



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

12 May 2006

Dear parents and students

At last, joyous images of celebration and jubilation this week as Todd Russell and Brant Webb were freed from their confinement! What struck me was not only the great relief evident on everyone's faces but also the deeply moving stories of endurance, courage and faith expressed by the whole community. Many said it – that the rescue was a community effort and while no other group could feel the fluctuating emotions more acutely than the families involved, the community also shared in the tension and anguish, the anticipation and the disappointment and then finally and thankfully in the rejoicing.

The week's events presented us with an opportunity to reflect upon and be grateful for our own community. In time of crisis there is an expectation that people will pull together to see the emergency through. More telling though is the strength of the fabric of our everyday interactions with one another. There is much evidence that our community here at Lavalla Catholic College connects us and gives us a sense of purpose and fulfilment.

The large amount of money raised by our students during the Lenten period for the poorer communities; the participation in the sporting carnivals, retreats and other academic groups and the sense of belonging that comes from that; the open and hospitable welcome that visitors receive which speaks of the pride we have in our College and our ownership of it. The most important of all are the strong and lasting relationships we have with each other, at all level and amongst all groups. This is the everyday lived experience of our community and we are as proud of it and as thankful for it, as our friends in Beaconsfield are of theirs.

Our Year 10 students have returned from their Work Experience and judging by the spring in their step it was a worthwhile and educative experience for them. We always look forward to their return because they re-enter school life with a different level of appreciation for their study and their teachers. Local businesses and industries have supported Lavalla Catholic College for many years and we continue to be appreciative of their generosity and for their contribution to our community. Mr Schneider has given a more detailed report and expressed our thanks on behalf of the College.

The notice regarding winter uniform is repeated in this newsletter for the benefit of those year 10 students who missed it last week.

The Mother holds her children's hand for a while and their hearts forever.

A happy Mother's day to all the mums.

Erica Pegorer
Principal

Winter Uniform

Year 10-12 students have been made aware that the rule regarding the wearing the College blazer has not changed. It is the compulsory outer garment and it is to be worn all day. That is, to and from school, in class and during the breaks. Similarly the kilt for girls at all year levels is to be worn at or below the knee and some girls have been approached to lengthen the kilt in keeping with this regulation. Year 7-9 students are permitted to wear a plain navy blue coat during the colder months and on wet days all students are permitted to wear a navy blue rain/wind coat.

Those of you who have bought new kilts this year might have noticed that there is a slight difference in the dye lot compared to previous years. The College is investigating this issue with the suppliers and we will inform those families directly affected about the outcome.

The second hand uniform shop has a very good supply of kilts (approx 60) and blazers (approx 30) and I recommend this option to you. The uniform committee are unable to accept the grey school trousers for sale until further notice as they have an oversupply in stock. The uniform shop is open on

**Thursday 18 May, Thursday 15 June and Thursday 20 July
from 3.30-4.30pm
at the St Paul's Campus**

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Give a Damn Give a Can

It was wonderful to see some of our Yr 9 students enthusiastically collecting for the appeal. Lavalla Catholic College has been involved in the program for many years and has helped collect thousands of cans. Over a thousand cans were collected making it the best collection so far. Congratulations to the students and staff who participated.

Congratulations

Claire Smith (7.1), Sarah O'Dowd (7.1), Trent Armstrong (9.5), Andrew Johnstone (9.6) and Jack Dalrymple (9.7) recently participated in the "Shave for a Cure" fund raising at Latrobe Hospital. They are to be commended on their efforts to help our community.

Athletics invitational

Bad weather put paid to the Athletics. However, the College is hosting the GCSSA Athletics on the 16th. Ms Nikki

Heenan, Ms Sarah Scholtes, the PE staff and students will be involved in preparations. Best of luck to all participants!

Open Morning

The Open Morning takes place next Wednesday the 17th of May. It would be lovely to have the parents of existing students visit on the day. Research shows that the students who perform best at school are those students whose parents take appropriate opportunities to visit the school and show interest in their child's education.

"Humour helps us to think out of the box. The average child laughs about 400 times per day, the average adult laughs only 15 times per day. What happened to the other 385 laughs?"--Anonymous

*Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus*

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

On Tuesday of this week, four of our Year 7 SRC representatives spent the morning at St Kieran's working with the grade 6's. The school timetable and facilities were discussed and any questions about Lavalla College

answered. My thanks to Katrina Barrett, William Troy, Lucy Stephens and Jack Sheedy for taking part in this valuable exercise.

Thursday of last week this campus held an Athletics Day. In total 855 events were entered over the course of the day.

Athletics Trials 2006

On Thursday May 4th our campus had planned to run their annual Athletics Sports. We were really worried about the possibility of bad weather and were ready to cancel it. Fortunately, we got perhaps the only day of clear weather in the whole week and were able to conduct the full program.

