



# NEWSLETTER

## Lavalla Catholic College



24 November 2006

### Christmas Message

Dear parents and students

If you were to choose one word that described Christmas what would it be? Would you choose 'presents' or 'food' or 'joy' or 'family'? Perhaps the word you would choose has something to do with our age? If we were to ask a fourteen year old or even a twenty four year old, the word chosen might be 'presents'. As a child the chief joy in life, especially around Christmas seems to be in the receiving of a desired toy, computer game or latest craze. As adults we know that the most exhilarating joys come through the giving. And yet we sometimes forget, don't we? Maybe it is all the commercials that convince us we really cannot be satisfied unless we have the latest model or newest product.

The most important message of Christmas is that of unconditional 'giving'. **Giving** is the word I would choose. It is the message of that first Christmas. It is the message that God gave us when he gifted us with his son Jesus, a present from a loving father to his children on earth; a gift, the Bible tells us, that brought 'good tidings of great joy' to the giver and receiver alike. Christmas is a time to rediscover that truth. May you all, during this festive season, find ways to give with joy and in this giving, experience the happiness that comes when we really know the enduring love of family and friends. Since this is our last newsletter for the year, I'd like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and to thank you for support this year.

#### Teacher Acknowledged

It gives me great pleasure to share with you that **Mr Mike Hansen** has been recognised for his many years of working with young people who have disabilities. Thirteen years ago, Mike and a few others founded the 'Roadies' group (Respite for Adolescents with Disabilities). Each year this work has been supported by student volunteers from Lavalla Catholic College. On 24th November, Mike Hansen will receive the **Jean Simpson Award**. This award *recognises volunteers and staff who are strongly committed to Interchange and continually strive towards excellence*. Mr Hansen is a worthy recipient of this prestigious award and we offer him our congratulations.

**Erica Pegorer**  
Principal



#### Second Hand Book and Uniform Sales Dates

- **Books for Sale / Order Deadline: Monday 4th December at 4.00pm**  
Orders may be handed in any time prior to the due date, at the Campus offices.
- **Uniform Sales (Second Hand)**  
Final 2006 Uniform Shop for current students:  
Thursday 16th November.  
Uniform Shop Sales for New 2007 Students:  
Tuesday 5th December: 12 noon – 2pm.
- **Book Order Collection (Second Hand) Wednesday 13th December.**  
*Presentation Campus: 2007 Yrs 7 – 9*  
*Presentation students: 9am – 1pm.*  
*Kildare Campus: 2007 Yrs 7–12*  
*St Paul's & Kildare students: 10am – 6pm.*  
Pre-packaged orders - pick up and payment.  
All orders must be collected this day.



#### Farewells

Bishop Coffey had announced that Fr Manny Lomagno from the Newborough Parish and Fr Malcolm Hewitt from the Churchill parish will move to Wonthaggi and Cowes respectively. We thank these two priests for their support and care of the College and wish them well in their new mission.

Fr Mark Godridge (Newborough) and Fr Hugh Brown (Churchill) will begin work in their new parishes by December.

We look forward to their association with the College.



## Farewell

You will notice that in this newsletter, *Mr Peter Schneider and Mrs Lee McKenzie* are making their goodbyes as Heads of Campus. I would publicly like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of these two fine leaders and to thank them for all that they have done to improve the life of their campus. The campuses are better places for their leadership and I wish them very success in their new roles. You will remember that Lee McKenzie has been appointed as the *Director of Staff Development* and Peter Schneider will begin a new position within the College as the *Development and Communication Officer* and will be based at the Presentation Campus.

*Erica Pegorer, Principal*



This is a special newsletter for me as it is the last I will write as Head of St Paul's Campus, a position I have held for the last seven years. It has been a real privilege to work with the families, students and staff who make up the campus community. I have been proud of my time at the campus; I have had the pleasure of seeing nearly 2000 young people pass

through the campus and now have the opportunity to see them as successful young adults. Over the same period I have worked with committed, dedicated teachers who have inspired and encouraged their students and me. I have shared the joys and pain of raising adolescents with loving parents.

Physically we have seen the refurbishment of the Stoddart Block and the Lecture Theatre, have celebrated the 50 years of Marist Education and seen the Olympic torch and the Commonwealth Baton run by.

Over the years I have always been supported by a strong campus management team which currently includes Alby Van Berkel, Chris Roga, Maria Doganeri, Mark Warnock, Eva Amequita, Micahel Archipow, Carmel McCullagh and Oliva Barrett, by a caring counsellor Sandy Francois, and by wonderful staff of teachers and School Officers. My thanks also, to the parents and students who have been committed and enthusiastic members of the College community. I thank you all and wish you well as Mr Chris Roga takes on the role of Director of Campus.

