



# NEWSLETTER

## Lavalla Catholic College

7 September 2007

### From the Acting Principal

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to our fourth newsletter this term. We hope that you have enjoyed a great Father's Day weekend and that all our Dads are feeling truly affirmed and acknowledged as families mark this occasion in unique ways.

Our Principal, Ms Erica Pegorer, has arrived safely in Mendes, Brazil and is now immersed in the Marist International Mission Assembly, a ten day conference for which she has been a key organiser over a four year period. The conference theme, ***One Heart - One Mission***, certainly resonates with our work this year as a College community as we seek to enquire ourselves through our Review and Renewal processes.

I am pleased to report that we are recovering well from the effects of the loss due to the fire at St Paul's campus. Our Business Manager has worked tirelessly with Campus staff to ensure a progressive transition, with the safety of students and staff as the foremost priority. A committee has been formed to plan the new Arts-Technology building, which will be a significant addition to the College Master Plan. While the sense of personal loss remains for staff and students, we have all drawn together in a time of adversity as a resilient community. Thank you again for your support and understanding.

***Get Wise Not Wasted***, an educational program, held recently, promoting harm minimisation strategies for adolescents, was well attended by interested parents. This was an initiative undertaken by the Parents and Friends group and their efforts in providing such an opportunity is very much appreciated. Topics such as discipline, literacy & numeracy standards, reports and parent participation will be discussed and debated at the ***Parents Victoria Online Conference 2007*** which is accessible during 10 – 16 September at the following website: [www.cybertext.net.au/pv/](http://www.cybertext.net.au/pv/).

We are always in need of parent volunteers for the Campus Canteens and are also currently canvassing for expressions of interest from parents who would be prepared to assist with the end-of-year Secondhand Book sales. Please register your interest with the Campus offices, so that we can start planning for these events.

Our students have engaged in various events this term; ***Science Fair***, which was also hosted for visiting primary schools and enthusiastically co-ordinated by Ms Jo-Maree Sharman; ***Year 8 camps***, which have proved to be very enjoyable experiences and effectively managed by Ms Eva Amezquita and Mr Michael Archipow; the highly successful participation by Years 7, 8 & 9 students in the ***Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge***, a tribute to the combined efforts of Challenge Co-ordinator Ms Jeanne Brown, English staff and supporting families; ***Year 11 Retreats***, which have become a formative experience for students and staff, thanks to the continual efforts of Mr Michael Hansen and the Retreat teams; the ***Eisteddfods***, a set of disciplined and demanding events, drawing upon the combined energies of Music staff and students; and all this, while students work through their selection of subjects for 2008, a process that is finalised before the end of this term.

The work of our ***College Sustainability Student Committee*** in promoting strategies through which we can all minimise our ecological footprint, has given credence to the words of Pope John Paul II, "Human beings are appointed by God as stewards of the earth to cultivate and protect it."

As we celebrate ***Literacy and Numeracy Week*** (3 – 9 Sept), let us remember to model sound learning practices for our young people, so they can continually aspire to personal excellence in both these fields that are essential building blocks for lifelong learning. An Australian Government initiative, called ***An Even Start – National Tuition Programme***, will come into effect next year, to provide tuition assistance to the value of \$700 for those students who do not meet the national testing benchmarks. With the end of term rapidly drawing to a close, teachers will be looking to gauge students' progress and provide indications to parents through mid-semester reports. We welcome every opportunity for dialogue with parents about students' achievements and encourage you to consider using parent-teacher interviews to best advantage. Lastly, we hope that you have enjoyed browsing through the August issue of the College Education Supplement included in the Latrobe Valley Express. The Semester 2 Bulletin will be mailed to all families on 14th September.

***Ms Rita Nainie***  
***Acting Principal***

## Presentation Campus

Last Thursday we held our Campus Assembly, Jeremy Waanders - College Captain, spoke about a father and son team who competed in Triathlons in the USA. The son is confined to a wheel chair and severely disabled as a result of birth complications. We were all challenged to make the most of our own lives and be mindful of the determination of others less fortunate than ourselves to succeed in life and overcome disabilities. We thank Jeremy for his presentation.

### Sporting Achievements

The following 6 students have achieved exceptional outcomes in their chosen sports in recent months. They are indeed wonderful role models for all our students.

**Sean Spiteri** was selected this year in the Gippsland Regional U/15 Cricket Squad of 24 players – as a leg-spin bowler. Although only in Year 8, Sean also played A Grade Cricket for his club for a number of weeks. Further, **Sean, Jon Noy** and **Tyler Forte** made the Central Gippsland U/14 Football Squad. Well done Sean, Jon and Tyler.

**Sam Amaira**, Year 9 has also been playing A grade Cricket this year as a leg-spin bowler and also 'open-aged' Soccer with his club, mainly at 'reserve grade level'. He was asked to sit on the bench in the Seniors many times this season, and has started on the field, too. Well done.

