

LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



18 September 2009

Dear Parents, Students and Teachers

From the Principal's Desk

Last week we held the annual music concert in the Kildare Hall. From our beginning musicians to our most accomplished, the performances were wonderful. It was a pleasure to see our young people encouraging each other and to see the pride of parents who support the music program so strongly. My thanks to **Shane Reid**, the Director of Music, along with **Matt Harris** and our newest team member **John Wilkie**, and of course **Maria Testa**, who does all the behind the scenes scheduling and support.

VCE students

There was a quiet hum at Kildare, particularly for those students who were involved in VCE assessment last week. The Yr 12 students in particular are in the final stages of their secondary schooling and for the most part are making good use of their remaining time. I encourage all of them to work solidly through the break so they can pace themselves properly for the exams. Presentation campus has an opportunity to 'catch its breath' after hosting 2 weeks of a Master Survivor Pilot. Reports from the pilot are very encouraging; the students have been able to offer some very valuable feedback to help shape the pilot for term 4. My thanks to **Leanne Mills**, **Kaylene Mustoe**, **Kim Stewart**, **Alby Van Berkel**, **Sam Worley** and **Jeananne Brown** who put so much energy into delivering this pilot program. The Master Survivor Program in 2010 will be richer for this pilot experience. We look forward to the term 4 pilot.

Raffle

At this point I am concerned with the rate of ticket sales. The **Parents and Friends** have targeted this activity to provide funds for climate control in classrooms. The College needs your support to sell your book of tickets and return it promptly. There are also opportunities for you to become involved in ticket sales at local shopping centres (please contact **Rob Tarraran** if you are able to assist). Your children currently benefit from the fund raising and efforts of past parents, I urge you to make your contribution to the College so that you too can make a lasting difference.

Parent Teacher Interviews

The term three interviews are the last formal opportunity for parents, teachers and students to meet; except for the Yr 10 LA students. I hope that you have taken the opportunity to hear about your child's progress and help map out avenues for improvement for term four. Research shows that parental involvement in these activities is a key factor for success, so even when your teenager is telling you they don't need you to attend - they really need you to.

Uniform change

Please note that we will be having the usual 2 week transition period at the beginning of term 4. Students must attend in either full winter or full summer uniform and not a mixture. Please ensure that all uniform items are in good repair and that lengths are altered to accommodate any growth since last summer.

Marist Chapter, Correction

In the last news letter I mistakenly reported that the Marist Chapter which Erica is attending, is for the first time including lay people. This is not accurate. What is happening is a growing awareness of the partnership between the Brothers and the laity and a sense of shared mission.

Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers: The Mary MacKillop School in Leongatha, a parent of a Yr 9 student was killed on Monday. **Br Anthony**, a member of our local Brothers' community, has undergone heart surgery. Staff members: **Michael McKenna**, **Rim Zitkevicius**, **Jennifer Bur**, who are undergoing medical treatment, **Cathie Sampson** and a number of students and parents who have health issues.

"The fact that I can plant a seed and it becomes a flower, share a bit of knowledge and it becomes another's, smile at someone and receive a smile in return, are to me continual spiritual exercises." -- Leo Buscaglia

Ms Erica Pegorer

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Ms Lee McKenzie
Acting Principal

Kildare Campus

The weather has started to brighten and there is an extra bounce in our steps this week. I don't think it is just because it is the last week of term. We are currently completing our 5th Learner Advisor meetings. It is great to see parents on campus at various times of the day and I thank our Learner Advisors and parents for the work that has gone into the new process for this year. Ultimately our students will benefit!

Thursday night saw our parent-student-teacher meetings for Years 11 and 12. We hope you had a look around the campus and visited our new ISC, if you haven't done so already. You would have seen that our new Student Services Centre is progressing well and at this stage I am pleased to inform our community that our builder is hopeful of finishing the building ahead of schedule.

Music Concert

Congratulations to our music staff and students on a wonderful night last week. The concert clearly demonstrated the immense musical skill that we have at Lavalla Catholic College. I would encourage parents to stay tuned for future events – our Christmas Concert is coming up and if last week was any indication I would encourage parents to keep the **30th November** free.

Report on Trip to NGV: Salvador Dali Exhibition

On Monday the 14th of September, 24 students and 3 teachers boarded the 8:15am train from the Traralgon and Morwell stations to go for a day trip to Melbourne. The train ride up was fun and everyone was a mass of excitement due to the fact that we were on our way to see the exhibition of one of the greatest artists of the 20th century, Mr Salvador Dali. At 10:15am we arrived at the Flinders Street station ready for a day packed full of fun and art. The first thing we did was go to the food court and purchase lunch. We then headed to Federation Square where we were able to enjoy our lunch in a peaceful yet action filled place. We were even lucky enough to have some entertainment; in the form of yr 12 students having a good day out and raising awareness for the National young adults voting for climate change action.

