



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

24 November 2005

Dear Parents and Students

On Tuesday night, the 15th November, the launch of *Journeying Together in Hope* – the new Religious Education curriculum across all primary and secondary levels was launched. It was a most significant and joyful celebration with Principals, Religious Education Co-ordinators, other Leadership members and student leaders all coming together at a special mass, celebrated by our Bishop, Jeremiah Coffey. This new curriculum programme ensures consistency in the standard and the approach in the teaching of religious education and provides a valuable framework upon which our values and faith can be built.

Like us, no doubt you are well and truly aware that the end of year is fast approaching. The busyness and urgency of things has increased and we are especially focused on ensuring that students remain focused and present. It is our expectation that students attend as usual and early departure for holiday reasons will not be looked upon favourably. Students are entering either an exam period or the final assessment tasks and it is imperative that all work requirements are completed with the usual rigor. In this way students can embark in the final year celebrations with a great sense of personal satisfaction.

The first formal end of year celebration begins with the Year 12 Graduation on Thursday 24th November with a mass at St Michael's and supper at Kernot Hall. The Year 9 graduation for St Paul's students is on Thursday 8th December and for the Presentation students is on Wednesday 7th December. Years 7, 8 and 10 will have less formal gatherings to mark the occasion. In the celebrations, we will remember the days of joy and the more challenging days, but more importantly the many, many days of hope as we kept focussed on the road ahead.

The duality of the situation does not escape us. On one hand we are joyous and perhaps a little saddened at the end of one journey and on the other hand both hopeful and anxious about the transition into the next new phase. It can be both a confusing and exciting time as VCE results become known; as Year 9 students become inducted into Year 10 and the current Grade 6s come to terms with an exciting new educational journey. Good advice for our young people is to keep life's challenges at this time in perspective and to remember that support is readily available to help with this new chapter in their lives.

Semester 2 reports, subject confirmation for the following year, uniform sales and second-hand book sales and new book lists and are all key events that you need to keep an eye out for. Please consult the calendar if you are unsure when these events occur.

Erica Pegorer
Principal

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

As part of our usual end of year/Christmas activities, last week Mr Van Berkel took a class of Yr 9 students to **Mitchell House** to put up Christmas decorations. This is always a lovely time for students to interact with the residents and to share the Christmas spirit.

We are still working on Christmas hampers and remind all students and parents that these hampers go directly to our local St Vincent De Paul group to be distributed to families in the Latrobe Valley.

This is also the time of year that students and families take time to show appreciation to the College staff for their work through the year. Most parents model graciousness and gratitude for their children by taking the time to thank staff.

Lost property

Mr Roga has a collection of lost property, particularly items of clothing. Please encourage your child to go to his office to retrieve lost items. On December 14th, during Report distribution time, all remaining items will be on display in the Yr 7 area for the owners to claim. Any items left

after this date will be passed on to St Vinny's.

Books and Uniforms

It is important to remember the key dates for second-hand book and uniform sales. These sales are a great help to family budgets and are organised by a wonderful group of volunteers. Please assist this group by paying deposits, dropping in lists and collecting goods on time.

Yr 9 Mass

The Transition Mass for **Yr 9** will be held on **Thursday 8th December, at St Michael's Church at 5:30pm.** To eliminate the need for a new outfit, students are required to attend in uniform. Parents are asked to bring a small plate to share; this can be left in the hall prior to mass.

"Best of all, Christmas means a spirit of love, a time when the love of God and the love of our fellow men 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. McDougall

*Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus*

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

Staff and students are currently putting finishing touches to work requirements and assessment tasks for the semester 2 Reports. The report writing day is Friday 2nd December. This is a student free day. Please communicate with your son or daughter and assist them with assignment completion and homework in the coming week. Do not hesitate to contact the teachers if you have any concerns.

The year 9 Camp at Tamboritha was conducted last week. All students experienced a combination of activities which included hiking, abseiling, horse riding, swimming, mountain biking and socialisation. My many thanks to Ms Sallie Davies, Mr Peter Flahavin and Ms Adriana Bianconi who ran the camp. To Sarah and Phillip who assisted with activities and transport. To Kevin Higgins, Ron, the staff of Snowy Range Tours and Michael for a professional approach to all activities.

A special thanks to Max Harrup and Tony Van Rossum (members of the Tamboritha Management Committee) who maintained the workings of the camp and facilities. Finally our thanks to an enthusiastic, co-operative and appreciative Year 9 group.

