



# NEWSLETTER

## Lavalla Catholic College

29 November 2007

### From the Principal

#### The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. (Mark 1:1)

Here Mark tells us that Jesus is at the centre from birth to death and beyond. He is the Son of God. The message that Christ has come, and Christ will come again is compellingly simple and straightforward and it is what binds us together and reminds us that Jesus is God's good news.

Christmas of course celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, a man whose life and example has given us a value system which remains the greatest force for good in our community. Christmas is a time for families to get together, to see old friends, to think of the good times and the good fortune life has given us. It is also a time to remember all the blessings that fill our lives, beginning with the great blessing that came on a holy night in Bethlehem. For Christians around the world, the birth of Jesus is a central religious event; an example of God's profound love for humanity; and the pathway to hope and to new life.

In properly celebrating Christmas and enjoying that good fortune, we should spare a thought for the lonely in our community, the ones who are grieving the loss of loved ones and those without family and without friends, for whom Christmas can be a particularly hard time. It is also a time to renew our commitment and pledge to the marginalised in our communities and give generously of ourselves. The Christmas story continues to speak to every generation and I wish you all a peaceful, restful and spirit filled Christmas. This year, we have many achievements to celebrate and many blessing for which to give thanks.

#### Christmas Concert in the Park

Despite the 'mossie attacks', many enjoyed our Christmas Concert at Victory Park. The evening was informal, entertaining and family focused. We were also pleased to welcome and announce the winners of the 2008 Music Bursary. These bursaries are awarded to a Grade 6 student from our local Catholic Primary school who have; enrolled at Lavalla Catholic College in 2008; good communication skills; leadership abilities or potential; an ability to commit to music practice.

The winners of the 2008 Music Bursary are:

- |                   |                         |                  |                          |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| • Matilda Lappin  | St Vincent's, Morwell   | • Samantha Mann  | Sacred Heart, Morwell    |
| • Darcy Swagerman | St Kieran's, Moe        | • Elisha Price   | Lumen Christi, Churchill |
| • Liam Corrigan   | St Mary's, Newborough   | • Elizabeth Webb | St Gabriel's, Traralgon  |
| • Madalene Kanara | St Michael's, Traralgon |                  |                          |

We congratulate these students, their parents and their schools and look forward to listening to their musical talents in years to come.

#### Farewells

Although not officially leaving Lavalla Catholic College, we acknowledge the hard work and dedication of **Mr Chris O'Brien** who has proudly lead and passionately cared for the Presentation Campus over many years. He was been a significant leader during the consolidation processes and has been visionary, energetic and committed to ensuring that the campus remained a hub of good learning and a community based on strong Christian values. The communities of Moe and Newborough will miss him and after a well deserved break, Mr O'Brien will join the Kildare Campus.

It is hard to imagine the College without the presence of **Ms Kathy Matters**, **Mrs Josephine Said** and **Mr Rayner Hardjono** who have decided to retire at the end of the year. All three are long standing members of staff who will take with them a good part of our history. Together they make up 76 years of service and commitment to Catholic Education! All three are esteemed members of our community and we sincerely thank them for their significant and worthwhile contribution to the College over the years. We wish them well in their new ventures.

Other members of staff who are not returning in 2008 are **Mrs Mary McNamara**, **Mrs Tina Sonka**, **Ms Liza D'Aloia**, **Mr Peter Collins**, **Dr Antony Joseph**; **Mrs Annie Grogan**, **Ms Tracey Kippen** and **Mrs Samantha Black**. And while we will miss their presence and energy, we wish them every success in their new endeavours.

*I wish you and your families a very safe and blessed Christmas and that the New Year will present us with challenges that we can collectively meet.*

**Ms Erica Pegorer**  
Principal

## Kildare Campus

“If you were a radio, would people want to turn you on or off?” It is a question that I sometimes ask myself when dealing with difficult situations. Is anyone listening and more to the point is the message getting through? As a staff we have spent the year sharing our knowledge, learning with our students and offering them our support and at times cautioning and directing them where needed. As we enter the final days of life on the campus for 2007 I expect that all students will enter into the last classes with determination and use their time effectively so as to maximise their possibilities in their exams.

### Year 12 Graduation Dinner

This fortnight has seen the conclusion of the Year 12 VCE Exams. Our Year 12 2007 students must now rest on their laurels. They have done all that they can do. On Thursday night they will come together one last time for their Graduation Dinner. During this time we will acknowledge a number of achievements and thank our Year 12 students and staff for the learning that took place in 2007. We also farewell those families who are finishing their partnership with us and thank them for their support over the years.

### Year 10 and 11 Exams

Meanwhile our Year 10 and 11 students have commenced the exam process. All students in Year 10 and 11 should take advantage of this opportunity where they can demonstrate what they have learnt throughout the semester. I wish them all well and keep them in my prayers.

