



# NEWSLETTER

## Lavalla Catholic College

8 September, 2006

Dear Parents and Students

Together with principals from other Marist schools around Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia I was privileged on Monday to visit Lytente Apurte. Formally known as Santa Theresa, the Marist brothers have provided since 1978 a stable and lasting presence for this Aboriginal community. Br Tony Caddy has been the Principal of this school for the last three years which caters for primary and secondary students.

What I witnessed at Lytente Apurte was a group of deeply connected and spiritual teachers working not to fix everything that is wrong within the community but to be present to these marginalised children; a group not trying to change a way of life by making it look more like a 'white-man's' world but teachers working at deepening their own understanding by listening with open hearts; a group of teachers prepared to sacrifice their own lifestyle so that they can be sowers of hope for students in this landscape of risk.

I was also able to witness the work of our own group of year 11 students who had visited and worked at the mission during the previous week. Our students contributed to the community by hanging six pieces of art work on the walls of the covered assembly area. Aboriginal students were alive with their talk of the "Lavalla kids" and clearly appreciated their presence and their contribution. We have at Lytente Apurte an example of co-responsibility between Brothers, lay teachers and even some of our own students working together to '*do something*' by '*being present to*' our indigenous people in a truly Marist way. They are committed individuals who take small and decisive steps to carve a path that is hopeful and life-giving.

### Leadership Positions

This is to advise that in keeping with contracts and policies that govern conditions for all Deputy Principals within the Marist system and the Sale Diocese, three Deputy Principal positions were recently advertised in *The Age* newspaper. Advertised were the *Director of Kildare Campus*, the *Director of Staff Development* and the *Director of Student Learning*. Appointments and announcements, once ratified by the Governors of the College will be made in term 4.

### Debutante Balls

We look forward to the celebrations of the three debutante balls next week. Judging by the preparation, dance practise and excitement the Balls will no doubt be elegant celebrations. I wish all those involved the very best of their special evening.

### Kildare Hall

The floor of the Kildare Hall has been water damaged to such an extent that the Hall has been deemed unsafe for further usage. This has meant major rearranging of the school programme, organised events and in particular the Year 12 exams. Should you be affected, ample notice will be provided to notify you of the changes.

### Last Newsletter for the Term.

Please note that this is the last issue of the newsletter for this term. Please note dates for beginning term 4.

4 October	Year 9 Tamboritha Camp [St Pauls]
5 October	Year 7 Assembly [St Pauls]
9 October	Year 10 NET Retreat
12 October	Year 8 Assembly [St Pauls]

From a rather warm Alice Springs, I wish you well as we enter the last week of term and I hope your interim report for term 3 reflects on you well.

*Erica Pegorer*  
*Principal*

**First Day of Term 4 –  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October (Week 2)**

**Last Day of Term 3 –  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September Early Finish at 2.30pm**

We have had a beautiful introduction to Spring and have noticed a surge of energy in the students as the days draw out and the weather improves. Hopefully this means the campus will be in full bloom in time for the 50 years celebration on the 21<sup>st</sup> October. If you have not already responded to the open invitation to attend please do so ASAP so that catering arrangements can be made.

This week we also saw the untimely death of Steve Irwin. Many of your children 'know' him through his television work, some may be quite affected by his passing. It presents an opportunity to discuss death, rituals and loss with your child.

Unfortunately, **Ms Karen Joyce** will not be available for Parent Teacher interviews as she will be on sick leave. Any parents wishing to speak to her are encouraged to phone the school at beginning of term 4.

#### **Uniform**

A reminder, all students should be in **summer uniform by 16<sup>th</sup> of October**. Please check the length of dresses before that date as many of the girls have grown since last summer.

#### **Debutante Balls**

The staff and students at St Paul's send their best wishes and congratulations to those students involved in the Debutante Balls. We hope they are memorable evenings for all involved.

#### **Congratulations:**

To **Matt Moffat** who will be representing Australia in the Bocce competition in Italy later this month.

