



this issue

FROM THE PRINCIPAL	P.1 –P.2
MUSIC REPORT	P.2
CAMPUS REPORTS	P.3- P.4
IMPORTANT DATES	P.3
CAREERS	P.5
SPORTS	P.6

From the Principal, Mr John Freeman

We marked the beginning of the Church's season of Lent with an Ash Wednesday Liturgy at both the St Paul's and Kildare Campuses this week. During the liturgies we had both students and staff anointing the foreheads of all present with ash, making the sign of the Cross and pronouncing the words: "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel". Our "ashed" foreheads remind us that we are called, in a special way in this time of preparation for Easter, to repentance and conversion. We are encouraged, during Lent, to make special efforts to be selfless and self-giving, generous to others and prayerful. Lent is a time to be especially mindful of God's love for us as we recall the self-giving of Jesus, which culminated in his death and resurrection – which we commemorate and celebrate at Easter.

The liturgy, which was prepared by our College Minister, Mr Paul Skippen, highlighted our need during this time to be mindful of others who are struggling, particular the poor, repressed and refugees. Accordingly, in order to assist us in practical ways to show solidarity with our brothers and sisters who strive for a better life, a student from each homeroom came forward and obtained a Project Compassion Box to collect money that will go to Caritas Australia which is a Catholic Agency that works towards creating a just world. More details about Project Compassion can be found at <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion> and you will also find links on that page about this very worthwhile and effective charity.

After the Kildare campus Liturgy the results of the Kildare Student Leadership election were announced by Mr Doug Doherty, Campus Director. The elections which were overseen by officials from the Australian Electoral Commission and every student and member of staff had the opportunity to vote for students standing for the positions available.

Congratulations to the following students on their success:

Cross Age Tutor Leader - **Tom Irvine**
Campus Mentor Leader - **Lauren Van Dyke**
Environment Leader - **Jordan Aquilina**
Cultural Events Leader - **Joseph McCormick**
Community Cohesion Leader - **Quinn Scott**
Liturgy Leader - **Annelise Answerth**
Justice Leader - **Mikaela Tarraran**
Events Leader - **Taryn Clarke**

I would also like to express my thanks and appreciation to all staff and students for their participation in the recent swimming carnivals which saw Champagnat House take out the Junior Carnival and MacKillop House being successful in the Senior Carnival. On behalf of all involved I want acknowledge the hard work and wonderful organisation of Mrs Nikki Schroeter and Mr Dwayne Tibballs for two great days of competition. No doubt there many outstanding achievements on each day, but what was most pleasing was the level of participation and enjoyment of all. These events help to build stronger levels of teamwork and connection for all in the community. More details about the carnivals can be found in the Sports Report.

Whilst on the topic of the sport of swimming it was great to see the efforts of swimming squad at the recent School Sport Victoria (SSV) - Wellington Division 2014 Swimming Championships. Lavalla Catholic College took out the Championship by over 300 points to second place Catholic College Sale. Thanks again to Nikki and Dwayne for their work organising the team and the day and also the other staff who assisted: Mrs Fiona Morrow, Mr Steve Erdely, Mr Ross Sizeland, Mrs Kim Gee and Mrs Belinda Plunkett. I wish all students and staff involved in the upcoming SSV Gippsland Championships being held in Sale next week the best of success.

Loving God,

*Each day as I step further
into my future,*

*Give me the courage,
knowledge and
patience that I need.*

*Remind me that you
always journey with me
and that you will never
lead me into anything
that you won't lead me
through.*

*Thank you for the gift of
my life.*

*May the way I live be my
gift back to you -
with your love and
guidance*

In Jesus' name

Amen

Principal's Report continued..

Also well worth noting was that Mr Brett Van Berkel was last night rightly recognised by the Australian College of Educators, Gippsland Region, with an award for his great work providing career and alternative development pathways which encourage the educational engagement and attainment of young people.



