

# LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

# NEWSLETTER



22 AUGUST 2008

Dear parents and students

The **Feast of the Assumption** is an important feast day for all Catholics and particularly for Marists. The Church celebrates the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady on 15 August. Although declared as an article of faith by Pope Pius XII only in 1950, the Assumption had been accepted from the earliest years of Christianity's existence. There was a deep-rooted conviction among the first Christians that something extraordinary had happened to Our Lady at the moment of her departure from this life. This is expressed in writings, sermons, devotional practices, and prayers to Mary "assumed into heaven". Churches, religious orders, schools and nations have been dedicated or consecrated to her under the title of Assumption. For Marists around the world 'the way of Mary' signifies a "Way of Being"; gentle, calm, compassionate and determined.

The College celebrated this day in appropriate and sensitive liturgies on all campuses and we were invited to reflect on the role that Mary has on our lives today. **Ms Anne Dooley**, a lay Marist of many years, has reflected deeply over the years about Mary's role in our lives and below is an extract of her most recent work:

*'Above all else, **Mary's spirituality is about relationship.** Right from the start, Mary was in relationship...with God, with Joseph, with Jesus and with numerous others whose lives she would have touched. We know this through her Magnificat in Luke's gospel, "...he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty."* (Luke 1:51-53). *Mary must have known the proud, the powerful, the lowly, the hungry and the rich who were in her world.*

*Mary's journey from single pregnant woman to a wisdom figure with the disciples at Pentecost was not an easy one. She and Joseph would have struggled in poverty to raise their family; Mary may well have had to care for an aging Joseph and was probably left a young widow. She had to let go of Jesus as he grew to manhood and eventually was executed by the state. She would have heard the rumours about him as his ministry grew, along with the reality of seeing him suffer and die. But we know Mary was a woman of tremendous faith, she had to be to continue to walk with Jesus and to continue to say her 'Yes' to God. Her 'Yes' required complete and utter trust as the future would have been so unclear and frightening.*

*So what does Mary offer for us today? As we reflect on our situation, it is very easy for us to think of the struggles we have in our world, and they are very real...individualism, consumerism, breakdown in relationships and community, poverty, war, racism, ecological destruction. Like Mary, it is important that we are aware of the issues we face personally and at a wider social and political level. However, like Mary, we live in the world. Mary did not shield herself from the world and her life in it. Mary did not take cover behind closed doors and keep safe from harm. Mary immersed herself in what was going on around her. She did not protect herself. Her Magnificat witnesses to her social awareness.*

*... May we discover the Mary in ourselves who values relationship with others and with God and journeys in faith and trust no matter what life deals us in the hope of realizing the kingdom of God, the transforming of our hearts and minds in love together'.*

Ms Erica Pegorer  
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## The changing nature of the Olympics

Are you enjoying the Olympics? Do you think that the innocence of the Olympics has been chipped away? In the long distant past, the Olympic Games maintained the ideals of peace, of the suspension of whatever hostility-in-progress, and the notion of simply taking part. Students are often amazed at images of the 1936 Olympics held in Berlin. History records that despite the rising tensions in Europe, athletes left their hostilities at the gate and Hitler saluted them. Politics was left aside. Since then, there are many examples of how politics has indeed interrupted the spirit of peace and co-operation that we expect with the Olympic Games.

This time, not only does it seem a 'good time' for a war between Russia and Georgia, our own Prime Minister pledged to raise contentious issues during his visit to Beijing and despite security crackdown, protestors keep reminding us of the plight of the Tibetan people. This Olympic Games has transformed our view of the world stage. The focus is definitely on the ground breaking achievements of the best athletes in the World but it will also be remembered as a time when the Olympic Games gave way for the **protest voice on human rights**.

### With Sympathy

The College extends to **Ms Maria Doganieri**, her mother, her sister Anna and her family, our deepest sympathy on the recent passing of their father, husband and grandfather. Mr Mario Doganieri passed away peacefully on Wednesday 30 July after some illness. We offer Ms Doganieri our support and care during this difficult time.

**Ms Erica Pegorer**  
Principal

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## Presentation Campus

Life is full of opportunities and it is with a great deal of pride that we see so many of your sons and daughters making wise decisions. The teenage years are challenging for both parents and educators and it is only by our partnership made real, that we can walk beside and support these precious young people in their formative years.

To continue this work, we welcome to our team **Ms Nicole Bond** to replace Ms Sallie Davies who has started Maternity Leave and **Mr Laynton Allan**, a former student of the College, who is currently completing his teaching degree.

