

# Lavalla Catholic College

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## Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit,  
fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of  
your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and  
they shall be created.  
And you shall renew the face  
of the earth.  
Amen.

Do all the good you can,  
By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can,  
As long as ever you can.

John Wesley

## From the Principal

Dear members of the Lavalla community

I am delighted to let you know of the refurbishments that have taken place across the College which have been funded directly from the Resource Levy paid by each family.

### Information Services Centre St Paul's

The Information Services Centres are focal points in each campus. We are pleased that the refurbishment of the Information Services Centre at St Paul's is complete. It has been one of the areas to benefit from the climate control program; it now has an integrated air-conditioning and heating unit. All students on the campus access the four flexible learning areas, and also make use of this welcoming space before and after school as well at recess and lunch.

The ISC building itself dates back to the late 1970's and has needed an update in line with both the function of libraries in the 21st century and because original fittings were aged. What used to be an annex for the storage of video tapes has become a kitchen area. Technology has now moved on and in a digitised world we no longer need to store video tapes or players. The ISC is used for function catering, e.g. after the Champagnat Mass, and the kitchen facilities, although modest, have made providing hospitality much easier.

Where once there were high tables specifically

designed for book covering we now have an open work area for staff, with access for students needing technology support for net books and lap tops. This also reflects the new function of libraries which are not so focused on processing of books but more in the processing and management of information in many forms.

The foyer has been refurbished and there are now plans for a permanent display of the College history to be installed in this area. The ceiling, once dingy, has been plastered, and the ISC now floods with light through both its northerly windows and its southerly gallery windows. This has meant that after the refurbishment, the ISC has half the fluorescent lights of previous days, and more natural light.

### Music classrooms at St Paul's

The College is proud of its music program and fine musicians. It has been a pleasure to improve the environment that our younger students use to gain their music knowledge and skills. Refurbishment of these rooms has included carpeting of both floors and walls for acoustic reasons as well as painting and installation of Air conditioning. The white boards installed were speciality music 'staffed' white boards. These improvements have meant that these rooms are now more music specific and will contribute to a more positive learning environment.

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## Presentation

Refurbishment at Presentation has included plastering the ceilings in 4 classrooms and repair, replacement and painting of eaves and down pipes. This has been timely work, given our plans to utilise Presentation campus for MSP for 2013.

Much of this work has been either completed by our Maintenance staff or overseen by the works manager Mr Wendell Symons. Working with the Business Manager Rob Tarraran, the team members are to be commended on their work as they maintain and enhance the College. Maintaining equipment, gardens and buildings across three campuses can sometimes feel like painting the Sydney Harbour Bridge- it needs to be continuously done, but outward appearances can indicate that little seems to have changed. There is always a tension between

the desire to build modern, attractive environs and maintaining older infrastructure, mindful always of realistically managing finances and resources to meet the College's needs. The introduction of the Resource Levy has enabled us to attend to some of the issues, such as climate control, which have emerged as pressing needs. We are grateful to all families for their contribution to this fund.

## The Hub

At Kildare the space used for learning support and staffed by the teacher aides has also been refurbished. New carpet, furnishings and paint have lightened and brightened this area making it more welcoming for students seeking assistance. Students are able to either work in this area or drop in for assistance as needed.



## Enrolments 2013

We are approaching the end of the enrolment period for Yr 7 2013. Parents and students have had a variety of opportunities to visit the St Paul's campus, to speak to staff and to acquaint them with what the College has to offer. Particularly with the relocation of Yrs 7-9 from Presentation to St Paul's for next year it is vital that interested families, and those with siblings to enrol, complete the enrolment applications by May 31st. While we know how disappointing and frustrating it can be for families, we will be in the unfortunate situation of having to place late enrolments on a waiting list.

## Farewell

This week we farewell Mrs Emma Mancer and wish her well as she begins maternity leave in preparation for the arrival of her baby. Ms Pru Scholtes will be replacing Emma and we welcome her to the College.

## Br John McMahon

Many families associated with the College would remember Br John McMahon, former principal of Lourdes and St Paul's. Br John is currently unwell and undergoing treatment. I know that he would appreciate your prayers at this time. We ask Mary our good mother, to be with him and offer him comfort. As St Marcellin Champagnat did when lost in the snow we pray:

## Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Amen.

