



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

15 July 2005

Dear Parents,

The “Welcome-Back” to Term 3 is tinged with some sadness. The tragic death of Anthony Roach, (Yr 12, 2003) after an accident has been a shadow on the last week of the holidays. I convey to Dianne and Alan and to Tony’s sisters, Bree and Brooke, the deepest sympathy and condolences of the whole College Community who are shocked and saddened by Tony’s death. Tony maintained his connection with the College.

There is no tidy explanation of the overwhelming suffering which comes our way. There are no easy answers about why it should be so for a young man so full of promise. We are confronted by the Mystery of God and our sense of oneness with this Mystery is not something we are told about or read about. Rather it has to be a personal discovery which is founded on our faith that we will actually be led by God from the immense depths of our sorrow to hope.

And there are signs of hope which emerged during the holiday break. On the global scene, the G7 nations (the world’s richest nations) have decided to forgive the debt of more than thirty of the world’s poorest nations. As Bob Geldof said: ‘millions of Africans will wake up for the first time in their lives without owing you or me a penny from the burden of debt that has crippled them and their countries for so long.’ On the Australian scene, the Prime Minister, John Howard, has finally agreed to dramatically liberalise the immigration detention system, admitting it is “one of the many failings of his government” (The Age, June 18-19, 2005). Families will now be allowed to be in detention within the community; assessment of refugee claims will be made within three months; and an ombudsman’s process implemented. The courageous actions of certain politicians in taking a stand against the inhumane treatment of refugees imposed by our own Australian government, can give hope to us all. We can indeed make a difference if we resolutely challenge what we see to be unjust structures.

Br Julian Casey
Principal

ST PAUL’S CAMPUS

Welcome back to term 3!

We send our heartfelt condolences to the Roach family and thank them for the uplifting display of hope, love and faith they gave us all at Tony’s funeral.

We ended term 2 on a great note with an activities day well organised by Ben Quinn. Students and staff competed in various fun ‘sports’ e.g. tunnel ball, forming human letters etc; and built points.

St Paul's (contd....)

I am pleased to say that the overall winner on the day was class **9.7**. While it is true this is my homeroom, there was no favouritism shown on the day.

My thanks to all the staff, students and parents who made the Thursday evening interviews such positive affairs.

There were a number of students who did not attend school on the last day and it is expected that the normal process of phone calls and notes will explain these absences. Ironically a few students who chose not to come, arrived at school in plain clothes and made nuisances of themselves. The College strongly encourages parents to insist that their children attend the last day of each term as it is a significant part of the closure process and not just a day where 'nothing much happens'.

This will be another busy term for Yr 9 students who will be given a great deal of information about career paths and subject selection for Yr 10. To support parents and

students through this process there will be an **Information Evening for Yr 9 into 10 students on Thursday July 21st** at the Kildare Campus.

Yr 8 Camps

Yr 8's will be beginning the city camps this term. Families will have received a draft itinerary and will receive further information in coming days. It is expected that the students will gain an appreciation of our state capital, learn to use public transport, and gain some practice at navigating through the city. It is expected that all Yr 8 students will participate appropriately in these camps. Transport will be by train and tram so punctuality will be vital.

Naturally we expect students to be very well behaved and respectful to staff and the general public. I am sure you will all realise that it is very generous of teachers to step aside from their own families and to be with your children for the three days and two nights.

Wed	Thurs	Fri	Class
20 th July	21 st	22 nd	8.1 & 8.4
27 th	28 th	29 th	8.3 & 8.2
3 rd August	4 th	5 th	8.6 & 8.8
10 th	11 th	12 th	8.5 & 8.7

The capacity for hope is the most significant fact of life. It provides human beings with a sense of destination and the energy to get started .-- Norman Cousins

Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

We are now finalizing Year 7 enrolments for 2006. For the past two years we have a waiting list. In 2006 we will have two classes for 28 in Year 7 and 8. We currently have a few vacancies for Year 9. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the support of both St. Mary's and St. Kieran's staff in the education of their Grade 6's to the benefits of Lavalla as their secondary school for the next 6 years.

Next **Tuesday** all staff and students will be attending the **Champagnat Mass** in celebration of our Marist heritage and identity. The mass is at the St. Paul's Campus and begins at 9:30am. Parents are welcome to attend. Buses will be leaving the campus at 8:55am and returning about 11:45am. Full winter uniform is the expectation on the day.