Catholic schools are places of hope and I believe that this campus has, and will continue to offer hope, guidance and a strong education to all the young people in our community.

I wish all families and friends of the campus a joyous Christmas and an exciting and fulfilling New Year.

*Lee McKenzie*  
*Head of St Paul's Campus*



I sit to write my last entry into the College Newsletter and it is with some personal and professional satisfaction that I do so. I have enjoyed my involvement with the Kildare Campus for the past thirteen years.

There have been many people that I have worked with over the years and there are too many to name personally. However, the Campus Administration Teams, made up of the various Coordinators, have provided strong leadership and have modelled excellent teamwork and professionalism. To the many men and women, past and present, who made up these teams, I thank you.

I would like to also thank the teachers and ancillary staff who went about their daily work with cheerfulness, generosity and enthusiasm. The relationship they built up with their students has created a lasting impression upon them.

I would also like to express my thanks to the "ladies in the front office." I have enjoyed a very special relationship with them. If the Assistant Heads of Campus have been my eyes and ears, my right and left hands, then the ladies in the front office have been my heart and soul and also that of the College. As the public face of Lavalla, Kildare Campus, these hard working ladies have been second to none.

Finally, to the many parents who supported us as we journeyed with them along the way, I offer a special note of gratitude. It is the parent who takes an active interest in the education of their children who maximises their success. Also to the students who have provided me with energy and inspiration, with delight and satisfaction, and from time to time with some heartburn, I say a special thank you. I wish only the best for you all.

I will enjoy a new role next year working not only at a whole school level in a public relations and school development capacity, but also with staff and students at the Presentation Campus in a welfare role. In closing, I would like to wish all the Kildare family a happy and holy Christmas.

*Peter Schneider*  
*Head of Kildare Campus*

## Kildare Campus

### Year 11 Examination and Workshops Weeks:

Year 11's completed their first VCE year today. All have finished their final Unit 2 exams, have attended Workshops during the week in preparation for Units 3 & 4 and an almost audible sigh of relief was heard, as those who finished up on Thursday left the grounds for a well deserved break from their studies. The Workshops were well attended and all students gained some insight into the expectations for next year, received some work in preparation for first classes in 2007 and were encouraged to work well, and to work towards the goals they set themselves as they stretch towards their dreams. I wish all next year's Year 12 students the very best of success in their studies in 2007.

### A Message from the Chief Supervisor:

Mrs Kath Beckett, Chief Examinations Supervisor, has asked me to pass on to all Year 12's her best wished and wanted to add the following:

*I would like to say a big thank you to this year's VCE students. You have been a pleasure to work with. You followed instructions well and were always pleasant when entering the exam room. I hope your persistence with each exam pays off. To see most of you staying till the end of each exam was very pleasing.*

*You have one distinction: you broke the record of the most trips to the toilet in an English Exam ... cold weather; I suppose, and I wondered if it was a good idea to bring cold water to drink.*

*Good luck with your results; best wished for the future; and may you each fulfil your dreams.*

**Kath Beckett, Chief Supervisor.**

In closing, I would like to add that with the Kildare Campus Hall under renovation, and having to transfer the exams to the Champagnat Centre at the St. Paul's Campus, the examination process this year had the potential to unsettle both staff and students alike. However, this was not to be the case.

I would like to particularly thank Mrs Lee McKenzie and Mr Alby Van Berkel for their generosity in helping this time run so smoothly. We were welcomed into the Champagnat Centre for almost three weeks.

The St Paul's Campus students respected the exam process and the Year 12 students doing their final exams, and our students were well served by the more open venue. It was a significant imposition on the St. Paul's Campus and its programs, as the Centre was out of action for all other activities because it became a designated VCAA Examination Centre. Thanks to all staff and students from the St Paul's Campus.

**Peter Schneider**  
Head of Kildare Campus

## St Paul's Campus

### Year 9 Fashion Class 'A Fashion Dream'

On Tuesday 28th November the Year 9 Fashion Projects class at St Paul's will be hosting a Fashion Parade in the Lecture Theatre at 7.30 pm. Students will be modelling clothes from various local retailers. Supper will be provided and students' work will be displayed on the night. Tickets are \$5 for students/children and \$10 for adults. Tickets can be purchased from Kylie at the office of St Paul's.