#### **Yr 9 Tamboritha camps**

9.1 will have to be quick off the mark next term; students return to school on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. 9.1 will be heading to Tamboritha on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Students for these camps have all been given extensive lists of gear, please ensure that your child is well prepared for the high country with plenty of layers of warm clothing and sturdy footwear. Our aim is to make this a memorable camp but it will have some elements of physical challenge.

Likewise the Outdoor Education camps will be taking place next term and students need to be prepared and appropriately equipped.

#### **Absences**

Some families will be receiving letters from Year level Co-ordinators to alert them to the fact that their child is not achieving 85% attendance. In most cases this can be remedied by constant attendance through term 4.

#### **Interim Reports**

Hopefully you will have received your child's interim report today. Please make contact with the College as soon as possible to arrange interviews. These interviews always work best when the parents, teachers and students have an opportunity to meet. These reports should also be used as guides to help direct your child to complete the semester well and to attain results that reflect their capabilities.

*"Expect the people you love to be better. It helps them to become better. But don't get upset when they fail. It helps them keep trying."*—Anonymous

*Lee McKenzie.*

*Head of St Paul's Campus*

#### **Year 10 NET Retreat**

#### **Urgent request for Billets**

From 8<sup>th</sup> October – 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2006

If you are able to assist contact Mike Hansen,  
Director of Faith & Ministry

#### Parents & Friends Meeting

Our next meeting is Monday Sept 11<sup>th</sup>, and at the moment we are helping with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations to be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> Oct. Anyone interested in helping with the organisation of the celebration or would be able to help on the day would be most welcome to come along as it is only about 5 weeks away now.

We will be meeting at Marcellin House at 7.30pm. Please use the entrance off Costa circle.

## KILDARE CAMPUS

### **Notable Musical Performances:**

Our **Senior Wind Ensemble** has received a Gold award from the Melbourne School Bands Festival, a result that rightly places this group among the states finest. The Senior Wind Ensemble won back the title of Gippsland's finest Concert Band with victory in both the Open and Secondary school sections of the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod. The adjudicator, awarding an unprecedented score of 98 points out of 100, acknowledged the group as one of the finest he has heard. All credit to Matt Harris and the students, their performance this year is perhaps one of the finest that any group from this college has ever produced.

Our **Senior Choir** has now won the Secondary School Choir section back to back. Their performance earning 95 out of 100. Students won with an extremely large margin in this section. Thanks to the invaluable support by Sophy Morley and Ernie Rijs.

Our **Junior Choir** won first prize in the Under 20 section of the Eisteddfod.. These students have done some fine work this year with Candice Huang and a special thanks to Manuela Stefan who has been accompanying this group since she joined us at Lavalla.

Our **Senior Jazz Ensemble** won back the Open section and Secondary School section of the Eisteddfod. This group, which only reformed as a full jazz ensemble at the beginning of 2005 achieved excellent results at this Eisteddfod and drew some very positive feedback from their performance at the Melbourne Bands Festival.

Perhaps the most encouraging results were from our **Intermediate Concert Band**, superbly led by Alison Teychenne and our **Intermediate Jazz Ensemble**. These groups both placed second in their relevant sections, only being beaten by our senior groups. This achievement from our junior musicians in placing ahead of all of the other school ensembles in the area, is a wonderful testament to their work and certainly indicates that we should be in for an exciting few years.

We have our annual music concert coming up on **Monday 11th September at 7.00pm**. It certainly promises to be a wonderful evening, all students involved in the program and all ensembles will perform on the evening. It should be a wonderful way to finish this frantic but rewarding time that we are experiencing.

Thanks again to all of the staff that have contributed to this. We do appreciate all of the college support that we have received, the classes that have been covered and the interruptions to the timetable that we have caused. I hope that the entire school community can feel proud of their Music department and what the students have been able to achieve.

*Shane Reid,  
Director of Music*

### **2006 VCE Examinations:**

**Advanced notice:** Due to renovations to the Kildare Campus Hall, the VCE Examinations will be conducted in the Champagnat Centre on the St. Paul's Campus.