Last night I attended the first of a series of opportunities during Lent for all in our community to gather and engage in an evening of scripture, prayer, music, story and song which was led by Mr Paul Skippen and Mr Chris Roga. We had a number of people attend from both the school and local parishes. The next opportunity will be on Thursday, 20 March at 7.30pm in the ISC on St Paul's Campus. I encourage you attend what is a very prayerful and rewarding experience.

Welcome to new staff member, Mr Nicholas Cleef, who has commenced employment as an ICT Support Officer in the Information Services Centre (ISC) team.

Finally I commend to your prayers Mrs Yvonne Platt mother of Sinea Mc Cullagh (Year 11) and Riley Mc Cullagh (Year 9) who is currently very ill.

Second-hand Uniform Shop Opening Times

Thursday 20 March, 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Thursday 3 April, 3.30pm - 8.00pm

The second-hand uniform shop is located on St Paul's Campus

Music Department Update

The Music Department has been busy at the St Paul's Campus of late. The Year 7 students have seen a number of great performances from our Music students. This all started off with a few students doing some Instrument demonstrations with Mr Shane Lebbe. **Georgia Quinn** (Saxophone), **Tobias Duffy** (Trumpet), **Zara-Louise Ernst** (Flute), **William Georgeson** (Trombone) and **Judd Neilson** (Clarinet), demonstrated their Instruments to small, rotating groups of Year 7 students – many of whom were greatly interested in playing and have signed up for Training Band.

The Senior Wind Ensemble came over to St Paul's and performed some popular music for the students. The students heard the theme from the "Simpsons", the theme from "Family Guy" and a medley of songs from "Shrek". There was fun, singing and even a few brave dancers as our youngest students witnessed just what can be accomplished by students at Lavalla.

Following this our Senior Jazz ensemble had an open rehearsal in the Year 7 Centre one morning. They are gearing up to go to Mt Gambier 'Generations in Jazz' Festival and gave our Year 7's an insight into how good playing in these groups can be. Music filled the school grounds and students from all levels were drifting in and out to see what was happening. It's always a great day when you start it with music.

Coming up on the 17-19 March is our Intermediate Band Camp at Rawson Village. With a busy musical year ahead for our intermediate students, they are all excited about Camp, anticipate just how good that we can sound.

There are, of course, plenty of positions still available for our Year 7 students to play an Instrument. Students should talk to Mr Lebbe or Mr Harris and they can guide them towards the best instrument choice. If parents need information about the Music program, they should feel free to contact Ms Maria Testa on 5174 7355.

2014 MUSIC DEPARTMENT - ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Senior Concert Band <i>Mr. Harris</i> Kildare Music Centre	Senior Choir <i>Mr. Reid</i> Kildare Music Centre	Intermediate Concert Band <i>Mr. Harris</i> St. Paul's Campus	Senior Jazz Ensemble <i>Mr. Reid</i> Kildare Music Centre	Senior Concert Band <i>Mr. Harris</i> Kildare Music Centre
	Junior Choir <i>Mr. Lebbe</i> St. Paul's Campus		Training Band <i>Mr. Lebbe</i> St. Paul's Campus	Junior Jazz Ensemble <i>Mr. Reid</i> St. Paul's Campus

All rehearsals will run from 7.40 - 8.45am unless otherwise indicated by the ensemble director.



St Paul's Campus Update

Mr Andrew Martin, Campus Director

As we complete another busy fortnight of activity, and celebrate the beginning of the Lenten season at St Paul's I can report the following:

On Tuesday, St Paul's students and staff prepared pancakes for our cohort to purchase in support of our first efforts to raise funds for Caritas and works that 'Project Compassion' donations support to end poverty, promote justice and uphold human dignity around the world. On Wednesday, we conducted our Ash Wednesday liturgy with all members of the Campus staff and students present. The service, designed by Mr Paul Skippen, our new youth minister, drew upon some powerful symbolism to highlight the plight of those less fortunate in the world.

Student Leadership within the College is developed from year seven and I note that our Campus leaders and young Marists have been actively engaged in support of all our functions to date. Today, our Campus Leaders are in Melbourne in the care of Ms Joanne Alford, to participate in the GRIP Leadership Conference with hundreds of other Victorian student leaders.