Our students who recently passed their Food Handling Course are proving an invaluable asset for our Canteen and our "Looking Good, Feeling Good" program gets under way after school this Thursday

On August 7th we celebrated the 150th Anniversary of Football with a skills afternoon in which considerable talent was unearthed. I doubt though that we need to invite the club talent scouts in just yet. Thanks go to **Ms Stewart** and **Mr Williams** and huge congratulations to our **House Captains** and **Vice Captains** for the way in which they conducted themselves in running their respective events.

Activities enriching our general classroom work these past two weeks have included another performance in the Art

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## St Paul's Campus

### Year 8 Immersion Experience to Melbourne

By now, most year 8 students have participated in an immersion experience in Melbourne. It is a great programme that offers students a variety of City experiences. With all the walking and little rest, the students return a little tired but fitter! **Mr Archipow** and **Ms Valentine** have not only attended all the camps between them but have embraced each camp with oomph and interest. Thanks to both of them and the team of teachers who have supported them to ensure our students learn a few life lessons as well as have a good time together.

### GCSSSA Cross Country

**Rhys MacDonald** won the Year 9-10 Boys Cross Country 3km run held at Bairnsdale on 19 August.

**Alanna French** came third in the Year 7-8 girls. Congratulations to the whole team.

### Autism & Aspergers' Syndrome Workshop

Sue Larkey presents the Autism and Aspergers workshop in Morwell on 12 September. She will present specific teaching strategies and positive behaviour support for children who suffer from these ailments. For more information contact Deb Reynolds on 51747355.

**On an organisational note:** Thank you to all parents for supporting us so positively with the uniform and mobile phone issues.

**Mr Chris Roga**  
Campus Director

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Connect 9 series, this time the play *Taboo* organised by **Mr Connor**; a lecture by Dale Simmons from TruEnergy about the Yallourn Powerstation and then an on-site visit; the Melbourne Immersion Experience for 801, staffed by **Ms Bianconi** and **Mr Johnson**; Michael Bauer author of 'Don't Call Me Ishmael'; congratulations to **Reece Storie** on winning the Clay Shooting competition at State level; netball competitions in Melbourne involved **Georgia Broeren** and **Maddie Rickard**; and **Chynche Laurins**, **Ashlee Beecher**, **Lauchlan Forte**, **Tyler Forte**, **Will Troy**, **John Noy**, **Jayden Shaw** in the District Cross Country. Finally the various information sessions to assist transition into 2009 and the subject selection process that goes with that, culminating in an excellent EXPO event last Friday at our Kildare campus.

Whilst most students were on their midterm break **Hannah Maunder**, **Amy Dickason**, **Josh Diamente** and **Ryan Mizzi** along with **Ms Gaulton** represented the College at the Long Tan Anniversary held on Monday.

Within all of this undoubtedly the highlight over these past few days, was seeing so many family groups present and working together with the College to achieve the best possible option for the future of their young adult.

**Mrs Leanne Mills**  
Campus Director

# Kildare Campus - Careers & Course EXPO



EXPO was a truly terrific day. The Kildare Campus was brilliantly set up with banners and balloons; there was an infectious buzz about the place; parking was at a premium.

The senior students were able to avail themselves of the many external educational providers to ensure they are making informed choices about the subjects they will study.

For the Year 9 students, EXPO provided the opportunity to meet with Year 10-12 subject teachers and with representatives from the universities, TAFE, training groups, armed forces and trades. Most of the students realised the importance of learning as a means to getting a satisfying career.

To ensure the Year 8 students got the most out of EXPO, the Year 7-8 EXPO team organised a planned program for them from 12noon till 3.00pm. The Year 8 students attended **Subject Selections** presentations, toured the **EXPO displays** in the Kildare Hall and took part in a range of learning activities. The teachers planned hands-on activities and competitions; the **Brain Game** played on the Nintendo Wii, the **Outdoor Camping** activities, using the **Illustrator** program for art, building **Electronic Devices** using circuit boards, **Leadership Games**, and discovered their individual **Learning Styles**.

It was heartening to spot a number of parents at EXPO, taking part in activities, touring the displays, engaged with their children in making choices about learning. While teenagers are notoriously reticent about seeming to need their parents, we know they are secretly reassured by such support.

In its various forms, Expo has been part of what we do since 1996 and still it provides one of the most powerful experiences for our students and their parents. The attendance and the engagement of the students confirms for us that this event is still relevant and that all the work that goes into its organisation and preparation is not taken for granted. **Mrs Rita Nainie, Mrs Anne Wilson, Mr Chris Roga** and their respective teams deserve our thanks and appreciation for their contribution to the subject selection process. A special mention and personal gratitude to **Mrs Annemarie Clarke** and **Mr Steve Erdley** for the total co-ordination of the Expo day itself. Congratulations and thanks on a successful day.

