



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

19 November 2004

Dear Parents,

At this time of the year when assessments are being made and comparisons being drawn, it is most important to ensure that the self-worth of our students is not damaged. We all need to encourage them, to give them a sense of purpose, to make sure they are not too puffed up with success or too downhearted by failure. Students need reassurance that we love them for who they are, not for what they have achieved. Students need to understand that we see setbacks simply as another challenge, not as a judgement.

From where do our students get their self-worth? For some students, self-worth can be so dependent on how they think other people see them. Others think it comes from success in their work. Still, others think it is about attractiveness to others or having plenty of money.

These pathways to self-worth are in fact dead ends. Parents and teachers have a most important role during these times of assessment and reporting. It is their responsibility to ensure that we do not sell our souls to the grade-givers of this world.

From your own experience you would know that those who care for you become present to you in a special way. When they listen, they listen to you. When they speak you know they speak to you. They accept you and encourage you to take your own life seriously and to trust in your choices. Therein lies the path to self-worth.

Br Julian Casey
Principal

INFORMATION FROM PARENTS REQUIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT

The Federal and State Government are now requiring all schools to have standard information. They have drawn up a form, which all parents and guardians of students must complete immediately. The information in these forms will enable comparisons to be made and will be another means of determining the level of grants received by schools. The College is required to enter this information into a database and have everything completed by the start of the 2005 school year.

You will soon receive this form in the post. Please give it your urgent attention.

LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE COUNCIL

There will be vacancies on this Council in the coming year and I am writing to a number of parents of Year 7 students to inquire whether they would consider being a part of this Council. If other parents are interested in receiving information about the Council please contact Jan Williams at the College and she will send you the information.

CALENDAR DATES

November

Mon. 22 nd	Canteen Ladies Afternoon Tea
Thu. 25 th	Graduation Mass and Supper
Fri. 26 th	Traralgon Show Day Holiday
Mon. 29 th	Parents & Friends Christmas Function
Tue. 30 th	8.6 Surfing Excursion

December

Wed. 1 st	Year 9 Camp (Presentation) commences - Wilson's Prom. Christmas Concert
Fri. 3 rd	Report Writing and Correction Day - Pupil Free Day CAS Triathlon (Senior Team) Closing Date for Secondhand Books Order Placement (last day for bringing secondhand books for sale to campuses)

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

The campus has taken on a very festive air with the homerooms competing for the best-presented homeroom at each level. The Christmas theme is very strong in most rooms and they certainly reflect the anticipation and joy of the Advent Season. I have been delighted with the way students have been taking care of their rooms.

Adding to the attractiveness of the campus are the gardens, particularly the roses which are in full bloom. We really appreciate the work of the Maintenance Team who keep our campus looking so beautiful.

Yr 8 camp 2005

After a number of years without a Yr 8 camp we are planning a 3 day, 2 night stay in Melbourne for each homeroom next year. Teachers are working out an interesting and varied itinerary, which will help familiarise students with the city, public transport and the many places of interest Melbourne has to offer.

Remembrance Day

We are very grateful to Ms Romano and her band of helpers who put together a truly moving and significant ceremony.

Unfortunately the weather didn't allow us to gather at the flag pole. Highlights of the ceremony were: Daniel's playing, Annie Rose's reading of her poem and Katie working on despite the microphone problems.

We are proud of all the students on the campus for the way they responded to the ceremony and the support they gave all those who had worked so hard to put the ceremony together.

Christmas Hampers

Most classes are making great progress with these. Our aim is to hand 24 completed hampers to 'St Vinnies' at the end of the year. This hand over will be conducted at the final Yr 7 and 8 Liturgy on Friday 10th. We know these hampers make an enormous difference to some of the families in our community.

Mind Matters Plus

Congratulations to all the staff and students involved in the organization and running of the recent conference. Our visitors were most impressed with the content of the day, the demeanor of the students and the surrounds.

Changes to enrolment

Please make sure that you officially notify the College if your child will not be returning next year. Each student who leaves is required to fill out an Exit Form, which must be signed by parents and staff. It is most disappointing when families fail to give timely notice of the exit.