**Sam Price**, Year 9 who has been playing local A grade Cricket. He actually opens the bowling and is known to be quite lively; and has taken 4 for 13 on one occasion this year. As well, Sam captains his U/15 side and has represented a team at Country Week in this age group this season.

**Steven Gelagotis**, Year 9 was progressively selected in squad basketball teams and finally made it through to the Regional State (Vic.) Basketball Team. Steven also played in the Lavalla 9&10 team.

**Carly Mullen-Bianconi**, Year 9 has achieved the same wonderful distinction as Steven, and made the female State Regional Team. Carly also plays in both the Lavalla 9&10, and 11&12 girls Basketball teams, and she is currently trying-out for a certain regional 'scholarship squad' called the Identifiable Athlete Program (IAP). Well done Carly.

Finally I would like to mention **Alex Sheedy**, Year 9, who has progressively worked herself into the starting 5 of the all Victorian U/16 Basketball Team. Alex has been selected into the top 30 players in our country and will attend a 4 day 'training camp' at the Canberra Australian Institute of Sports. We are very proud of Alex.

We wish these athletes, and all our students who play sport, well in their chosen sport(s).

**Torben Jones** has been competing in the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod Speech and Drama and has been recognised for his achievements.

After last year's success in winning the Betty Loftus award for the most promising performer in the senior speech sections, Torben Jones has kept up the good work by taking out a number of awards in 2007. These included the position of 'runner up' in the Speech and Drama scholarship for Secondary Students. We congratulate Torben on his success. Keep up the good work.

### Interim Reports

Interim Reports are being prepared by staff. Please communicate with your son or daughter regarding assessment tasks, test and due dates. **Parent Teacher interviews are on Thursday 20th September.**

Yours in the Spirit of Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts.

**Mr Chris O'Brien**  
Campus Director

## WANTED ANOTHER 100 LEARNER DRIVERS



To take part in research held at Vic Roads Morwell during this school holidays You will receive a free 45 minute driving assessment from a qualified instructor and also receive \$20 cash on the day.

To register your interest either call Kaye on 5174 3037 or 0411 704 502 or email [kaye@profiletm.com.au](mailto:kaye@profiletm.com.au)

I need your name, address, date of birth, mobile number, email address and number of hours so far you have had as driving experience.

I need learners with 50 hours minimum experience aged 16, 17 or 18 years old.

Your parents will also need to sign a written permission form if you are under 18 allowing you to take part in this research.

If you did the research last school holidays, you are not able to do again.

THIS IS MARKET RESEARCH ONLY - NO CATCH

## Kildare Campus

It has been a busy two weeks. Year 11 Retreats, Year 10 and 11 Subject enrolments, Conferences, Professional Development Sessions, Catholic All Schools Soccer, Student Re-enrolments..... A tremendous amount of work happens over a fortnight.

### Year 11 Retreats

Congratulations to all who participated in the Year 11 Retreats. They were well received from the students. We thank Mr Michael Hansen and the staff for their active participation in these important days.

### Subject Enrolments

Each Year 10 and Year 11 student has spent some time enrolling online over the last fortnight. I have been impressed with the level of determination and knowledge that these students have brought to the process. Any outstanding re-enrolment forms or Subject enrolments need to be completed by the *end of this week*.

### Catholic All Schools Soccer Champions

On Tuesday 28 August the College competed in the Catholic All Schools State Soccer carnival. Teams from each of the 4 zones competed, with Lavalla Catholic College representing the eastern zone. We progressed to the final against Penola Catholic College, Broadmeadows. Our team won 5-4 in a penalty shootout. They now progress to the All Schools State Final. We congratulate the team on their win and in particular the Best Players: Stephen Maselli, Taylor Jackson, Nicholas Fogarty and Joshua Tanti.

### Deloitte Cadetship and Work Placement

*Written by Jeremy Waanders and David Van Berkel*

Last term, past student Daniel Dugan visited the school to give a presentation on an opportunity to become an Accounting trainee (cadet) with Deloitte.

We travelled to Melbourne to the Deloitte offices to attend an Information Evening on 14th June. After learning more about the firm and its ethos, we applied online. We were both selected to take part in a group assessment and were selected for a final interview with one of the firm's partners.

As the final result of this process, David was offered vacation work next year during the semester break. Jeremy was awarded one of the 18 prestigious cadetship places. He attended the celebratory dinner and met his future work mates.

We would like to thank our Accounting teacher Ms Yiannacou, the Careers Advisor Mrs English, Deloitte employee Daniel Dugan and the Deloitte Recruitment Team who were friendly and supportive throughout the process.

**Mr Marco Di Cesare**  
Campus Director

## St Paul's Campus

It has been an eventful two weeks! Two youths were charged for the burning of the Art Building bringing some closure. The Art Department has got on with its work and is looking to new premises. This week the teachers will begin writing the Term 3 Reports and Parent-Teacher Interviews are scheduled for the evening of Thursday 20 September.