### My Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Kildare Community for their support throughout the year. There are many people who work at making our Campus what it is - parents, students, teachers and support staff included. I would particularly like to thank our outgoing co-ordinators who have worked hard this year in supporting our staff and students. Mr Judd (MacKillop House) and Mr Ernie Rijs (Year 12 Student Services) will be taking on new roles within the College. Ms Wakefield (Nagle House) and Ms Renehan (Delany House) are finishing their terms as Coordinators and Ms D'Aloia (Nagle House) will be leaving us to be closer to her family. I thank them for their support of me this year and wish them well.

**News At Hand:** Congratulations to **Dan McKenna** (Year 12) for being selected through the AFL Draft to play for Geelong.

On behalf of the Kildare Campus, I wish you all every blessing for this Christmas season.

*Mr Marco Di Cesare*  
*Campus Director*

### **Riggall's, Traralgon**

would like to thank the school communities for their support in purchasing school uniforms from its store.

To show our appreciation we are offering parents of students attending

**St. Gabriel's/St. Michael's Primary Schools  
and Lavalla Catholic College**

the chance to **win \$100.00 cash back** in a lucky draw. When purchasing a school uniform, parents will be entered into the competition which will be drawn on January 18, 2008.

## Presentation Campus

### Year 9 Camp

On 14-16 November, 27 - Year 9 students attended BayPlay camp at Blairgowrie on the Mornington Peninsula. It was great to see such camaraderie and friendship between all the students. The students participated in numerous activities such as horse riding and surfing, with visits to Sorrento and Point Nepean also on the agenda. Whenever there was down time the students were always ready for a friendly match of soccer or cricket.

Thanks to Peter Flahavin, Peter Schneider and Adriana Bianconi for their help on camp and a big thanks to Nikki Heenan and Marie-Therese Scholtes for their phenomenal organisational skills and for the companionship they offered our students.

### Sex Education

Over the last two weeks, Sue Collis has again graced the school with her presence for sex education for both the Year 7 and Year 9 classes. Her straightforwardness and ease helped the students in what can otherwise be an awkward situation. We thank her for her time and her services.

### Student Achievements

Once again, students of the Presentation Campus are showing their various gifts and talents. Two students in particular deserve congratulating.

**Sherrie Hibbs.** Sherrie is normally mentioned for her tremendous athletic ability, but yet another of her talents has shone through in recent weeks. Sherrie won the Arthur Savage Award at the Tyers Art Festival. This award, in its first year, was open to secondary students with the entered art work to show the subject of 'self image'. The award was bestowed to Sherrie for her drawing entitled 'Little Me', a self portrait drawn from a photo. We congratulate Sherrie for her fantastic effort and wish her luck for any future artistic endeavours.

**Sam Amaira.** Sam has recently been chosen to be part of the school's soccer team, which will travel to Mexico next year. Sam has shown his ability to play the round ball sport throughout the year, playing reserves soccer for Monash whilst only in Year 9. We congratulate Sam for his determination and effort and hope he makes the best of this marvellous opportunity.

### Gippsland Representatives

Congratulations to Sean Spiteri and Tyler Forte who have been selected to represent Gippsland in the State under 14 Cricket Championships. Both boys play with the Moe Cricket Club and have been attending selection trials since early September.

It is with some sadness that I bid farewell to the Presentation Campus as its Director. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time and give thanks for the fine community and its many families and students. I wish to thank teachers, parents, students and Parish Priests for your support and wish Leanne Mills every success in her new role as Campus Director.

Yours in the spirit of strong minds and compassionate hearts  
and wishing you a very merry christmas.

*Mr Chris O'Brien*  
*Campus Director*

## St Paul's Campus

"I can't believe how fast this year has gone," said Gemma Wilson, one of the Campus Leaders, last week. And she is right. The whole year has whizzed past like a roller coaster and we are now coming to the end of the annual journey.

It has been an unforgettable year; learning activities, excursions, the hard slog in the classrooms, sport, music, drama, fund raising, friends, parties, growing up. Staff and students have measured up to the challenges the year has brought exceedingly well. My gratitude and congratulations to all staff and students.

In particular, I wish to record my appreciation of the Year 9 students. They have been an extremely good group, always lively, full of enthusiasm and easy to deal with. They have enriched campus life by their initiative and involvement in a diverse range of activities. I wish them the very best in their next stage of learning and growing.

Finally, we are looking ahead to Christmas. The birth of Christ, the Saviour is the ideal festival for the family because children are at the very heart of our world. I am always amazed by how children open up a world of immense possibilities to us, how they add value to our lives, how our world revolves around our children and how they change our world for the better. So this Christmas, together with our religious worship let us take the time to reflect and demonstrate to our children how much they actually mean to us and how necessary they are to our well being.

### Campus Leaders 2008

The elections for Campus Leaders 2008 was conducted on Friday 23rd November. This was the culmination of a process that included nominations, interviews and speaking to the whole campus at assembly. We congratulate Bryce Hill, Josh Hanrahan, Sarah O'Dowd and Emily Murphy on being elected Campus Leaders for 2008.