Curriculum initiatives underway have involved our Year 9 students looking at behavioural activity on Melbourne Zoo trips and preparation for Year 8 Medieval day activities and their upcoming camp. As well, our year seven students were entertained and inspired last week by the Mathematics Road-show.

Sports results have been most favourable in the opening stanza of the year's competition. In swimming results at our St Paul's Campus, Champagnat House narrowly defeated McKillop to take the honours. Age Champions included Audrey Lee and Jye Da Ros at under 13 level; Lily Zee-Verner and Harrison Law at under 14 and Penelope Georgeson and Hayden Willaton in the under 15 category. At the SSV meet Harrison Law, Jye Da Ros and Bridie O'Keefe were stand out performers. Congratulations to those students and all who have participated on behalf of the College.

A note also that you will be receiving a letter in respect of College uniform requirements early next week as there has been some changes from the previous expectation. Queries regarding any changes can be directed to homeroom staff.

My Best for a mild and peaceful Lenten week to come

Important Dates

- 10 March** - Labour Day Public Holiday
- 11 March** - Zoo Youth Leadership Program
- 11 March** - *Keys Please* Driver Education Year 10
- 11 March** - Year 11 Study Skills Session
- 11 March** - Jayco Factory Excursion VCE
- 12 March** - VCE Legal Studies Excursion
- 12 March** - Year 12 Study Skills Session
- 12 March** - SSV Gippsland Swimming Comp.
- 13 March** - Commissioning Mass
- 14 March** - Zoo Youth Leadership Program
- 14 March** - Coonawarra Excursion VCAL & Year 10
- 14 March** - Year 12 Careers Session
- 17-19 March** - Intermediate Band Camp
- 17 March** - Delany House Day
- 19 March** - Champagnat House Day
- 19 March** - Surf Awareness Excursion
- 20 March** - Canoe Skills Excursion VCE
- 21 March** - Year 8 Medieval Day

2015 Year 7 Enrolments

Parents of current Lavalla students who wish to enrol a child in Year 7 in 2015 are asked to contact the Enrolments Registrar, Mrs Beverley O'Brien before Monday March 31, 2014.

Phone: (03) 5174 7355

Email: registrar@lavalla.vic.edu.au



Kildare Campus Update

Mr Douglas Doherty, Campus Director

Success fever has engulfed Kildare Campus.

Students are preparing rigorously for their first 6 weekly assessments as well as SACs and portfolio inspections. A fresh feeling of challenge and desire to perform is sweeping amongst many students and staff. Parents please ensure you are attending the Parent Information Evening / Campus Open Evening on the 3rd April and LA meetings beginning the 17th March. These valuable events are compulsory which also help you track the progress and hopefully success of your child on a regular basis.

Alongside this academic preparation is the consistent promotion of the preparation needed for the celebration of Easter. This journey of discovery of faith began with one of the most moving Ash Wednesday services that I have ever experienced. Every member of our school community created a prayer that was placed in a model of a refuge detention centre. We all experienced through live music, story, prayer and the Gospel how lucky we are to live in such a prosperous country. We also learned how important it is to also 'Love one another'. A great challenge was set for all.

This Lenten journey will cumulate with a special religious assembly, led by the RE team and Annelise Answerth - Student Leader for Liturgy.

Success was also in the forefront of everyone's minds on 3rd March – The Kildare Swimming Carnival. It was a great day, with our highest number of participants and attendance for several years. This shows the value our young people place on being a community and developing the social skills and abilities to support one another, even in competition. When I first came to Lavalla last year, I was placed in Delany House and told that I should get used to not winning in the sporting events. However, this is certainly not the case! Delany rose from 4th place to a very strong 2nd. Well done to all students and staff from all Houses.

As part of our journey to help our students on their Pathway to Success, the Careers Advisory Team have begun discussing Year 10 Work Experience and pathways. Also, 14th March will also see Year 12 being targeted with the theme – "What to expect as school life ends."