### Parents and Friends: Parents' Evening

Chris Little, Latrobe Community Health Service presented 'Get Wise, Not Wasted' (a drug and alcohol education programme) to more than 35 parents on Monday 3 September in the Lecture Theatre. The presentation identified different drugs and alcohol, and highlighted their dangers and associated symptoms. Many questions and issues were discussed. Congratulations to Norma Bellerby and her team of Parents who organised the evening.

### Touch Footy

Three teams competed in the Gippsland Schools competition in Bairnsdale on 29 August. The Junior Boys 'A' and the Junior Girls comfortably won their matches to remain undefeated, while the Junior Boys B unluckily lost two close matches. This competition provided good match practice for the CAS tournament in Ringwood next week. Well done and best of luck!

### Year 8 Camps

This week brought to a close the Year 8 Melbourne annual camps. The student behaviour at all camps was of the expected high standard. Mrs Hanrahan, a visitor who stayed at the Explorer's Motel, said, "*...my husband and I encountered a group of students, whose good manners and politeness were a credit to the school they attend.*" We thank all the teachers who took part in the organisation of these successful camps, ensured that students were safe and had a rewarding urban experience.

### Cross Country Skiing

Ms Rachel Allen, a teacher, took part in the Kangaroo Hoppet, Australia's International Ski Race that is part of the Worldloppet Series of Cross Country Skiing Marathons, on Saturday 25 August at Falls Creek. She says, "*It is always an exciting day and the weather this year was perfect. Even the snow was pretty good considering how warm it was. I skied in the 21km race and came 2nd in my age group and was 28th female overall.*"

### Herald Sun Teacher of the Year Awards



Lisa did not win the grand prize, but the evening celebrated the excellent contribution of teachers across the state. Congratulations to Lisa Williams.

St Paul's Campus continued.....

**Science Fair**

In Term 2 all Year 7 Science students completed a Science Fair Assignment. We are aiming to raise the profile of science and encourage our students to have an ongoing interest in this area and how science is part of daily life and impacts on society. In recognition of the great efforts the assignments were put on public display. Year 5 and 6 students from primary schools came along to view the displays and participate in Science activities. They were guided by Year 9 students and saw some amazing science "tricks" in a science show. The visit from the primary school students is an important part of the transition process for students who will be attending Lavalla. The Science Fair provides a fun way for them to see our school in operation, meet some of the students and teachers, and experience science at the secondary level.

*Mr Chris Roga  
Campus Director*

**PARENTS AND STUDENTS  
PLEASE NOTE**

That the appropriate drop-off and pick-up areas are used at each of the Campuses.

That Parking Limits now apply along certain sections of Kosciuszko Street.

**LAST DAY - BUSES DEPART**  
Presentation Campus at  
2.00pm  
St Paul's & Kildare Campus at  
2.30pm

**NIGHT TIME UNIFORM SHOP**  
A night time uniform shop will be available Tuesday 9th October -  
6.30pm - 8.00pm

**Forthcoming Events**

**TERM 3**

**SEPTEMBER**

- 11 Sept Annual Music Concert
- 13 Sept MacKillop Day
- 14 Sept Reports Distributed
- 17 Sept Year 12 Music Solo Recital Night
- 20 Sept Parent / Teacher Interviews (4.00-7.30pm)
- 21 Sept Final Day Term 3**
- 21-22 Sept Debutante Balls

**TERM 4**

**OCTOBER**

- 8 Oct First Day Term 4 commences**
- 9 Oct VCE Oral & Performance Exams [K]  
Year 12 English Practice Exams [K]
- 15 Oct LOTE Poetry Competition [SP]
- 24 Oct Year 12 Assembly and Mass [K]
- 25 Oct Year 12 Last Day [K]
- 26 Oct Staff Professional Development(*Student Free*)

**PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING**

All parents are welcome to come along to our meeting on Monday 17th September, 7.30pm in the St Paul's Library.

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

**ST PAUL'S CAMPUS**

- Mon 10 Sept R. Gillow, (help required)
- Tue 11 Sept S. Garrett, T. Pledge
- Wed 12 Sept L. Hodder, E. Panayiotou
- Thu 13 Sept C. Hines, (help Required)
- Fri 14 Sept L. Weckmann, (help required x 2)

- Mon 17 Sept Help Required x 2
- Tue 18 Sept L. Barrett, (help required)
- Wed 19 Sept S. Fisher, T. Grunwald
- Thu 20 Sept A. Mooney, (help required)
- Fri 21 Sept D. Buckley, (help required x 2)

**KILDARE CAMPUS**

- Mon 10 Sept I. Gregson, D. Buckley
- Tue 11 Sept H. VanBerkel, K. Dugan
- Wed 12 Sept R. Crowle, (help required)
- Thu 13 Sept M. Johnson, (help required)
- Fri 14 Sept P. Johnston, (help required)

- Mon 17 Sept K. Manson, D. Berryman
- Tue 18 Sept J. Campbell, (help required)
- Wed 19 Sept S. Bridges, (help required)
- Thu 20 Sept P. Radovich, (help required)
- Fri 21 Sept L. Weckman, (help required)

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