

LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER



14 NOVEMBER 2008

Dear Parents and students

We began the month of November remembering our **Saints** and on the 2nd November we dedicated our prayers for the peaceful repose of the **Souls** of our loved ones who have entered eternal life. These significant days help us reflect on the importance of life, what legacy we want to leave behind and how best to achieve this. I remember a significant question being asked of me when I was in a Year 10 History class. The teacher asked us to write our own epitaph. It forced us to think about how we would like to be remembered. Similarly, **Remembrance Day** is a day of mourning for the lives lost in wars but it can also invite us to remember the ideals and values so important for our way of life.

This year of course, is the 90th anniversary of the armistice that brought the Great War to an end. Luckily, we did not experience the horror of our earlier generation involving the mobilisation of 70 million soldiers around the world and resulting in the deaths of 13 million people, 10 million of them combatants. So frightening were the effects and so scary were the memories that it was to be 'the war to end all wars'. They believe that they had fought for freedom, democracy and basic human rights and having achieved that the world would never be in a position to create so much suffering again. Despite the devastation, there were scenes of jubilation at the armistice as people vowed never to go to war again.



Today, we can only marvel at the idealism because history records that the First World War spawned discontents that led to World War II, and there have been many other conflicts since. For example, in Iraq, figures are estimated at 30,774 military deaths with 100,000 soldiers still in combat and approximately 1,300,000 Iraqis dead since the American invasion.

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On Remembrance Day we salute our soldiers who are currently engaged in tours of duty in Afghanistan, East Timor, Bougainville and Iraq and understand the enormous strain on them and their families. However, we also remember that the ideals that soldiers fought for in the two world wars are still beyond our reach. We know that forced prostitution, sexual exploitation of children and human trafficking are still the cause of suffering and human degradation for too many people; we know that some of our neighbouring countries still do not enjoy basic human rights and we do not seem to be able to provide a better standard of living for our marginalised Aboriginal communities.

Yet in all this sadness and grief lives hope. It is symbolised by the red poppy on Remembrance Day, in the flame that keeps hope alive in war memorials and is lived every day in **United Nations Peace Keeping Forces**. This organisation, founded in 1945 after World War II defines Peace Keeping as a way to help countries torn by conflict create conditions for sustainable peace. Despite the conflict and what must seem like impossible conditions, there are still people of hope who try to make this world a better place.

In our everyday lives are we bringing hope to difficult, sad or depressing situations? How will your epitaph remember you?

"Be the Change you want to see in the world" – Mahatma Gandhi

Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal

St Paul's Campus

Remembrance Day

The Campus celebrated Remembrance Day with a simple, brief and moving ceremony around the flag pole. Ms Di Sisto and her team of students organised the ceremony, the ISC staff had the sound system set up and the SRCs from each of the homerooms placed the class 'poppy' on the grass as a mark of respect to those who had sacrificed so much for our current freedom, while Alicia Beth Licciardi recited an original poem. The ceremony ended with Matt Staple (Year 11) playing the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille'.



Have you heard the sound of the artillery fire?
Do you have the strength it does require?
For the pain the soldiers will feel for the rest of their lives?
Did you ever consider their families, children or wives
Who watch them suffer everyday
As they're haunted by nightmares that do not go away?
Do you care that they are still on guard,
Their hearts and minds and souls forever scarred?
Do you care that war has pierced his hardened heart
And torn these soldiers all apart?
Have you seen grief written upon their face
For the loss of life they cannot replace?
Do you think a soldier's heart is made of steel?
Because he is trained to kill so he couldn't feel?
Do you care that our precious freedom is never free?
That these soldiers still hear blood curdling screams,
Do you care that they return to the war each night in their dreams?
Do you care that they mourn the lives they couldn't save?
And grandchildren walk proudly beyond the grave.
Do you remember the boy with innocence lost?
Do you really know the ultimate cost?
Do you care that the Nation's heroes are fading away?
Or would you rather their memory forever stay?



Training Band Camp

51 students from the Training Band from St Paul's and Presentation campuses went to Rawson for a 2 day Music Camp. The time was spent in full band and section rehearsals. Students worked together to make an excellent band sound, and are now looking forward to progressing to the Junior Band. Many thanks to Mr Harris, Mr & Mrs Hansen and Ms Francois, who helped supervise the camp. The camp was an outstanding success.