Again, the school community is determined to ensure all students have the opportunity to achieve success by giving extra training on memory, effective reading and virtual thinking skills. This will take the form of whole day work-shops being led by Chris Lyons – Australian Memory Record Breaker. The program will be directed at all Year 11 students on 11th March and Year 12 students on 12th March. Any students that attend TAFE on a Wednesday will be expected to attend the course on 11th March. This course will hopefully give students the skills and confidence to succeed in the examinations they will face.

Success was also evidenced with the election of our student leaders. There was 42 applicants for 8 places. The election was led by and overseen by the Australian Electoral Commission and has been reported on by WIN News, the Express and The Australian Independent Media Network. All of these visitors commented on the excellent behaviour, involvement and enthusiasm of our students.

"I was pleasantly surprised with their depth of insight into policy and current events. They were indeed informed, bright, well-mannered, articulate and educated." John Lord

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all applicants – it takes courage to nominate oneself. Each of the unsuccessful candidates has had an achievement note placed in their files to support the creation of their school references.

The successful candidates will be an excellent tea, and they are listed in the Principal's Report on page 1. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Brett Van Berkel on achieving an award from the Australian College of Educators as nominated by the CEO for pathway development in alternative education.

Success is shared by all at Lavalla Catholic College.

God Bless



Students participating in the Ash Wednesday Liturgy at Kildare

Career Counsellors Update

Mrs Prudence Scholtes

Ms Nicole Sizeland

At 16 your child announces with full conviction they want to be a rock star, or a lawyer, a doctor, a miner, a sales assistant, a plumber, a politician. Or as they enter Year 12 they tell you they still have no idea what to do the next year.

How do you react? What are your thoughts?

Understandably, often the first suggestion is to make an appointment with the Careers Counsellor.

This year Ms Nicole Sizeland and Mrs Prudence Scholtes will be stepping into this role. They will be working with students from Years 7 to 12. Ms Sizeland will usually be at Kildare on a Tuesday and Thursday and will focus on Years 10, VET and half of the Year 11's. She will work with Years 7-9 on a Wednesday at St. Pauls Campus. Mrs Scholtes will focus on Year 12's and the other half of the Year 11 cohort and will be available at Kildare one to two periods each day.

We live in a world that is growing in complexity day by day. The world our students will encounter and engage with will be full of constant change brought about by technology, globalisation, political, environmental factors as well personal situations. Over their lifetime they will be obliged to change the way they work, to revisit their own beliefs and values in order to either lead the changes they encounter or evaluate what skills and knowledge they have that are transferable to keep up with the world as it changes at a pace many of us thought unimaginable 30 years ago.

Therefore, careers counselling can no longer be just about making plans for a particular choice post school, because career development is a continuous process and change doesn't happen in a straight line.

Spending time with the careers counsellor or coach can no longer be a 'here's what you need to do, off you go' experience. This term and early next term we will be making appointments for all the Year 12's and Year 10's to come and discuss where they are at in terms of planning for the future. We will begin working with Year 11's mid term 2. Many students will need to come back a couple of times. Our aim is for students to develop creativity and imagination to be able to create opportunities for themselves over a lifetime, and to develop the skills to explore the implications of their choices and to take action in light of these implications.

Research has shown that by engaging with students in this way, rather than just 'pouring in occupational awareness' they become more self confident to personally collect occupational information and explore a greater variety of possibilities and pathways that are meaningful to them.

To begin the process, students at Kildare are being asked through the LA program to complete an activity called 'Circle of Influence'. The aim of this task is being to increase students thinking regarding influences on their career development. We

will use this activity in their initial careers interview to help students explore how themes and patterns can influence career decision making; expecting the unexpected in life and how to react positively to such events and influences before looking at what constitutes their ideal vocation.

Understandably, at this stage of their lives, they will have been influenced by friends, the media, and social stereotypes but most importantly by their parents.

We encourage you to take this time to reflect on your own journey since leaving school and discuss your experiences with your child. Are you doing what you thought you would do? What changes have occurred, why did they occur? What might you have done differently? What do you value and how have those values influenced decisions you have made?