“Best of all, Christmas means a spirit of love, a time when the love of God and the love of our fellow man should prevail over all hatred and bitterness, a time when our thoughts and deeds and the spirit of our lives manifest the presence of God.”-- George F. McDoug

*Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul’s Campus*

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

The **Year 9 Camp** is now finalized and will be held between the 30/11 and 2/12/04. The camp will be conducted at **Wilson’s Promontory**. Not all students have elected to go on the camp. Classes will be conducted for these students on the dates indicated above. Attendance on these days is compulsory.

The **Orientation Program** for the last week of term is being planned. All students will be “promoted” to the next year level. Our Year 9’s will move back into the Year 7 Centre for their last four days and prepare for their Graduation Mass/Orientation to Year 10/Laying of their Commemorative Tile.

The Year 7’s and 8’s will move over to the main building and be “promoted” to Year 8 and 9. They will occupy their new rooms for 2005. The 4-day Orientation Program will focus on preparation for 2005, an introduction to courses for 2005,

the election of SRC representatives, Campus Leaders and Sports Captains for 2005 and team building activities for each year level.

The **Year 7 Trip to Melbourne** is in the final stages of preparation. Letters have been sent home outlining the day. Forms and money need to be in at the office by Monday the 22/11/04.

Mrs. Janet Winfield has written an article on the recent Year 9 SOSE Parliamentary Unit. Unfortunately, space does not allow for inclusion in this week’s newsletter. However it will be printed and issued to the students of Presentation Campus. Enjoy the read!

Yours in the spirit of strong minds and compassionate hearts.

*Chris O’Brien
Head of Presentation Campus*

KILDARE CAMPUS

Year 11 – Concluding Ceremony:

Year 11 students completed their last classes last week. All assembled in the Chapel where a Liturgy was held. Students participated very well and the half hour of prayer and reflection was conducted with reverence and respect.

This was followed in the Virtual Services Centre by a PowerPoint presentation compiled by Debbie Dibben, a series of

“Awards” and a very competitive quiz arranged by Mrs. Sonka. It was a most fitting end to the year.

At the moment Year 11’s are busy with final examinations and next week they will come to school to prepare for their Year 12 studies. **The Workshop program is compulsory**, as students will be introduced to the work they will need to cover in Units 3 & 4.

Kildare Campus (contd...)

Further, they will be given some holiday work to complete in some subject areas. Regardless of what work is given, I would encourage students to read their English novels in particular. To do this during the holiday break will save an enormous amount of time during what will be a very busy year for them and make discussion more relevant to the individual and explanations by the teachers placed in a familiar context for students. To save any time during Year 12 is to be encouraged.

Year 10's are still plugging away at their final assessments and will have their examinations and Workshops beginning on Thursday, December 2 with an English Exam. Good preparation will not only alleviate any stresses that may be encountered, but will also ensure that a good result is achieved. The Year 10 Exam period is also very good practice for what will be encountered during the VCE years to follow.

Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus

**PARENTS & FRIENDS
ASSOCIATION**

Parents & Friends will be meeting for their last get together this year on **Monday 29th November** in the Staff Room at St Paul's Campus for their Christmas break-up and farewell to leaving teachers.

An invitation is extended to any parents who have attended or sent an apology during the course of 2004. For catering purposes please RSVP to either chairperson, Jenny or Felicetta, by Tuesday 23rd November 2004.

Jenny Hansch - 51221684
Felicetta Kile - 51661480

CANTEEN ROSTER (St Paul's Campus)

Mon 22 Nov	S Mills, L Barrett
Tue 23 Nov	W Heiser, H Van Berkel
Wed 24 Nov	C Hinds
Thu 25 Nov	P Brown, A Scully

Lavalla Music Department
Twilight Carols
Lecture Theatre Lawn
St Paul's Campus, Grey Street
On
Wednesday 1 December 2004

Additional details regarding 'Twilight Carols' in next week's newsletter

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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