Yours faithfully

Erica Pegorer  
Principal



## St Paul's Campus Update

Mr Andrew Martin - Campus Director

Sometimes, we need to take risks in our learning in order to grow. Personally, I made a determination some years ago to 'Jump, Launch off, or, Ride' something each year which places me out of my comfort zone. This week, the opportunity presented itself on Year 7 camp at the Adventure Theme Park on Phillip Island where our cohort engaged a series of personal and team activities designed to extend their personal boundaries.

Touring the site after sharing lunch with the students, I was drawn to the Giant Swing, a towering structure allowing for students to be hoisted many meters above the ground. At their preferred release height, students and staff were required to pull a release rope to initiate 'the drop' and swing which followed. Each of us had to be the architect of our own death defying experience – an exercise in mental preparation and trust in others and the equipment. Remarkably, each student present parted with their security and pulled the rope – a metaphor for letting go if I ever saw one. As an added bonus, this group enjoyed and celebrated the inspiring sight of Tom Truen, who is normally confined to his wheelchair, 'flying' through the air laughing. We will not easily forget his courage and commitment to 'engage' every task and every lesson.

Our active learning program which features a long period of hosting camp activities is now virtually completed until term four with the MSP Bush camp and the Intermediate Band Camp which were also held this week. Having visited the Band Camp myself on Wednesday, I can attest to the fact that these opportunities to immerse students in the subject matter are important to the ongoing development of skills and the solidarity that defines excellence.

In other news, The NAPLAN testing period was coordinated by Claire Couling and the Year 7 and 9 Coordinators with professionalism and excellent organisation. It was most pleasing to note that very few students had cause to be exempted from this testing which ensures an authenticity is attached to this mandated process. I thank all those parents who have supported these programs by allowing their children to participate, or, by contributing themselves to the physical support for the event, as several parents did in coming on Year 7 Camp.



**Giant Swing - Phillip Island**

## Kildare Campus Canteen Helpers

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May –  
NEED HELP

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May –  
L Zalesiak

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> May –  
A Stockdale

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May –  
S Bridges

M Byl

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June –  
D Buckley

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June –  
R Crowle

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June –  
L Zalesiak

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June –  
K Licciardi

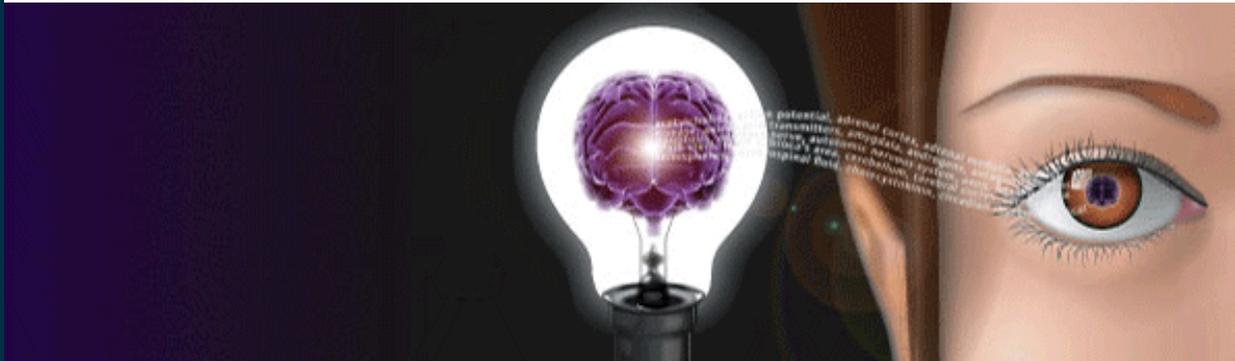
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June –  
H Stoddart

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June –  
R Sallah



## Kildare Update Mr Marco DiCesare - Campus Director

All students have received their Examination Timetables for this semester, I encourage them to take advantage of their revision notes that they should have been taking during the semester. Year 10 students will remain on campus during the examination period. Enhancement students need to ensure that they are checking all examination timetables. These are available from your child's Learner Advisor or online at the College Website.



## Round Two of the Victorian Brain Bee Competition

Mrs Bormanis has been working hard with interested students to prepare them once again for the annual Brain Bee Challenge. You will remember that only a few years ago one of our students went on to represent Australia in the International Challenge hosted in Canada.