After our lunch, we then headed inside Federation Square where we were able to see famous glass art and also a small exhibition from RMIT students. The exhibition was a motorised boat including 3 wooden people, that's moving speed depended on the amount of people that were near it. It



was fun when the whole group got right up close to the glass to see the exhibition in action, all because of us. Following the boat show, we headed down to the Yarra River for some time to relax and wait before it was time to head up to the National Gallery of Victoria. Our time at the river was pleasurable. It was funny when the birds kept hovering around for food. The funniest thing was when a gigantic swan came and stood around some of the girls wanting food. The swan was so happy that it almost followed the girls.

At 11 o'clock we checked in at the Gallery and placed all our

2010 Student College Captain Interviews

Last week our aspiring 2010 Student College Leaders met with our current Student and Staff College leaders. It was a brief opportunity to explain their ambitions for the role in 2010 and hear from our current Student Leaders. I was impressed with each of the applicants and I am sure that **Mrs McKenzie** would agree that each applicant was committed and eager to add further to our College. With a new Student Leadership Structure this year I am confident that next year will see a broadening of the role of our student leaders on the campus.

Physics Excursion

Our visit to the Australian Synchrotron on Friday 4th September was of huge benefit to our studies. It gave us the opportunity to witness first hand what we had been discussing in class and made certain aspects of the topic much clearer. We were able to apply what we had learnt in several practical investigations. The class extends its thanks to **Mr Judd** for organising the excursion and to **Mr Campbell** for driving the bus.

Long Service Leave

We have two staff members who will be travelling overseas in term 4. They will both be taking their long service leave. Bon Voyage **Mrs Anne English** and **Mr Gerard English**. Enjoy your break!

Mr Marco DiCesare
Campus Director

bags into the locker room. The first activity we did was go for a 1 hour introductory session. In this session we heard all about the life of Salvador Dali, we saw some pictures of his work and saw the two major Salvador Dali museums. The aim of the session was just to familiarise ourselves with Salvador Dali in hope of us being able to fully understand and appreciate his work. It was very interesting to find out that not only did Salvador create paintings and drawings but also clothes, jewellery, advertisements and also Chuppa Chupp wrappers. Afterwards we headed downstairs and were separated into our groups that we would go around the show in. The exhibition was divided into sections. In the exhibition were some of the most attention-grabbing, incredible and abnormal artworks in the world. An interesting fact that we found out was that the artworks were all original pieces. After learning this we all realised what a once in a life time opportunity this was.

All pieces in the show were fantastic but it was clear which pieces were the favourites. Some of these pieces were the video of Destino, the sculptures and of course the jewellery section. My favourite piece in the whole show was the jewellery piece of the heart. This piece of jewellery was made by Salvador for Queen Elizabeth II. The heart included rubies, sapphires and gold. The best feature of all was that the heart was beating. Wired up to a source of power, the heart was able to move like a real life heart. The only unfortunate part was that we were only able to see a picture of the piece.

In took around an hour and a quarter to go through the entire exhibition. We went and collected our belongings and we then headed down to the gallery store where we were able to look around and purchase items. At 3:19pm we caught our train back home. Some of us were tired but the ride was still enjoyable. We all had a great time and were so privileged to have been able to see the great work of Salvador Dali. It was a grand day and on behalf of all the students who went on the trip I would just like to thank Mrs Van Beek, Mrs Waanders and Mrs French for taking us to the exhibition and for a really spectacular day.

By Kristina Psinas 9.4

Presentation Campus

Whilst classes and staff continued completing their units of work on Campus it was an interesting addition to witness the variety of activities that the Master Survivor engaged in. One experience for several lucky year 7 students and some staff was to have the opportunity to participate in the African drumming session led by **Peta Minter**. At the assembly following, all students were able to enjoy the more skilled performance of the year 9 group.

To test the first aid skills passed on by **Miss Kimberley Stewart** and MSP student **Kyle Hornsby**, there was the need to evacuate from the bushland several well "made up" and seemingly injured year 7's. We all learnt that some strategically placed soft icing and food colouring when quickly glanced at, can look frighteningly real. Thankfully the training MSP students had undertaken ensured that all survived and thoroughly enjoyed the joint exercise.

The Amazing Race, engineered by **Mrs Lisa Williams**, which tracked around the Campus and included research and quiz questions in the library, singing the National Anthem to a year 7 music class, some ingenious bridge building and work on capacity and problem solving was indeed an amazing race. The victors were justifiably proud of the success but all had a thoroughly entertaining learning experience.