Sharing your work journey and encouraging your friends and family to share theirs with your child may just help them to think 'outside the box', to see there are many pathways to a goal, goals can change and that doesn't mean it's a bad thing. This sort of discussion can be very beneficial especially for those students who are either determined they have only one career in mind or are feeling totally lost as to they want to do. Together we hope to give students the skills to be both resilient and resourceful in a rapidly changing world.

We encourage you to regularly read the Careers Newsletters that are published to the students fortnightly. You will find them on the Careers Page of the College website. [Click here to view the page](#) – they list important dates and opportunities for further study and work opportunities etc. You will find all the Open Days and important VTAC information published in that publication as they become available to us.

The most important information in the latest newsletter is a list of all the important websites that students can use to explore the world of work, everything from the jobs most in demand at the moment, personality trait and job matching activities to TAFE pathways.

This Friday Ms Sizeland met with all the Year 10 students to begin discussing the Work Experience Program so it's an opportune time to start conversations about the future with your child.

We look forward to working with your child as they begin navigating the exciting world that awaits them.

**Winter Uniform
One Day Sale - 10% Off**

**Riggall's Traralgon
Tuesday 25 March**

Lay by is available
Late blazer orders will be available

Lavalla Students enjoy Basketball success

Four Lavalla Catholic College students have enjoyed ultimate success in the field of basketball after their representative team from the Traralgon Amateur Basketball Association claimed the Basketball Victoria Country Junior Championships title.

Year 11 students **Blake Ward, Lachlan Ware, Ben Barlow** and Year 9 student **Brad Royal** were members of Traralgon T-Birds U18 winning team that also included Australian junior representative Jack White in a line-up that was coached by former Lavalla student, Laura Pickering.



The Traralgon team were going up against the powerful country associations such as Bendigo, Geelong, Ballarat and Shepparton while other opposition from around country Victoria were Corio Bay, Mt. Gambier, Warragul, Warrnambool, Wangaratta, Mildura, Wodonga, Echuca and Portland.

The Traralgon team remained undefeated throughout the Championships to become the number 1 country basketball team in the state. A marvellous team achievement and one that they can all be very proud of!

Volleyball - Gippsland Sports Academy

Congratulations to the following students selected in the *SP AusNet Gippsland Sports Academy Volleyball Program Over 15 Squad*: **Samantha Rossiter, Bronte Scott, Alice Shaw and Patrick Quinn**

As members of the squad they are required to compete in the Over 15 Volleyball Tournament in Warrnambool from the 8th – 10th March, we wish them well.



Swimming Carnivals

After one carnival postponement, Lavalla Catholic College has again enjoyed excellent swimming carnivals from both the St. Paul's Campus and Kildare Campus with Champagnat and Kildare celebrating the spoils of success at their respective carnivals.

The junior campus staged their carnival on Tuesday, February 25th and it was Champagnat who returned to claim the campus shield by fending off a strong and competitive challenge from both Mackillop and Nagle.

The aggregate points were much higher than last year which indicated a greater participation from all concerned which was an encouraging sign.

House Placings

PLACE	HOUSE	POINTS
1st	Champagnat	2,829
2nd	MacKillop	2,642
3rd	Nagle	2,380
4th	Delany	1,888

Age Group Champions

	Female	Male
13 Year	Audrey Lee	Jye Da Ros
14 Year	Lily Zee-Verner	Harrison Law
15 Year	Penelope Georgeson	Hayden Willaton
16 Year	Erin Roberts	Jack Law
17 Year	Maggie O'Keefe	Michael Buckley
18 Year	Stephanie McDonald	Sam Roberts

Kildare's swimming carnival was claimed by Mackillop, who captured back-to-back Intra-school titles with a solid effort against strong competition from Delany and Champagnat. The aggregate points tally change lead numerous times throughout the day and with Delany attempting to offset Mackillop's campaign through strong encouragement from Mr Doherty and Mr Wald, most events were keenly contested. However, it was Mackillop's day to savour.

Thank you to all staff from both campuses who helped make each carnival a greater success with better participation than previous years. A final thank you to all students who made the two carnivals what they were!