**Mr Marco Di Cesare**  
Campus Director

# Forthcoming Events

## TERM 3 AUGUST

- 25 Aug 2009 Year 10 On-line Enrolment [K]  
2009 Year 8-9 Re-Enrolments Due  
VCE Legal Studies 2 excursion [K]  
Parents & Friends (7.30pm ISC [Library] StPaul's)
- 27-29 Aug Year 8.4 & 8.5 Melbourne Campus [St Paul's]
- 28 Aug GCSSSA Touch Football
- 29 Aug Year 9 ArtConnect [P]

## SEPTEMBER

- 2 Sept 2009 Year 12 On-line Enrolment  
CAS Soccer Championships
- 2-5 Sept Year 11 House Retreats
- 3 Sept 2009 Year 7 State School Transition [P]
- 5 Sept Year 7 & 9 Immunisations [P]
- 9 Sept CAS Touch Football
- 10 Sept Annual Music Concert [Kildare]
- 11 Sept Immunisations - Year 10 females [Kildare]
- 16 Sept CAS Athletics
- 18 Sept **Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN [St Paul's]**  
Parent Teacher Student Interviews (4.00pm-7.45pm)
- 19-20 Sept Debutante Ball
- 19 Sept End of Term 3

## TERM 4 OCTOBER

- 6 Oct Term 4 Begins
- 8-10 Oct Year 9.1 Camp at Tamboritha [St Paul's]
- 9 Oct Year 12 Practice English/Literature Exam  
**Night Time Second Hand Uniform Shop**
- 13 Oct Parents & Friends (7.30pm ISC [Library] StPaul's)  
Year 7 Family Life [St Paul's]  
Guest Speaker - Dale Simmons, TRUenergy [P]
- 13-17 Oct Net Retreats - Year 10 [Kildare]
- 13-15 Oct Year 9.2 Camp at Tamboritha [St Paul's]
- 14 Oct Year 7 TRUenergy excursion [P]
- 15-17 Oct Year 9.3 Camp at Tamboritha [St Paul's]

**Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN**  
Thursday 18 September  
from 3.30pm-4.30pm

**Parents & Friends Next Meeting**  
held on Monday 25 August 2008  
in the ISC St Paul's Campus  
from 7.30pm. All Welcome!!

**NIGHT TIME  
SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP**

**GET READY FOR THE  
CHANGE OF SEASON**

**OPEN ON  
THURSDAY 9th October  
6.30-8PM**

# Canteen Roster

## ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

- Mon 25 Aug T. Roberts, R. Bermingham
- Tue 26 Aug Help Needed x 2
- Wed 27 Aug J. Rowe, S. Ray
- Thu 28 Aug K. Licciardi, L. Barrett
- Fri 29 Aug L. Weckman, (help needed)
- Mon 1 Sept L. Calabrese, L. Broeren
- Tue 2 Sept Help Needed x 2
- Wed 3 Sept M. Whitty, S. Duncan
- Thu 4 Sept A. Mooney, C. Richards
- Fri 5 Sept D. Buckley, (help needed)

## KILDARE CAMPUS

- Mon 25 Aug D. Buckley, I Gregson
- Tue 26 Aug C. Templeton, (help needed)
- Wed 27 Aug S. Pistrin, (help needed)
- Thu 28 Aug V. Sammut, (help needed)
- Fri 29 Aug M. Tatlow, C. Hinds
- Mon 1 Sept D. Berryman, K. Manson
- Tue 2 Sept Help Needed x 2
- Wed 3 Sept A. Scully, (help needed)
- Thu 4 Sept M. Johnson, (help needed)
- Fri 5 Sept M. Byl, (help needed)

**School Uniform Alterations**  
please contact Vivien Agius  
on Ph: 5134 1732

## Breakfast Club @ Kildare

Every Wednesday from 7.45am-8.45am  
Held in the Food Technology room  
All Welcome!!  
Enquiries contact: Mike Hansen

## CALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT

At the recent information nights at the Kildare campus, parents were made aware of the crisis Catholic secondary and primary schools are facing if the State government continues to ignore pleas for extra funding to support educational programmes comparable to State government students. At this rate, students in Catholic schools are being unreasonably discriminated against.

The letter and a petition form accompany this newsletter. It was written by the Associations of both Secondary and Primary school Principals and I bring it to your urgent attention. The details of this deep crisis we face are clearly outlined there and I implore you not to be passive about this issue. Decisions about the 2009-2010 State Budget are being made now. Please act decisively and support us as we lobby for more funds for your child.

**Erica Pegorer**