I would like to share with you two reflections on the program written by parents of the participants:-

Maddie's enthusiasm over the last two weeks shows what a wonderful program this will be for future students. Her involvement has been an exciting and positive experience with valuable learning and life experiences ... I look forward to when my second daughter will benefit from this fantastic opportunity. Vicki Marslen

Nathan really enjoyed the MSP. He came home nearly every night, talking about what he had done. I haven't seen him that excited about school for a long time. Monica O'Connor

St Paul's Campus

In the immortal words of Cliff Richard, "We're all going on a summer holiday, No more working for a week or two..." True.

I'm sure catching up with friends and family will be high on the 'To do' list, as well as visiting places, playing sport, going camping, fishing, riding, TV, shopping or just plain old 'vegging out'. If you run out of ideas, and need to get young people engaged, Melbourne has a number of interesting places to go to and things to do. The Dali Exhibition at the NGV is a must for anyone who has the remotest interest in great art. For those who like history, the Museum has its special exhibition on Pompeii, and the Melbourne Aquarium has a new Penguin exhibit.

A visit to the local libraries will give you a list of local activities of interest. So there is no dearth of interesting and restful activities for the holidays.

Year 9 Camps

When we return in Term 4, the year 9 Camps to Tamboritha will begin in week 2. Tamboritha is in the Alpine national Park. It is fortunate that we have a fully equipped site to allow our students a rare experience of the Australian bush. The schedule for the camps is as follows:

When work folders had been collected and awards and certificates were given out it was farewell to the group until they re-unite at Kildare in 2010.

Make Moe Mauve

Make Moe Mauve was celebrated on campus with a total of \$240.15 being raised for the Leukaemia Foundation.

As well as all this, for some on the Campus there was the final round of immunisations, getting the gardens ready for the holiday break, setting up for the combined Primary Schools social and the visit by **Mrs Linda Mullett** CEO Koorie Cultural Officer.

The next phase in our reporting cycle was held (16/9) and it was wonderful to see so many parents appreciative of the opportunity to meet with staff and so often, it was to hear about the great work their students are doing.

May God bless us all as we start our holidays, especially the 25 excited people about to leave on the New Zealand trip.

Mrs Leanne Mills
Campus Director

Lavalla Big Prize Raffle

A reminder to all parents, staff and students to continue the great work so far in selling raffle tickets!

Tickets will be sold at the following venues over the coming weeks:-

Mid Valley Shopping Centre

25th-27th Sept and 2nd – 4th Oct

Stockland Plaza Traralgon

18th – 20th Sept and 9th – 11th Oct

We wish to thank Mid Valley Shopping Centre and Stockland Plaza Traralgon for their generous support; allowing us to use their facilities free of charge.

9.1	Wednesday 14th October – Friday 16th October
9.2	Monday 19th October – Wednesday 21st October
9.3	Wednesday 21st October – Friday 23rd October
9.4	Monday 26th October – Wednesday 28th October
9.5	Wednesday 28th October – Friday 30th October
9.6	Wednesday 4th November – Friday 6th November
9.7	Monday 9th November – Wednesday 11th November
9.8	Wednesday 12th November – Friday 13th November

As part of the safety for all camps, the college keeps in touch with the DSE (in this case DSE, Heyfield) and with the RAAF Met Office at Sale. Every precaution is taken to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Past experience suggests that this is the perfect camp to signal the coming of age for our Year 9 students.

Should any parents wish to participate in the camps please contact either Nikki Schroeter or Olivia Barrett at the St Paul's Campus.

I wish all students, staff and parents a very restful and happy holiday.

Mr Chris Roga
Campus Director

Forthcoming Events

TERM 3

- 18 Sep Term 3 concludes
- Cross campus photographs (sport and music groups)
- Presentation Campus - finish at 2.10pm
- St Paul's & Kildare Campus - finish at 2.30pm

TERM 4

- 5 Oct Term 4 commences
- 19 Oct Full summer uniform
- 19 Oct VCAL Dinner
- 29 Oct Lavalla Restaurant
- 2 Nov Mid Term break
- 3 Nov Melbourne Cup Day (Public holiday)

Night Time
Second Hand Book & Uniform
Shop.
OPEN
Thursday 15th October 2009
Following the day session from
6.00pm – 8.00pm
 Shop located at: St.Paul's Campus
 Payment options: Cash, Cheque or EFTPOS

Location	Traralgon Tennis Association – Franklin St Traralgon		
Time	7:30 pm		
Food	Finger Food Provided		
Drinks	At Bar Prices		
Music	Will have a distinctively 80's theme		
Cost per head	\$20 (pre paid before September 30th) or \$25 on the night <i>Elec. Transfer to: BSB NO. 083 932 ACCOUNT NO. 6217 369 08</i> <i>Note: Please put name and partners name in transfer comments</i>		
Contact or RSVP	David Gafa	0447 311 271	or
	Louise Phelan (Wynntjes)	0402 817 519	

Door Prizes will be awarded with excess funds!

For progress updates and correspondence please join:
facebook Class of 1989 – Catholic Regional College Traralgon
<https://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=24824890633>