Lavalla Catholic College has received news that it has progressed to the Victorian Final in both the Team Entry and Individual Challenge. Over 10,000 students across 390 schools across Australia and New Zealand are vying for a place in this competition. The Victorian Final will be held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at the Melbourne Brain Centre, Royal Parade Parkville. In addition to the quiz, students and teachers will participate in tours of the Anatomy Museum at the University of Melbourne and some neuroscience laboratories.

Congratulations to the following students who qualified:

Ryley Reid  
Lisa Tops  
Taylah Bruce  
Mark Hare  
Andrew Moses

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# Kildare Update - continued

## Attendance

I encourage parents to view Family Connect information to ensure that their child is meeting minimum attendance requirements. While 100% attendance is our aim, we are aware that students fall ill or are required to be absent from the College at times. Please ensure that you telephone the Campus at the start of the day to inform us if your child will not be attending school. Attendance should not fall below 85 per cent without presentation of medical certificates. I encourage you to read our Attendance and Promotions Policy. Communication with the College is always appreciated. Please note that at times some families choose to take holidays outside of the allocated Victorian School holidays. This may jeopardise successfully completing units and I encourage you to seek out further information through your Learner Advisor before booking.

## Student Choice

The successful uptake of Student Choice Time has meant that many students are able to receive extra tuition and support. Congratulations to our students across the campus for the way they have entered into this new initiative. I have recently sent students a survey and I am pleased to report that at this stage students have overwhelmingly endorsed the current model and wish for it to continue.



## Reminders

### YEAR 7 2013 ENROLMENTS

The return date for Year 7 enrolment applications is May 31st. Families wishing to apply for 2013 should forward their applications to Jean Jennings, the Enrolment Registrar located at the St Paul's Campus.

If you have omitted to inform the College of your interest in placing an application, please telephone Jean Jennings at the St Paul's Campus office immediately on 5174 7355 to collect an information/application package.

### SECOND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

#### NEXT OPEN

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June

3.30pm – 6.00pm

Shop located at: St.Paul's Campus

Payment options: Cash, Cheque or EFTPOS  
(Please note Kilts/Skirts must be tried on.  
They are not sized)

# Presentation Campus Update

Ms Tamsin McCormack - Campus Director



## Melbourne City Camp 9<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> of May - Georgia Pollard (Year 9 Presentation Student)

The MSP Melbourne City Camp was great. We stayed at Metro YHA Hostel in North Melbourne. During the days we would research a chosen and planned topic in separate groups, while at night we went out for dinner with the whole class. On the first night we had La Porchetta and visited the Old Melbourne Gaol-Ghost tour!! On the second night we had Greek and went to Galactic Circus at Crown.

My group and I studied Law which allowed us to visit; Old Melbourne Gaol, Magistrates Court, State Library etc. We were able to use a wide range of resources and ways to investigate, and the best part was: it was all our decision! Things like visiting museums, witnessing court cases, conducting interviews and surveys, and more. I was privileged to be in a hard-working group which allowed us to be relaxed in regards to times and transport. It was very important to us to gain as much knowledge and experience as we could during the 3 days. We worked hard, had a lot of fun, and now are much more comfortable and confident navigating around the city. It is a worthwhile experience and I would encourage anyone to go to this camp. The teachers were great and helped us. It was tiring but by the end, you were proud that you had been able to do it.



## Overseas Volunteer Opportunities

Australian Marist Volunteers (AMV) was established in 2012. Under the banner of Marist Asia Pacific Solidarity, AMV is a register of Marist men and women who wish to volunteer their time and expertise to support the work of Marist ministries in the Asia and Pacific regions.

They are currently seeking volunteers for their 'New Horizons' project in Vietnam. If you would like information or would like to express your interest in volunteering for this project please contact the 'link person' for volunteering in your Marist Province. In Australia, this is Catherine Hannon (catherine.hannon@marists.org.au or phone 02 8752 8233/ 0409 636 116).



## Metlink Great Transport Race

Mr Steve Erdely - VCE Geography Teacher

On Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> May, four students from Lavalla, Aman Bhatti, Conor Van Der Staay, Corey Rogers and Shayne Longshaw represented the college for the first time in **The Metlink Great Transport Race**, an event similar in format to the popular television show, *The Amazing Race*. The event required students to visit 20 checkpoint locations around Melbourne's Southern Suburbs, as quickly and efficiently as possible, using tram, train and bus. Competing against 30 other schools, mostly from Melbourne, we left Traralgon at 5.30am and made our way to St. Kilda Town Hall for the briefing, before hitting the streets at 9.00am.