Junior Choir

The Junior Choir recently performed at the St Mary's Primary school fete as well as the Tyers Arts Festival. The students were excellent ambassadors for the College and performed to a very high standard. Thanks to students and parents who gave up their Sundays to help with these performances.

Year 8 Straight Talk

26 students from Year 8 attended the 'Straight Talk' at the Waratah Restaurant at Morwell. 'Straight Talk' is a mentoring programme sponsored by the Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning and Employment Network (BBLLEN) in partnership with The Smith Family organisation which run Learning For Life programs that help young people reach their potential through education. While the boys enjoyed the lunch, they also heard positive messages and stories, from members of the community who are currently employed in different occupations, who may come from a similar background and may have experienced and overcome challenges on their way to becoming successful in their chosen career.



Mr Chris Roga
Campus Director

Kildare Campus

Our Outdoor Education students have returned from the sun and surf and things are now settling down. Our Year 11s have moved into Year 12 classes and our Year 10s have settled back into classes after the experiences of the NET Retreat team. This experience led a number of our Year 10s to be involved in the running of retreats for our Year 9s at the St Paul's and Presentation campuses. The last few weeks have been a time of growth and challenge for the campus. We are finalising our building plans and 2009 is looming closer.

Congratulations – Another Winner

Well done **Antonia Prestipino**. Antonia came 2nd in the National division and 1st in the Victorian State division of the ASX Schools Sharemarket Game. Antonia receives a monetary prize, as well as being awarded a trophy to mark her achievement. As many of us watched the sharemarket fall, Antonia's investment grew. Congratulations also to Mrs Seabrooke for her encouragement and support of these students.

Christian Leadership

Lavalla Catholic College encourages 'Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts'. An important feature of our daily life is the many opportunities for students to become involved in the workings of the Lavalla Catholic College community.

Presentation Campus



Yesterday as we paid our respects during **Remembrance Day**, we spoke of the ultimate price that young men and women paid in an effort to safeguard the freedoms we now enjoy. Students explained to their peers, the origins of

this ninety year old tradition and were moved to reflect on the impact that the loss of lives had on families and society in general at that time.

Representatives of our Campus also laid wreaths at the Moe and the Newborough RSL services. On their return they spoke about the reverence and faith so evident in those who attended. Students who attend these events are wonderful ambassadors for the Campus and are great testimony to the nurturing you do as parents.

Over the last few days three teams of Year 7/8 students accompanied by Ms Stewart and Mr Ozga competed in the **Super 8 cricket** at Drouin. They can be very proud of their sportsmanship. They succeeded in several individual games but missed out on bringing home the overall trophy.

Our Year 7 members of the **Training Band** participated in their camp at Rawson and along with the college Junior Choir gave a very polished performance for ourselves and

Our new student Captains for 2009 have been busy organising workshops for potential student leaders for 2009. It has been encouraging to see so many enthusiastic about using their skills to improve College life.

Excerpt from Lavalla Catholic College

Vision statement:

"Accept and nurture each others' gifts and talents for the good of all"

Our Canadian Experience

Ms Haggett has returned from Canada after experiencing a study tour with 46 teachers from across Australia and New Zealand. The tour explored the future of education as a student centred endeavour. The demand on students is growing and the world is requiring different learning modes. Ms Haggett's experience will help direct us in the changes we are making at the Kildare Campus. As our Year 9 parents heard at the information session, the Kildare Campus will be introducing a very unique programme for our Year 10s in 2009. We are enthused by and appreciative of the work that Ms Haggett has completed so far and look forward to implementing this excitement and innovating programme in 2009.

Mr Marco Di Cesare
Campus Director

the Grade 4/5/6 classes from St Mary's and St Kieran's who joined us for this musical treat. Congratulations and our thanks go to Ms Teychenne and Mr Harris for their generosity in enriching our program in this way.

As our Year 9s arrived ready to depart for camp this morning it was wonderful to see the camaraderie and enthusiasm to begin their final weeks together. Their Retreat day on the 30 October was a wonderful opportunity for each of them to explore the way they think and act in relation to others. The **Australian Youth Mission** team certainly provided an excellent insight into how our students can incorporate living by the Gospel message into today's world as a young person.