*Peter Schneider,  
Head of Kildare Campus*

### Parentline

Parentline 13 22 89 is a Statewide telephone counselling, information and referral service for parents and carers with children aged from birth to eighteen years. It is a confidential and anonymous service.

Parentline assists with the development of positive parenting strategies and the provision of skills aimed at empowering parents by promoting and contributing to the confidence, resilience and well being of families.

Parentline operates from 8.00am – 12.00am midnight Monday to Friday and 10.00am – 10.00pm Saturday and Sunday.

## PRESENTATION CAMPUS

### Parent Teacher Interviews

Reports will accompany this newsletter. Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> September from 4.00-7.30pm. You may make an appointment on the form attached to the Report or by ringing the office. I would encourage all parents to see as many of your son or daughters teachers as all contact is valuable.

### Music

Congratulations to all our music students and the Music Department for the excellent achievements at the recent Eisteddfod. We have 25 music students on this Campus in 2006. Our thanks to the parents who support this wonderful program.

**Parent Support Group** met on Monday. The response to Family Portrait Fundraiser has been good. You still have time to

commit to this worthy cause. I would like to recognise Doris Aquilina for the organisation and enthusiasm for this venture. The package is one photo worth \$179.00 for just \$35.00; of which \$25.00 goes to the school. *Have your family portrait taken!* Forms are available from the Presentation Campus office. John Ansell will spend one hour taking your photo.

The term has been a long one; we have "survived" the long winter of term 3. My appreciation to all staff and students who have made the term the success it was.

Enjoy the holidays.

Yours in the spirit of strong minds and compassionate hearts.

*Chris O'Brien,  
Head of Presentation Campus*



### DO YOU OR YOUR PARTNER?

- \* Have a child attending primary or secondary School at a government or independent school?
- \* Have a health care card or pension card?
- \* Have some form of paid employment?

Are **YOU** interested in saving for your child's education? **YOU** may be eligible to receive **\$1 for every \$1** you save... If you saved **\$1,000** (maximum) you would be credited with an additional **\$1,000**, to use for educational expenses.(camps, uniforms, textbooks, musical instrument, computer etc.) **SAVER PLUS** has become a successful program, and now we are looking for more participants in the Latrobe City area. If you are interested in being part of this new and exciting program, phone **Michael Easton** at Berry Street Victoria, on **51 345 971**.



### CANTEEN ROSTER

	<b>St Paul's</b>	<b>Kildare</b>
Mon 11 Sept	L. Hare, R. Freeman	L. Barrett, B. McNulty
Tue 12 Sept	C. Asbock, K. Licciardi	M. Byl, (help required)
Wed 13 Sept	(help required)	A. Fletcher, R. Crowle
Thur 14 Sept	(help required)	V. Sammut (help required)
Fri 15 Sept	(help required)	A. Zaghet, (help required)

### School Holidays:. Term 4 - Students return 3 October.

	<b>Pupil Free Day</b>	<b>Pupil Free Day</b>
Mon 2 Oct	R. Gillow, (help required)	K. Dugan, H. van Berkel
Tue 3 Oct	K. Lowdon, (help required)	T. Sloan, S. Hillier
Wed 4 Oct	N. Ellis, R. Hadjistafnis	C. Shippen, H. Symons
Thur 5 Oct	L. Weckman, P. Atkinson	A. Fogarty, A. Prezioso
Fri 6 Oct		
Mon 9 Oct	R. Salleh, R. Gillow	K. Manson, D. Berryman
Tue 10 Oct	T. Plege, S. Garrett	B. Boothman, M. Northover
Wed 11 Oct	R. Growle, T. Thornton	A. Fletcher (help required)
Thur 12 Oct	F. Webb, C. Barry	M. Wojciechowski (help required)
Fri 13 Oct	D. Buckley, I. Moulton	L. Wechmann, J. Kivisalu

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