By all accounts it was a terrific day from many points of view. For the record, of our 165 students only 17 students did not compete – with some absent from illness and some with injuries. This left the rest out there doing something for their House in the Sports. In fact, the average participation rate can be summed up best in the average number of events that students entered: and overall, that was actually a most surprising 6.5 events per student. Such a wonderful figure, when one considers the usual level of interest in athletics in schools.

So, heartfelt congratulations to all those who competed. And of course a very special mention to anyone who did more than this average of 6.5 events entered. Further, we know that 28 students at the campus did more than 9 events; and with 8 of these doing 12 events plus. This is quite staggering when you think about it. These young people certainly would have slept well that evening.

For us these were unprecedented levels of participation. The whole day was drastically slowed down in all field events and particularly at the recorders' table – staff were almost unable to keep up with the entry

of names on results sheets. Looking across the venue we saw large numbers of students in events everywhere, which made the day so worthwhile.

Because individual champions have not been presented yet with their medallions, we would prefer to publish these specific results in the next newsletter after an upcoming assembly. But we can mention the House results:

Blue	920
Red	759
Green	672
Yellow	655

A big thank you to all the staff, particularly those on the recording table, and to all student helpers for their efforts. Also to Mr O'Brien for his enthusiasm and support; to Roger Chambers for the PA – a wonderful contribution, thank you.

Dominic de van der Schueren

The **Year 8 Science** classes attended a lecture on Geology this week. My thanks to Mr. Flahavin and Mrs. Allen for the organisation of this extended classroom activity.

Another reminder about the **Open Morning and Information Evening** to be held on Wednesday 17th May from 9.00 – 1.00pm and 7.30 – 9.00pm respectively. Please encourage all Grade 6 parents that you know to attend the day and evening activities.

Yours in the Spirit of Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts

Chris O'Brien
Head of Presentation Campus

KILDARE CAMPUS

Work Experience

Year 10 students have completed another successful work experience program. Teachers completed a very large program of visitation and reports coming back to us from the employers were, in the main, very positive indeed. We were also fortunate not to have had any serious accidents, and issues of this nature were dealt with appropriately and as quickly as possible.

The Year 10 students embarked on a wide variety of work experiences and covered just about every possible type of work offered in the Valley and even some beyond. They all shared an opportunity to have a taste of the world of work, not to make definitive decisions about future career paths, (though some may have done this) but to give them some idea of the kinds of qualities and skills employers are looking for in prospective employees.

Kildare (contd....)

All students would have realised by now, the importance of such qualities as punctuality, honesty, taking responsible initiative, being able to be trusted and how to accept responsibility.

Of course, such a large program, with over three hundred placements during the two weeks, could not have taken place without much behind-the-scenes work. I would like to thank Mrs. Trish Johnston, Mr. Dan Prigg and Mrs. Anne English who made up a great team to ensure that the two weeks ran smoothly and that students received the placements they had hoped for. Also, I would like to express my gratitude to all the teachers who visited students at their place of work. This important exercise ensures that next year the Year 10 students will be able to

have the same kinds of experiences as students in the past.

In summary, a most successful program.

Debutante Ball – 2006

Last week the Debutante Ball Committee decided that **Registration Day** would be **Friday, May 26 at 1.00 pm in Room 41**. Girls wishing to make their debut will need to have a partner and both the deb and partner will need to bring along the registration form and a \$25 cheque (made out to Lavalla Catholic College Debutante Ball) or \$25 cash to complete the registration process. The Committee has made a very promising start.

*Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare*

YEAR 7 2007 ENROLMENTS:

Enrolment applications have been posted to parents for students attending State primary schools in Grade 6 who are siblings of Lavalla College students.

If you have omitted to inform the St Paul's Campus of a sibling attending Grade 6 at a State primary school, or if you have not received your package in the mail, please telephone Jean Jennings at the St Paul's Campus office immediately (51747355).

Other students attending State primary schools should register their name on the enrolment application list by telephoning St Paul's Campus.

Applications must be completed before the deadline of May 31st.

Our second information evening and open morning are scheduled as follows:

INFORMATION EVENINGS:

Venue: Presentation Campus - Circulation Area

Date: Wednesday 17th May - 7.30pm

Venue: St Paul's - Lecture Theatre

Date: Monday 22nd May - 7.30pm

OPEN MORNING:

St Paul's Campus and Presentation Campus

Wednesday 17th May - 9.00am to 1.00pm

CANTEEN ROSTER

	St Paul's	Kildare
Mon 15 May	R Bermingham, J Hartley	C Jackiw, J Adams
Tue 16 May	I Gregson (help wanted)	B Boothman, M Northover
Wed 17 May	M Lowe (help wanted)	A Fletcher (help wanted)
Thu 18 May	(help wanted)	G Edebohls, S Bridges
Fri 19 May	(help wanted)	A Zaghet, B Boothman