areas, including our present school.

### Statue of St Brigid.

This week Sr. Rose Duffy from the Catholic Education Office in Warragul was excited to return to the Kildare Campus the statue of St. Brigid. With the withdrawal of the Brigidine community in the late 1980s the statue that stood guarding the corridors was relocated to another school. We are pleased to welcome the statue of St. Brigid back and have found a place for it in the Kildare Campus Chapel.

### THINKFEST – a School-based Thinking Carnival

Lavalla Catholic College conducted an innovative program for its Year 9 students at the Presentation Campus in Newborough. Entitled ThinkFest, the day long thinking carnival involved 260 Year 9 students and 56 Year 11 students who acted as small group leaders and facilitators for the 31 groups.

ThinkFest is about innovative thinking and collaboration, where creativity and cooperation, working in teams and learning about solving problems was the focus for the day. Each group of thinkers was challenged to present a solution to problem scenarios in the four broad areas of Communication, Construction, Enterprise and Community.

On the day, the Communication teams were challenged to write their own rescue adventure story, as a play for pre-school children and to perform it. Characters needed to be identified, had magic powers and their audience was encouraged to participate.

The Construction teams were asked to rescue the royal rare raptor egg by inventing, building and demonstrating four working models:

a device for moving the egg from the castle to the zoo separated and protected by a deadly force field, the castle wall and drawbridge, the zoo's incubator with closing door, and a signalling device to assure King Adolphus of the egg's safe arrival.

The Enterprise teams were challenged to invent three totally new fruit products, make eye-catching prototypes and sell them to three different buyer groups, using multi-media such as posters, jingles, a 60-second TV segment, a 30-second radio advertisement and T-shirts.

The Community groups were challenged to change water-use habits in the Australian community, from waste to save. Their Water-Wiser Campaign needed to appeal to all ages and to meet both family and community needs. These groups were encouraged to create a catchy slogan, stickers, a banner, T-shirts, hats to promote their campaign, and to invent and present a Water-Wise symbol or logo and a four line rhyming chant for all to learn. They could even create a rain dance.

Presenters Penny Doutré and Mary Cairncross of Learning Together came to the College from Canberra for the day.



### CALENDAR DATES FOR TERM I, 2007

March:

Tue 27th	Year 11 Outdoor Education Excursion (ends March 28)
Thu 29th	Parent and Teacher Interviews – 4.00 – 8.00 pm
Fri 30th	Parent and Teacher Interviews – 9.30 am – 12.30 pm End Term I

### CALENDAR DATES FOR TERM II:

April:

Tue 10th	Marist Basketball Carnival (Adelaide)
Mon 16th	Commence Term II (Full school day for all students)
Wed 25th	ANZAC Day
Thu 26th	Year 10 - Pastoral Evening

May:

Tue 8th	Year 9 AIM Testing – Mathematics
Wed 9th	Year 9 AIM Testing – English
Thu 10th	Year 11 Outdoor Education Camp (ends May 11)
Thu 10th	Year 7 (2008) Information Night – St. Paul's Campus
Wed 16th	St. Paul's and Presentation Campus Open Day Year 7 (2008) Information Night – Presentation Campus
Fri 18th	Staff Consultation Day # 1 – Pupil Free Day
Mon 21st	Year 7 (2008) Information Night – St. Paul's Campus
Tue 22nd	Year 12 Drama Ensemble Performances
Wed 30th	GCSSEA Athletics – Newborough Year 12 Drama Workshop Day
Thu 31st	ArtsConnect9

June:

Fri 1st	Year 7 Enrolments (2008) close.
Mon 11th	Queen's Birthday
Tue 12th	VCE Mid-year Examination Period (ends with GAT Thu 14th)
Fri 15th	Curriculum and Report Writing Day – Pupil Free Day
Sun 24th	Marist Netball Carnival – Traralgon (ends June 27)
Thu 28th	Parent and Teacher Interviews (4.00 – 7.00 pm)
Fri 29th	End Term II

### TERM DATES

Term I	January 30 – March 30.
Term II	April 16 – June 29.
Term III	July 16 – September 21.
Term IV	October 8 – December 21.