Subject choices have been distributed for the Year 9 2009 students, and certainly this reminds us of the fast approaching end of the year. All too soon it will be transition programs and end of year book sales, book lists and the like; but before that is the important task of selecting Campus Captains, House and Vice Captains to begin the setting up of the Student Leadership structure for 2009.

Special mention needs to be made of three parents who have tirelessly contributed to the work of the P&F Association – **Mary Storie, Geradine Stephens and Annie Maunder**. We have no doubt that we will miss their dedication to the group, but we are sure they will continue to work to enrich the College community through the Kildare Campus.

Mrs Leanne Mills
Campus Director

Forthcoming Events

TERM 4

NOVEMBER

- 17-21 Nov Year 11 Exams Week [Kildare]
18-19 Nov Year 7 & 8 Debating Excursion [St Paul's]
19 Nov 2009 Integration Students [St Paul's]
20 Nov Additional Needs Student Award (1.00-3.30pm St Paul's)
Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN (3.30-4.30pm St Paul's)
20-27 Nov VCAL Year 11 Work Experience
21 Nov Youth Mission Team for Year 9
23-24 Nov VCAL Year 11 Excursion
24 Nov Lavalla Christmas Concert
24-28 Nov Year 10 Exams
24-26 Nov Year 9 Exams
26 Nov Parents & Friends Thank you Supper (7.00pm Staff room St Paul's)
27 Nov Year 9 Transition held at Presentation Campus
Year 12 Graduation Dinner

28 Nov Normal School Day

DECEMBER

- 1 Dec **Curriculum Day - Student Free Day**
Awards Ceremony
2-3 Dec Year 11 2009 Classes
3 Dec Graduation Mass and Supper [Presentation]
4 Dec Graduation Mass and Supper [St Paul's]
Last Day for Year 9 and Year 10
5 Dec Last Day for Year 7 and Year 8

Year 7 2009 Orientation Day

to be held on
Tuesday 9 December 2008

Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN

Thursday 20 November 2008
from 3.30pm-4.30pm
St Paul's Campus

Night Time Secondhand Uniform Shop

OPEN

Tuesday 9 December 2008
from 6:30pm-8:00pm
St Paul's Campus

Canteen Roster

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

- Mon 17 Nov L. Hare, L. McDonald
Tue 18 Nov R. Gillow, (help needed)
Wed 19 Nov M. Whitty, S. Duncan
Thu 20 Nov A. Mooney, C. Richards
Fri 21 Nov D. Buckley, (help needed)
Mon 24 Nov W. Heiser, (help needed)
Tue 25 Nov Help needed x 2
Wed 26 Nov Help needed x 2
Thu 27 Nov M. Johnston, L. Elliott
Fri 28 Nov Help needed x 2

KILDARE CAMPUS

- Mon 17 Nov Help needed x 2
Tue 18 Nov A. Mooney, (help needed)
Wed 19 Nov Help needed x 2
Thu 20 Nov M. Johnston, (help needed)
Fri 21 Nov L. Clarke, C. Hinds
Mon 24 Nov Help needed
Tue 25 Nov J. DePellegrini
Wed 26 Nov Help needed
Thu 27 Nov Help needed
Fri 28 Nov L. Clarke

*You are Cordially
invited to celebrate
Mrs Alma Mattingley's
retirement from
St Mary's Primary School*

Date: Sunday 23rd November
Time: 2:00pm
Venue: St Mary's School Hall
50 Monash Road, Newborough
RSVP on 51272342 by 20 November.

LOURDES COLLEGE 30 YEAR REUNION

A 30 year reunion of Lourdes College students will be held in December.

For students who graduated from Lourdes College Year 12 in 1978 or any students who commenced Year 7 at St Paul's or Kildare College in 1973 or joined year levels between 1973 and 1978 are invited.

The reunion will be held on **Saturday 13 December** from **1.30pm to 5.00pm**.

If you are interested in attending or know people at the college during that time, please phone Bernard Woodland on (w) 03 9510 2355 or (m) 0418 328 656, or email lourdes1973_1978@bwoodlandandassociates.com