

LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



6 FEBRUARY 2009

From the Principal's desk.....

Dear Parents, Students and Teachers

What usually is an exciting time of year as students start to walk through the gates with fresh faces and an air of enthusiasm, is this year, a little hampered by the aftermath of our local bushfires and the impending threat of more hot weather, lightning storms and the resurgence of other fires in the weeks ahead. The losses in Boolarra, Mirboo North and surrounds have been a stark reminder of the need to work as a community in the face of such adversity. There have been awe-inspiring reports of people helping each other to save properties and live stock and in recent days of people coming together to heal and support each other during the recovery process.

Our community is also extending a helping hand to our neighbours. We have registered our interest and volunteered our services with Latrobe City Council. At the moment they are calling for generous donations to be made to the **Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund (GERF)** via the National Bank (BSB: 083932 and Account number 048299080); send donations to **GERF** Po Box 508, Traralgon, 3844 or in person at the Traralgon Post Office. Alternatively, you can download this information from the GERF webpage. If you know of any project that could do with some assistance please contact the Campus Directors.

Despite the unprecedented heat wave, teachers really did feel enthusiastic about the start of the year and were ready to welcome our students as they entered through the gates this week. There is always such a sense of anticipation and renewal in term one as resolutions are made and personal goals are both encouraged and set.

Ms Erica Pegorer

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On reflection, there has been good reason for some of the optimism and enthusiasm experienced at the beginning of the year with profound changes being made in significant leadership positions. The whole world, including Australians was transfixed by the inauguration of President Barack Obama. An African American President for the USA – who would have ever imagined that this could have been possible? **Professor Mick Dodson** named the 2009 Australian of the Year cements the great work which began after Sorry Day last year. Professor Dodson is a great Australian with an exceptional record of service and leadership as an advocate for human rights. Both these men in their leadership have been called to bridge the great divides in their communities and to remind us that if we stay committed to our core Christian values the world will be a better place. Important too is that both occasions were unique opportunities to display our joy and to pin our hopes for a better future on these two inspirational leaders.

Lavalla's theme for 2009 **New Hearts for a New Dream** will try to capture the excitement that ignited our hearts when Barack Obama won the Presidency. We really understand now how anything is possible if there is a combined dream to unite our community. Shortly, families will receive our plan for improvement for 2009. In it we have tried to articulate our dreams, aspirations and goals for 2009.

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Welcome to our new New Families and New Staff

I extend to you all a warm **welcome back** to the scholastic year and in particular to all the new families and new staff who have joined our College for the first time. We look forward to their contribution which, judging by the chatter and laughter that could be heard during those first few days, will be a positive and energizing gift to our community.

We especially welcome our new cohort of year 7 students at the Presentation and the St Paul's Campuses, who were just delightful on their first day and it was uplifting to witness the warm exchanges between 'old' friends as students came through the gates. It was wonderful to see those parents who could make it, join both campuses for an informal welcome to the College. The conversations about day one were most encouraging and much of the nervousness about starting at secondary school had evaporated. We are happy to report that we are open for business again and that the College is in high spirits.

Year 12 Retreats

The College is trying its utmost to ensure the valuable Year 12 retreat programme can go ahead at another time in the year. Unfortunately, retreat or camp venues are often booked out 12 months ahead of time so this will not be an easy task. Mr Hansen, is in the process of exploring our options and students and parents will be informed as soon as possible.

Conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra visits Lavalla.

We were very privileged to have **Mr Paul Fitzsimon** visit the College this week and talk with our year 12 music students about his career path and work. We were excited to have him here because he comes as a former student of this College. Paul completed his VCE in 2000, graduated from the University of Melbourne and since 2003 has been pursuing his chosen speciality in conducting symphony orchestras. He has worked in Sydney and Melbourne and will in a few weeks move to Berlin where there are no less than 120 Symphony Orchestras with which he can work! As a College we are very proud of Paul's achievements and have wished him well for his promising future ahead.

Staff as Life Long Learners - Sustainability

During the staff development days at the end of January and before our students returned to school, staff members participated in conversation about improving our sustainable practices. Mr Glenn Davidson from Sandhurst Diocese led the session where staff discussed a more refined school plan, ways to action the reduction of our carbon footprint and a pledge from this community to some personal actions. This programme was offered to staff to ensure that we keep true to our Mission statement of **supporting environmentally sustainable practices** and implied in that is that as a staff we can walk confidently as role models and stewards for the future.

New Staff

We are delighted to introduce to the community our new members of staff:

- **Margaret Bransgrove** RE & English
Kildare Campus
- **Johanne Burt** St Paul's
English, Humanities, RE
- **Sally Cleary** St Paul's
Art and Technology
- **Leiah Cook** Kildare
Drama
- **Gurminder Kaur** St Paul's
Science and Math
- **Todd Proud** Kildare & St Pauls
Applied Learning
- **Chris Rea** Presentation
English & Humanities
- **Rebecca Rutter** Kildare
Outdoor Ed, Sport & PE
- **Stephanie Stewart** Kildare
Health & HD and PE
- **Vivian Stuart** Kildare & St Paul's
Food Technology
- **Lisa Templeton** Kildare
English and History
- **Megan Wisewould** Marcellin House
Principal's PA

In May we will welcome **Br Mark Needham** as the spiritual formation leader for the College. Br Mark will work with both students and staff to develop our community's Marist Charism and Catholic ethos.