The following article was contributed by Rita Chandra

“All the Year’s 9 had a great week at camp Tamboritha. The weather was warm everyday except Tuesday when it was freezing and raining all day. The activities were horse riding, mountain bike riding, abseiling and bush walking.

The scenery was beautiful and it was fun to ride around and explore the area. Everyone loved Mr Flahavin’s cooking, it was brilliant. I think the Year 9’s at Presentation couldn’t get any closer than they already are.”

Art and Cultural Display

Students, parents and friends are invited to attend a large and diverse display of the artwork and cultural activities of students at the Presentation Campus on Wednesday 30th November from 4.30 – 7.30pm. The work showcases the art work and various cultural activities of

students in Years 7, 8 and 9. This is a display of creative and innovative ideas and interpretations developed by our students. The display is free of charge and everyone is most welcome.

Super 8 Cricket

On Wednesday, 16th November we travelled to Drouin where the Year 8’s and 9’s took part in the Super 8 cricket competition.

The games were played in a great spirit and students were very competitive. In the first game for Year 7 boys, both A and B teams were smashed, but we won the second and third games. Year 7 girls played enthusiastically but were unlucky not to win a game. The Year 8 girls fared better by winning 1 game. Year 8 boys did very well, finishing second out of 13 schools.

All students had a very enjoyable day and were a credit to their school. (*Complied by: Mrs. E Fredrickson, Chris Bortignon and Chris Lebbe*)

Yours in the Spirit of Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts.

Chris O’Brien
Head of Presentation Campus

KILDARE CAMPUS

Farewell Mr. Mark Kelly

Last Friday, after nineteen years a teacher at the College, Mr. Mark Kelly resigned from teaching to pursue his ordination to the Diocesan Deaconate.

At a fitting departure, Staff gathered for morning tea where we farewelled a man of unquestionable integrity, a man who puts his values and convictions to the forefront of his life. He is a man of deep, reflective spirituality, a man who is so immersed in his faith that he is prepared to change

direction in life to pursue his spiritual dream. He is a family man who keeps the channels of communication open between he, his wife Hilary, and his four sons.

Mark is also the consummate professional. His classroom practice is always reflective of his pedagogical knowledge and preparation for classes. He is a man of great generosity and has always found it difficult to say “No” not only in respect of his school life but also Parish and Diocesan life

Kildare Campus (contd...)

For Mark, the pastoral care of his students is a most important value. He only ever had the best interests of his students at heart. He has taken time to find out about the story behind the individual and he has insight into adolescent behaviour and needs and the wisdom of the years to discern the best course of action in his dealings with them.

We will miss you, Mark. Good luck; we wish you well; and may God bless you as you do His work amongst us.

New Co-ordinators

So, as we farewell Mark we welcome to the Campus Co-ordination Team Miss Liza D'Aloia and Miss Leesa Wakefield who will begin their duties as joint Nagle House Co-ordinators. Parents of students in Nagle House will usually contact one of the Co-ordinators when they need to

contact the College and I encourage parents to do so.

Capital Works

During the school holidays a very large project will be undertaken at the Kildare Campus. The issue of safety, staff cars, delivery vans and trucks, parent cars and buses at the congested car park in the morning and afternoon has long been a concern for us at the College.

The front entrance to the Campus will be completely reshaped, a new bus area will be constructed, a bus shelter developed and new arrangements for parents to pick up and drop off students will be established. This note informs parents in preparation for a change next year and there will be more about this in the near future.

Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus

ST PAUL'S CANTEEN ROSTER:

Mon 28 Nov	L Hare, R Freeman
Tue 29 Nov	R Heal, B Buykx-Smith
Wed 30 Nov	R Crowle
Thu 1 Dec	M Johnston

FORTHCOMING DATES:

November

Thursday 24	Last Day for Year 11 students Yr 12 Graduation Mass (St Michael's) and Supper Dance (Kernot Hall)
Friday 25	Traralgon Show Day Holiday
Wednesday 30	Year 9 and 10 Examinations begin

December

Friday 2	Pupil Free Day – Report Writing/Correction Day
Sun 4 – Wed 14	Marist Cricket Carnival, Lismore, NSW
Tuesday 6	Year 9 Familiarisation Day at Kildare Year 7 (2006) Orientation Morning Year 11 (2006) Workshops commence
Wednesday 7	Last Day for 10 students

Secondhand Book Sales

Mon-Fri. 28 Nov to 2 Dec	Current Yr 10 & Yr 11 students may hand in second-hand books for re-sale at Kildare Campus Current Yrs 7, 8 & 9 students may hand in second-hand books for re-sale at St Paul's and Presentation Campuses
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