Cross Country Ski trips will be offered to all students at this campus in August. The cost of the day will be \$45 which will cover Instruction, Ski Hire and Bus. Forms have been sent home and are due back next Friday 22nd of July. The trips will go ahead depending on the interest level and students will be selected on a “first come first serve” basis. Normal classes will be conducted for all students who elect not to attend. 64 places are available.

The Information evening for Year 10, 2006 will be held at the Kildare Campus on **Thursday 21st of July**. I would strongly encourage all parents and students in Year 9 to attend this informative evening. You will receive notification of this event in the coming days.

The Parent/Teacher Report evening was well attended on Thursday 23rd of June. In feedback from staff about the interviews, it was apparent that all parents appreciated the contact and communication that had been established with them regarding the progress of the child at school. It will be important to foster this communication in the coming months and ensure that all students reach their education potential in all of their subjects. **The planner** is an ideal way for this communication link to be strengthened. Please make contact with any of your child’s teachers if you have any concerns.

Yours in the spirit of strong minds and compassionate hearts.

Chris O’Brien
Head of Campus

KILDARE CAMPUS

A good way to begin the Term

In my last newsletter article I commented on how, after citing several successes of individuals and teams, it was “A good way to end the Term.” In this edition it will be a very useful exercise to outline some of the most important activities that will occur within the next few weeks - A good way to begin the Term.

As the year unfolds it is most important that as we approach the planning stage for 2006, issues relating to subject selection, information about the breadth of courses of study, preparation for further education at the College and life after VCE are addressed.

As a result I include in this edition some key dates that will arrive in the mail to all parents in the coming days.

1. For Year 9 Parents:

An Information Evening on Thursday, July 21 at 7.30 p.m. will be held at the Kildare Campus for the parents of students who will be moving into Year 10 in 2006.

2. For Year 10 Parents:

An Information Evening will be held on Monday, July 25 at 7.30 p.m. for parents of Year 10 students who will be moving into Year 11 in 2006.

3. For All students Years 9 – 11:

The Annual College Careers and Courses Expo will take place on Friday, August 5.

Champagnat Mass

On Tuesday, July 19, at 9.30 a.m. all students will be celebrating the life and times of St. Marcellin Champagnat, founder of the Marist Brothers, with a concelebrated Mass. As this is a significant, whole College gathering at which the Champagnat Medals

will be blessed and presented, **all students are expected to be dressed in their full winter uniform**. This includes the Blazer and I would remind Year 12 students that the newly distributed rugby top does not replace the Blazer. No PE Uniform is worn on that day.

Kildare (contd....)

Debutante Ball Meeting

There will also be an information evening for debutantes, their partners and parents on Monday, July 18 in the Kildare Campus Hall at 7.30 pm. A letter was distributed during

homeroom on Tuesday of this week. It is very important that the meeting is well attended.

Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus

EDUCATION FORUM FOR PARENTS
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Our next meeting is on Monday, 25 July at the St Paul's Campus Resource Centre commencing 7.30pm.

After a short meeting we will be having some discussion with Br Julian re the **Reporting** that has just been completed at the end of the first semester. This is a good opportunity to discuss the interview process and reports. Br Julian is looking for some feedback on this.

So please come along if you can.

Norma Bellerby, Chairperson
ph 51341677 (BH)

EDUCATION MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE (EMA)
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Anyone who did not apply or who was not eligible for EMA in the first Semester, but is now eligible, should get their application in prior to Friday 5th August. Application forms available at Marcellin House or the Presentation Campus office.

CANTEEN ROSTER

	St Paul's	Kildare
Mon 18 July	D Webb, M Crawford	L Barrett, (help wanted)
Tue 19 July	W Heiser, K Stephenson	M Byl, G Breed
Wed 20 July	D Darling, G Edebohls	A Fletcher, C Wilson
Thu 21 July	S Brady (help wanted)	P Radovich, G Edebohls
Fri 22 July	R Hadjistefanis, P Cummins (help wanted)	I Koolen, J Kivisalu

CALENDAR DATES FOR TERM 3 WILL BE DISTRIBUTED WITH THIS WEEK'S NEWSLETTER
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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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