### Year 7 - 8 Orientation

All students will be involved in a short review of the 2007 year as well as a taster programme of topics and skills they will encounter in Year 8. For example, students will make models of machines with Lego, build a medieval boat, create tessellations using ICT for math and PE activities. The aim is to enthuse students about the year to come.

I wish each and every one a Merry and enriching Christmas, a Happy New Year and a very restful holiday.

*Mr Chris Roga*  
Campus Director

### Bishop Coffey Farewell from the Valley Region

The Parishes of the Valley Region invite all parishioners to a farewell liturgy and afternoon tea in honour of Bishop Jeremiah Coffey. It will be an opportunity to give thanks for his 18 years of wise and caring pastoral leadership of our Diocese.

**Date:** 3.00 pm on Sunday 16th December 2007

**Venue:** St Michael's Catholic Church, cnr Church and Kay Sts, Traralgon.

**Format:** Liturgy of the Word in the church, followed by afternoon tea in St Michael's Hall.

## 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 you must on the first day of 1st Term (29 January 2008) for the first instalment and on the first day of 3rd Term (14 July 2008) for the second instalment:

- (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 the school by the date/s listed below.

### Submission dates

The application form must be lodged at the school by:

29 February 2008 for the first instalment or  
1 August 2008 for the second 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 rates - 2008

1st instalment	\$301
2nd instalment	\$129
Total payment:	\$430.00

## SECONDHAND BOOKSALES

Years 7 to 12  
St Paul's and Kildare  
2008 students

Monday 12 December

OPEN from  
10.00am - 6.00pm

## INTO LIFE

(Year 5 & up) St Michael's Youth Group, Traralgon

### Christmas Break-up

When: Friday 7 December

Meet at St Michael's Hall - 7.00pm - 9.00pm

Cost: Bring a \$2 KK gift

Contact: Lou 5175 0877 for info.

## LIFE TEEN

(Years 9-12) St Michael's Youth Group, Traralgon

### Joy to the World

When: Sunday 9 December

Meet straight after 6pm Mass, Dinner provided.

7pm-9pm at Parish Centre. All Welcome

Contact: Ben 0439 371 148

## NIGHT TIME UNIFORM SHOP

A night time uniform shop  
will be available  
Tuesday 4 December -  
6.30pm - 8.00pm

## Saver Plus Program

Save up to \$1,000 for Education

- Are you 18 or over?
- Want to save for your own and/or your child's education?
- Have a Healthcare Card or Pension Card?
- Receive income from paid work?

Then YOU may be eligible to receive \$1 for every \$1 you save to put towards books, camps, computer, uniforms etc.

Give Kerry Bennett a call at

Berry Street Victoria on Ph: 5134 5971

## 2008 Term Dates

Term 1 31 January - 20 March

Term 2 7 April - 27 June

Term 3 15 July - 19 September

Term 4 6 October - 5 December

## Forthcoming Events

### TERM 4

#### DECEMBER

- 3 Dec Awards Ceremony (*Champagnat Centre @ 7.00pm*)  
**Curriculum Writing Day** (*Student Free Day*)
- 4 Dec Year 9 into 10 Orientation Day  
Grade 6 into Year 7 Orientation Day
- 4-6 Dec Boys in Education Camp [K]
- 5 Dec Year 9 Graduation Night [P]
- 6 Dec Year 9 Graduation Night [SP]
- 6 Dec Year 9 & 10 Last Day
- 7 Dec Year 7 & 8 Last Day
- 12 Dec Reports Distributed
- 18 Dec Administration Officially Closes

### 2008 TERM 1

#### JANUARY

- 21 Jan Administration Officially Opens
- 31 Jan Years 7, 10 and 12 return

#### FEBRUARY

- 1 Feb All Students Return

## CANTEEN ROSTER

### ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

- Mon 3 Dec M. Nocera, L. Calabrese
- Tue 4 Dec S. Garrett, T. Pledge
- Wed 5 Dec S. Fisher, T. Grunwald
- Thu 6 Dec A. Mooney, (help required)
- Fri 7 Dec D. Buckley, C. Bruzzese (help required)

## Journey of the Cross and Icon Volunteer Positions Available

The Diocese of Sale is currently recruiting young adults to act as volunteer Journey of the Cross and Icon (JCI) ambassadors during the pilgrimage of the WYD Cross and Icon in our diocese. JCI ambassadors will travel with and witness the JCI pilgrimage throughout the Diocese of Sale, 18-24 April, 2008. Anyone interested in applying to join the JCI ambassador team should visit <http://www.sale.catholic.org.au/WYD08/JCI/> for more information.

## Open Your Home to International Pilgrims and Receive the Gift of WYD08

The Diocese of Sale is expecting over 1000 international WYD08 pilgrims to visit us for Days in the Diocese in July 2008. If you and your family are willing to open your hearts and homes to the youth of the world we would like to hear from you. For more information on becoming a home-stay provider please visit [www.sale.catholic.org.au/wyd08/daysindioceses/](http://www.sale.catholic.org.au/wyd08/daysindioceses/) or contact Diocesan WYD Events Coordinator, Jess Denehy on 03 5126 1063.

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