



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

17 June 2005

Dear Parents,

I am sure you do not read the Education Section of Employment Vacancies in “The Age” and “The Australian”. But last Saturday the position of Principal of Lavalla Catholic College commencing 2006 was advertised nationally and the process of selecting my replacement was begun. For me the sight of an advertisement for my replacement was a timely reminder to me that I was stepping away from those challenges which have absorbed my attention and concern over the last ten years.

Today’s school leaders face a multitude of challenges that most of their predecessors did not meet in decades past. The education landscape has greatly shifted and over the last few years there have been enormous changes in the expectations on Principals. The organization is much more complex, the curriculum is much broader and the legislative requirements much more time consuming.

But I am fully confident that there is a highly qualified, experienced, and dedicated group of professionals ready to lead large Catholic Secondary Colleges. These are people that vigorously seek to improve their skills, knowledge, and aptitude for the job. There are rigorous standards for educational administration and applicants will know what it’s like to lead and manage a school.

We all know the crucial role that school leaders play in the future of Australian Catholic Education in general and school communities in particular and you might like to keep the successful appointment of a new principal in your prayers.

Br Julian Casey
Principal

Dates for Coming Week

Mon 20	Polaroid Retreat in the Park (Presentation 2 x Yr 7 + buddies) Education Forum for Parents Meeting
Tue 21	Junior Choir Workshop
Wed 22	End of Semester Reports Distributed Year 12 Outdoor Ed. Fieldtrip commences - Wilson’s Prom.
Thu 23	Parent/Teacher Interviews (by appointment) 4.00 to 8.00pm
Fri 24	Classes conclude for Term 2 at 3.25pm

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

With reports out of the way students and teachers have begun to focus on work for next semester. My thanks to the teachers for the hours they put in over the long weekend to complete corrections and write reports. I am sure that you are also most grateful for their efforts.

Hopefully all students will be collecting their reports and showing them off. The reports should act as affirmation of strengths and guides for areas of future work. I encourage all families to share and celebrate the reports. Interviews will be held next Thursday and all students have already received a **PINK** sheet, which needs to come back to the College to allocate appointment times. We hope that all families will find the time to come to the interviews next Thursday between **4:00 and 8:00** to chat with teachers about how things have gone.

House Fire

During the week we were saddened to hear that the Dans family's house, contents and car were lost in a fire. We will be rallying to offer support to the family. We will be asking all

families to be generous at this difficult time.

Polaroid in the Park

The Yr 7 activities in Victory Park are in full swing. These days have a pastoral focus with a lot of fun. Our Yr 9 buddies have been accompanying the Yr 7's and to date the reports of the day are terrific. My thanks to the staff and students for making these such worthwhile activities.

Activities Day

Friday June 24th is the last day of school for this term. If the weather is suitable we will be suspending time-tabled classes from period 4 and running an activities program. Consequently it is appropriate that **all students** wear PE uniform on that day.

"The accumulation of small, optimistic acts produces quality in our culture and in your life. Our culture resonates in tense times to individual acts of grace."-- Jennifer James

Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

Staff have been busy writing **Semester Reports** over the past two weeks. A comprehensive assessment of your son or daughter's half yearly progress will be sent home next week. Parents are encouraged to attend the Interviews on Thursday 23rd between 4.00 – 8.00pm. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with your child's teachers, celebrate the successes of the semester and plan for the last half of 2005.

The Year 8 Medieval Day has been postponed until Term 4. Information

on the rescheduled date will be available next term.

Our Year 9's will be given the opportunity to 'exchange places' with a Year 9 from St. Paul's Campus in semester 2. The exchange program was started last year and was a great success. I would encourage all of our Year 9's to experience life on the St. Paul's Campus.

Our Chess Team played at Drouin Secondary College last week. The members of the Presentation Campus team were:-

Robert Fiddelaers, Jeremy Young, Tom Gauci, Anthony Vandersteen, Reece Fry, Shane Lebbe, Daniel Taylor.

Reminder – **Parent Support Group Trivia Night** is coming up in Term 3 on 30th July. A great night.

Please mark this date on your social calendar.

Yours in the Spirit of Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts

Chris O'Brien
HEAD OF CAMPUS

KILDARE CAMPUS

Attendance

This year, and especially during the last half of this term, the Campus Administration Team has been spending quite a deal of energy and time on following up students' attendance patterns. The monitoring of attendance is an obligation placed on us by the State Government, and the Registered Schools' Board conducts cyclical audits.

I would like to remind parents and students that the expectation of the College is that all students attend all classes. Students who are absent need to bring along a note upon their return to the College. Only then can the computer attendance system flag the absence as "Explained," and all other entries will remain "Unexplained" until such time as a note or other documentation is provided from home.

Already this semester there are a number of students who will not satisfactorily complete some of their subjects due to a substantive breach of the College attendance regulations.

Parents who take their children away on holidays during term need to be aware that such absenteeism impacts on their attendance, as well as the classroom continuity so important for sequential nature of activities in the classroom.

Year 12 students who are absent during a SAC need to successfully apply for **Special Provision**. This process involves a written application addressed to the VCE Coordinator as well as providing **supporting documentation**. Special Provision is designed to assist students who **become ill** or **experience personal hardship** at the time of assessment.

Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus

Gippsland Secondary Schools' Chess Competition

Last week a group of students from Years 8 – 12 represented the College in the annual Gippsland Secondary Schools' Chess Competition in Drouin. This year was the second time we had entered a team and after returning with a last place last year we have improved this year to finish 4th out of the 7 competing schools.

Mirboo North Secondary College presented the stand out Champion team, with five of the top placed individual players, and won the competition by a convincing 7 points.

Chess Competition (contd....)

Our best-performed player was Dean Gompelman, with Robert Fiddelaers, Chris Glowacki and Owen Newbury all finishing in the top 30% of the competition. Congratulations Dean and to the team, managed by Mr. Carmody.

The overall score results were:-

- | | |
|---------------------------|------|
| 1. Mirboo North Secondary | 27.0 |
| 2. Warragul Reg. College | 20.0 |
| 3. Drouin Secondary | 19.5 |
| 4. Lavalla College | 16.5 |
| 5. Warragul Primary | 16.0 |
| 6. Leongatha Secondary | 14.5 |
| 7. Korumburra Secondary | 13.5 |

Education Forum For Parents

Our next meeting is on Monday 20th June at the St Paul's Campus Resource Centre (ISC) commencing at 7.30pm

After a short meeting we have our **Careers Advisor -Trish Johnston** speaking to us on how best to help our children with career choice

Career decisions, especially when they have little or no idea what they want to do, are a problem for a lot of young people.

I am sure this night would benefit many parents and you are most welcome to come along.

Norma Bellerby
President

CANTEEN ROSTER

	St Paul's	Kildare
Mon 20 June	D Webb, M Nocera	S Mills, help needed
Tue 21 June	R Heal, B Buykx-Smith	P Radovich, M Northover
Wed 22 June	M Lowe, R Salleh	D Webb, S Eccles
Thu 23 June	A Mooney, M Donovan	H Symons, S Brady
Fri 24 June	R Gillow, P Brown, A Farley	A Prezioso, A Fogarty

Postal address PO Box 1080 Traralgon 3844	Marcellin House Admin Coster Circle Traralgon Ph 5174 5272	Kildare Campus Kosciuszko St Traralgon Ph 5174 8111	Presentation Campus John Field Drive Newborough Ph 5127 1311	St Paul's Campus Grey St Traralgon Ph 5174 7355
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