From the word go, our navigational skills were tested, as we tried to pin point selected landmarks as well as orientate ourselves around St. Kilda and South Melbourne using a Melways and public transport system. We quickly discovered that running might be a better option, however our energy levels were quickly being lowered as we ran up and down Chapel Street and through the back streets of Caulfield. Any break felt like a life line, and we savoured our rest breaks on the train and trams. Arriving at our mandatory lunch stop we re-energised with Subway and a chocolate chip cookie, before heading out for the final two hour session around Hawthorn. The 2.30pm finish time dawned upon us quickly, so we were forced to abort travelling to anymore checkpoints but rather take the long tram ride back to St. Kilda. On the way back we shared our hard luck stories and laughed about what we had done. After more food and drink and a well deserved rest at the Town Hall, the results were announced. Our team finished in 15<sup>th</sup> place with a 70 point bonus, only 45 minutes behind the winning team, but 55 minutes ahead of the final runners. It was a great day and an opportunity to apply our geographical skills and physical endurance in an event which the college will enter again in 2013.

### Thinking about going Solar?

Lavalla Catholic College have recently been offered a special deal on solar panels and installation through Akora Solar Power. If you are interested in a solar power system please visit our website for more information.

We would like to get all of the people interested to complete and return the form available for download on our website by 1 June. Installations must be complete by 30 June as the government STC rebate will be reducing come 1 July.

Given Lavalla Catholic College is a customer of Akora Solar Power, they are offering to waive the regional fee (\$500) and travel allowance fee (approximately \$150). You may extend this offer to friends and parents that live in the Traralgon area.



# Music News

Mr Shane Reid - Director of Music



We have reaped the benefits of the hard work of our students at two recent concert evenings. On Tuesday the 15th our Senior Concert Band, Senior Jazz Ensemble and Senior Choir all performed at a special ensemble concert held in the Kildare Hall. This concert was a part of an assessment for our VCE music students. Earlier this week on Monday the 21st of May our year 12 music class all performed two solo pieces as a part of a special soiree evening. Both of these performances are such important steps for our students as they prepare for their end of year performance exams. Thanks to all students for their efforts and to the appreciative audience members on both nights who supported our students.





# Drama News

Mrs Emma Mancer

Over two nights in term 2 Drama students from years 10-12 displayed their hard work and talents during night time showcases. Family and friends came to watch the students perform their final assessment pieces and shared in the weeks of hard work.

Each class had a different topic around which to create a piece for assessment on the night. Year 10 students created performances in the style of Greek Theatre with a very humorous and entertaining performance given by Jacob Hector, Liam Murphy, Ryley Reid, Mihai Salajanu, Tessa Jenkins and Queenie Fitzpatrick.

The Unit 1 students devised their own group performances based around the topic 'Freedom'. Some great individual performances were seen on the night including Mitch Young, Ryan Jones and Bianca Gawith.

For the year 12's, the Drama Night marked the end of a long journey of creating their major assessment piece, an ensemble performance based on the topic 'Vulnerability'. Students had been working on this piece since early term 1 and gave up numerous lunch times to ensure that their work was up to scratch. Students took a mature attitude to the task with both groups taking different approaches to the topic. Students explored different aspects of vulnerability, from personal vulnerabilities through to the structural vulnerability of the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

I would like to congratulate all of the Drama students on their hard work and dedication to their performances. It is wonderful to see such talent and enthusiasm alive in our students.



## LAVALLA EXCEL AT SSV FOOTBALL

Lavalla has basked in the fortune of more sporting success throughout the early stages of term 2 with three out of five teams winning the Wellington Division competition held recently at Maffra.

### Year 7/8 Boys

The year 7/8 boys team produced a first up victory over Yarram by establishing an early lead and prevailing quite comfortably by the final siren. The boys then faced Catholic College Sale who were extremely clean with their possession of the football, resulting in the boys first loss.

The boys then turned things around with a solid win over Kurnai but unfortunately this was not enough to make the grand final.