### Melbourne Cup and Year 9 Fashion Class

The Year 9 Fashion Project class' hats/fascinator and ties day was held to mark Melbourne Cup on Tuesday 7th November. The day was a great success as many students arrived at school with some amazing creation and brightly coloured ties. A BBQ was also held and raised in total \$250. We would like to thank the students who participated and Stephanie Germano's father and grandfather for donating the bread. In addition we would also like to thank Mrs Borg and Stoddart's Butchery for donating the sausages.

Year 7 Retreats have again been held in the park and were a great success. The Year 7's participated with gusto, the Year 9 buddies were enthusiastic and helpful and the staff enjoyed this time with the Year 7 classes. Particular thanks to Mr Mike Hansen who pours much time and energy into these events.

### Concluding Weeks

Please remember that all students are expected at school until the final day. In the past we have found one or two students who convince their parents they don't need to be here and then hang around the property making nuisances of themselves. This is not tolerated and students who do this will be followed up.

All Home Room groups are asked to contribute to the St Vinny's Christmas Hampers. In recent years we have been able to contribute 24 hampers to St Vinny's for distribution to needy families. This has had a significant impact on our students who have experienced the joy of giving.

The Year 9 Transition Ceremony will be held at approximately 2:30 pm on Thursday 7th December in the Champagnat Centre. Any parents and family are most welcome to join us at that time. The Transition Mass will be held that evening at St Michael's at 5:50 pm and all families will receive formal invitations to this.

*"Christmas will always be in the hearts of God's children everywhere as they extend a helping hand to a friend in need ... as they go about reflecting God's goodness in the little quiet and unheralded expressions of a loving heart ... as they share the light of the world with those who live in darkness". Jane Hillsmen ("Christmas")*

**Lee McKenzie**  
Head of St Paul's Campus

## Presentation Campus

Father Manny Lomagno has been appointed Parish Priest of Wonthaggi. Our thanks and appreciation is extended to Father Manny for the spiritual guidance, masses and his friendship to us over the many years both as Presentation Regional College and Lavalla Catholic College. We wish him well in Wonthaggi.

The final week of this term will be devoted to transition. All Year 7's and 8's will move "up" a level and work will focus on preparation for 2007. The Year 9 students will be travelling to Kildare on Tuesday 5th December and have their Graduation Mass and Meal in Wednesday 6th December.

My thanks to Mr. Flahavin and Miss Bianconi for their week at Tamboritha with our Year 9's. The camps were a great success with Mother Nature offering a wide variety of weather.

My thanks also to Mr Hansen for organising the Year 7 Polaroid Madness in the Park last Friday. Very favourable comments were received about the day and the participation of our students.

A reminder of book sales and report pick up on Wednesday 13th December.

Wishing you all a happy, Holy and safe Christmas and New Year Break.

*Chris O'Brien*

*Head of Presentation Campus*

### 30th November: National Day of Protest

While some of our teachers will be involved in this day the school will operate as usual. The special programme planned for the Year 7-9 students (transition programme for Year 9's at the Presentation campus and Years 7-8 programme at St Paul's) will run as planned and therefore all students are expected to be at school.



**Public Holiday**  
**Friday 1 December**



## Term Dates 2007

Thur 1 Feb	Years 7, 10 and 12 commence
Fri 2 Feb	Years 8, 9 and 11 commence
Fri 30 Mar	Term 1 concludes
Tue 17 Apr	Term 2 commences
Fri 29 Jun	Term 2 concludes
Tue 17 Jul	Term 3 commences
Fri 21 Sept	Term 3 concludes
Tue 9 Oct	Term 4 commences
Thu 6 Dec	Year 9 and Year 10 last day
Fri 7 Dec	Year 7 and Year 8 last day

## 2006

### Dates to Remember

#### Wednesday 6 December

Year 9 Graduation Mass (Presentation)

#### Thursday 7 December

Year 9 and Year 10 Last Day  
Year 9 Graduation Mass (St Paul's)

#### Friday 8 December

Year 7 and Year 8 Last Day

## CANTEEN ROSTER

### ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Mon 27 Nov	R. Salleh, R. Gillow
Tue 28 Nov	R. Gillow, (help required)
Wed 29 Nov	(help required)
Thu 30 Nov	V. Frescura, K. Clarke
<b>Fri 1 Dec</b>	<b>Student Free Day</b>
Mon 4 Dec	L. Stockdale, T. Roberts
Tue 5 Dec	L. Garrett, (help required)
Wed 6 Dec	(help required)
Thu 7 Dec	M. Johnston, S. Julian
Fri 8 Dec	(help required)

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