We welcome back **Steve Erdely, Russell Savige, Pierina Fenech, Raffaella Cataldo, Lisa Williams, Angela Bye, Shane Reid, Ed Trumino** and **Jose Illipparampil**.

The following members of staff have been appointed to the following positions of leadership and we offer our congratulations to:

- **Karen Joyce** - Assistant Campus Director (Welfare) – St Paul's
- **Olivia Barrett** – Year 9 co-coordinator
- **Jenny Sutton** - Curriculum Team Leader Years 11-12
- **Maria Haggett** - Curriculum Team Leader

Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal



Mr Paul Fitzsimon's visit to Lavalla's Kildare Campus this week

Education Maintenance Allowance Eligibility

The Education Maintenance Allowance is paid to eligible parents of students under 16 years of age who attend a State or a Registered School in Victoria.

The Education Maintenance Allowance will be paid in two instalments and to be eligible for the first instalment you must:

- (a) be an eligible beneficiary of a Centrelink pension, allowance or benefit within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004: OR
- (b) be a Veteran Affairs Pensioner (TPI), OR
- (c) be a foster parent and
- (d) submit your application to either Marcellin House or Presentation Campus by the date/s listed below

Submission dates

The application form must be lodged at the school by: **27 February 2009** for the first instalment.

Important Information

A separate application is required for each school if you have children attending different schools. If you transfer your child, you will need to make a new application at the new school. All staff are required to treat the information that you provide as confidential.

EMA rate – 2009 \$443.00

Canteen Assistance

CANTEEN ASSISTANCE: Please return slip to Campus Office as soon as possible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ Mobile: _____

Preferred Day _____ Second Preference _____

Forthcoming Events

TERM 1

FEBRUARY

- 9 Feb Year 7 Information Evening
- 15-17 Feb Senior Wind Ensemble Camp
- 16--18 Feb Year 7.1 & 7.2 Camps [St Paul's]
- 18 Feb Year 10 Information Evening
- 18-20 Feb Year 7.3 & 7.4 Camps [St Paul's]
- 19 Feb Swimming Carnival [Presentation]
- Second Hand Uniform Shop Open (3.30pm-4.30pm)
- 23 Feb Parents and Friends Meeting
(St Paul's Library 7.30pm)
- 23-15 Feb Year 7.5 & 7.6 Camps [St Paul's]
- 25 Feb Parents and Friends Meeting
(Presentation Staff Room 5.30pm)
- Ash Wednesday
- 25-27 Feb Year 7.7 Camp [St Paul's]

MARCH

- 3 Mar Commissioning Mass held at St Paul's
- 4 Mar Year 7 immunizations
- 5 Mar Swimming Carnival [St Paul's]
- 6 Mar Swimming Carnival [Kildare]
- 10 Mar **Labour Day Public Holiday**
- 11-13 Mar Year 7 Camp [Presentation]
- 19 Mar Second Hand Uniform Shop Open (3.30pm-4.30pm)
- 23 Mar Year 10 Work Experience

APRIL

- 2 Apr Parent Teacher Student Interviews (4.00pm-7.30pm)
- 3 Apr Last Day Term 1 - Student Free Day
- Year 11 Debutante Ball
- Parent Teacher Student Interviews (9.00am-12.00pm)
- 4 Apr Year 11 Debutante Ball
- 16 Apr Second Hand Uniform Shop Open (3.30pm-4.30pm)

TERM 2

APRIL

- 20 Apr Term 2 Commence - for all students and staff
- 23 -27 Apr Marist Basketball [Lismore]
- 25 Apr Anzac Day
- 27 Apr Full Winter uniform

Canteen Roster

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

- Mon 9 Feb L. Hare
- Tue 10 Feb M. Buhagiar
- Wed 11 Feb H. Stoddart
- Thu 12 Feb G. Breed
- Fri 13 Feb D. Buckley, R. Gillow

- Mon 16 Help needed
- Tue 17 T. Pledge, S. Garrett
- Wed 18 Feb P. Brown
- Thu 19 Feb K. Licciardi
- Fri 20 Feb J. Irvine, R. Gillow

- Mon 23 Feb L. McDonald, L. Hare
- Tue 24 Feb L. Skinner
- Wed 25 Feb L. Hodder
- Thu 26 Feb M. Johnston
- Fri 27 Feb M. Holt, R. Gillow

KILDARE CAMPUS

- Mon 9 Feb I. Gregson
- Tue 10 Feb C. Templeton
- Wed 11 Feb S. Hillier
- Thu 12 Feb M. Johnston
- Fri 13 Feb T. Newton, D. Buckley

- Mon 16 C. Jackiw
- Tue 17 J. DePellegrini
- Wed 18 Feb G. Fiddelaers
- Thu 19 Feb S. Bridges
- Fri 20 Feb R. Salleh

- Mon 23 Feb E. Panayiotou
- Tue 24 Feb S. Budge
- Wed 25 Feb Help needed
- Thu 26 Feb H. Stoddart
- Fri 27 Feb L. Clarke

Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN

Every 3rd Thursday of each
Month from 3.30pm to 4.30pm
St Paul's Campus
EFTPOS now available

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

PLEASE NOTE

Next Newsletter is our first formal Newsletter.

Year 7 parents please ensure your email address has been provided to the relevant home room teacher to ensure you receive your Newsletter via electronic copy. Hard copies of the Newsletter are not provided.