### Junior Girls

The junior girls kicked started their day with an emphatic 80-point win against Sale College in what was a feisty contest at times. This was backed up with a spirited 22-point win against Maffra after a close battle ensued throughout the first half. This set up a grand final clash with Catholic College Sale.

After Sale kicked the opening goal, Lavalla established a marginable lead but Sale threw everything at the girls during the second half. Our girls defended valiantly over the final five minutes and eventually held on to win by three points.

### Intermediate boys

The Intermediate Boys enjoyed an easy win over Kurnai first up with some good footy and then managed to remain undefeated from their pool matches with a victory against Catholic College Sale. This set up a final encounter against Traralgon Secondary College and our boys were up to the challenge by playing a solid brand of football.

### Senior Girls

The Senior Girls started a little slowly against Catholic College Sale but eventually found their feet in the second half and persevered to claim an eight-point victory. A second round match-up against Kurnai promised to be a tough encounter and the contest didn't disappoint early as the Lavalla girls held sway early. However, Kurnai did all the attacking in the second half and cruised to a 16-point win. A shock result that saw Kurnai upset by Catholic College Sale gave our girls some hope. Needing percentage, our girls had to give Yarram a good old thumping and that they did just that, winning by 37 points to claim victory through on percentage.

### Senior Boys

The Senior Boys played some stylish football to overwhelm Yarram and Maffra in their opening contests but found Kurnai a tough challenge to overcome. Lavalla held the early advantage before Kurnai dominated much of the contest during the second half to win an important clash.

The Lavalla boys finished the day with a triumph against Sale College.

*The Junior Girls and Intermediate Boys will now play in the Regional Finals at Traralgon on June 5th while the Senior Girls will play there next round early in term 3.*



## May/June Events

### Tuesday, May 29

Yr 11 solo performances  
MSP city camp (2) commences

### Wednesday, May 30

Outdoor recreation camp commences

Enrolments for yr 7 2013 close

### Monday, June 4

Yr 10 exam week commences

### Wednesday, June 6

Champagnat day

### Monday, June 11

Queen's birthday holiday

### Friday, June 15

Report writing day - student free day

### Sunday, June 17

Marist netball carnival commences

### Monday, June 18

Yr 12 retreat commences

### Friday, June 22

Yr 12 photos

### Monday, June 25

LA parent meetings

### Thursday, June 28

Last day of term 2

Yr 9 Monash Visit



## Ascension Thursday reflection - Mike Hansen Director Mission and Ministry

The ascension of Jesus into heaven has sometimes troubled believers. The idea of Jesus "shooting" off into space (Acts 1:6-11) is one that does not always resonate well with a modern, scientific worldview.

But, then, there is much in the Bible that we need to struggle with and the solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord last Sunday invites us to think more deeply about what this mystery means.

"After saying this, he was taken up to heaven as they watched him, and a cloud hid him from their sight" (Acts 1:9).

The multi-faceted world of our Christian college offers an important clue here.

Across the face of the Lavalla community there are occasions where we encounter the real life response and witness of believers in the living presence of Christ. From the deep well of Christ's presence amongst us we draw meaning for our programs, vision and action.

For example... we see the face of Jesus in those who suffer cancer and it motivates our energy raising support money in the Cause Worth Shaving For. The quiet voice and lambent call of Jesus informs our youth leadership initiatives in CSYMA and REMAR. Called to support those bumping along the bottom of our local community we collect hundreds of cans of food for distribution to those who have less. Faced with the least of our brothers and sisters in Christ we put our hands in our pockets and give \$3,000 to Caritas in their Lenten Appeal.

As Marist educators we are called To Make Jesus Known and Loved. And we do this not just by words but by our action in the world and our local community.

So, to the Ascension of Jesus. Jesus is not simply the teacher who wandered the back blocks of Galilee or the prophet who upset the religious establishment of Jerusalem. Jesus Christ is now a universal figure whose presence and spirit is no longer bound to one locality or one expression of faith. Christ and the movement Jesus sparked is a truly universal one that cannot be defined, limited or, indeed, captured.

For Christ is utterly free to be present to the whole creation and his kingdom breaks through into our particular patch through our actions for justice, care of those spun to the edges and our attempts at community building.

The Ascension encourages us to "think big" – to acknowledge and to follow the Christ who is present to and in the whole creation.

At this Ascension time let us look beyond ourselves. Go beyond our particular patch of faith to see Christ present and active in all places.

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