



AWAKEN
MARISTS 200+

From the Principal



Mr John M Freeman

Welcome back to 2017 and to all our new families welcome to Lavalla Catholic College.

We commenced our year by joining with the staff of the majority of the Catholic Primary Schools in the area for a Mass celebrated by Bishop O'Regan at St Michael's Parish, Traralgon. This the second year we have started our year celebrating the Eucharist. Ms Debra Punton the Deputy Director of Catholic Education for the Sale Diocese, also addressed us.

The Marist Way

God, our Creator,
Today we become aware
of your presence,
conscious that our
mission in this world is
Your mission.

May we, like Mary,
listen to your voice and
ponder in our hearts
the events and
experiences of our lives.

May we have the courage
to do what you ask of us
today,
For the good of our sisters
and brothers, to whom
we minister.

Amen

*"Wake up the world! Be
witnesses of a different way
of doing things, of acting,
of living!" (Pope Francis)*

The key driver of this opportunity to gather as a community of educators was Fr Bernard Buckley. Unfortunately for all us Fr Bernard was not in attendance as he is now the Parish Priest at St Patrick's, Pakenham. We wish Bernard all the best for the future and thank him for his great support of Lavalla Catholic College.

We congratulate our Year 12s from last year on their results. The median score was 28, and the number of students receiving a study score of 40 or better was at 3.0%. Our dux in 2016 was Erin Roberts.

In the middle of January we received information from VTAC that 93% of the students who applied for tertiary positions have received first round offers. We already know that a number have successfully attained positions into courses, or have gained employment or apprenticeships.

Further to the achievements above we congratulate Lachlan Marshall who will have his work exhibited in this year's Top Designs exhibition as part of the VCE Season of Excellence 2017. This is for his work in Systems Engineering. Well done also to Dan Caffrey who was Lachlan teacher.

Needless to say, but I will for the record, we are proud of all our 2016 Year 12 Graduates for their contributions to the College and wish them well in the next phase of their lives. This success is in no small way due to the work of all staff and the support of their families throughout our students' time at the College. Thank you to everyone.

We welcome the following staff to the school:

Meaghan Ambrose	House Leader, English & Literature
Kirsty Bettridge	Accounts Payable
Theresa Dixon	ATLAS9 Team, Science
Dale Duncan	Visual Communications & Design
Darren Flenley	Bus Driver
Megan Marks	Counsellor- Kildare Campus
Angela McCann	Mathematics, Science



Tenielle Talbot	ATLAS9 Team, Health & Physical Education
Jannet Taylor	Teacher Librarian, VCAL Literacy, Religious Education
Vashon Weaver	House Leader, Health & Physical Education, Religious Education
Sarah Wilhelme	Kildare Reception
Emma Winton	English
Doug Wright	Director of Digital Technologies & E-Learning, Mathematics, Information Communication & Technology
Julian Zhu	Mathematics, Information Communication & Technology

Congratulations to Belinda Gathercole and her husband Jarrod on the birth of their son, Finn.

I remind you all that you are very welcome to attend the Commissioning Mass next Thursday, 16 February in the Champagnat Centre at 9.30am.

Later that afternoon we will hold a Welcome Evening commencing at 4.30pm until 6.30pm. This year we are conducting this as a whole school and will gather at the Kildare campus. You are all welcome to attend and enjoy something light to eat and meet the staff and learn more about what your daughters and sons will be undertaking in 2017. I look forward to seeing you there.

Last year I brought to your attention information regarding the bushfire season. This is an important matter, so once again you will find included in this newsletter the notice to all families regarding our Bushfire Procedures. This summer season is developing as one where the threat of fire is high and I urge all families to consider both their own personal bushfire plans as well as related issues that might impact on your family if a fire threat occurs during school time.

I have been asked to bring this to the attention of this community a letter from Bishop Patrick O'Regan in relation to 'The Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse.' It is attached to this newsletter.

Whilst I am know many of us had an enjoyable break, there are number of people in our community who been ill or passed away. Accordingly can I ask you to pray for:

Chloe Bulmer who finished here in 2014 is very ill and has had to go to the United States for treatment. Chloe's mother, Kelly, is a member of staff, her brother Mitchell (Year 12) and her father, Rob, would welcome your prayers.

Our Condolences to:

The family of Mr Leonard Couling. Leonard is Claire Fabris' grandfather.

The family of Mr Kevin McNelis. Kevin is the father of Declan McNelis (Year 9).

The family of Mr Karl Mohr. Karl is Birgit Sim's cousin.

The family of Mr Angelo Lissa, Angelo is the grandfather of Sam (Year 8), Ben (Year 10) and Josh (Year 12) Lissa. He is also Jason Szkwarek's wife, Sonia's uncle.

The family of Mrs May Flanagan. Mary is grandmother of Neil Flanagan (Year 12).

The family of Mrs Kerri Williams. Kerri is sister-in-law to Rod and Lisa Williams.

The family of Mrs Vivian Del Din-Haupt. Vivian taught in primary schools from 1975 to 1989 and then joined Presentation College in 1990 and the taught at our St. Paul's Campus from 2002 to 2011. Vivian held a number of leadership positions during her time at both Presentation and Lavalla Catholic Colleges. Her teaching fields included, Religious Education, English and Humanities. For those of our community that knew her, they saw a dedicated teacher who cared for all her students.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



New Leadership Structure

After a review in 2015 of the College's Leadership structure it was determined that whilst existing arrangements worked well, there were opportunities for improvement. Accordingly based on the review and then the work of the College's Consultative Committee during the first part of 2016 we established a new and expanded range of Positions of Leadership.

The changes were instituted primarily for four reasons. The first was to ensure that we had senior positions in the school that have a clear focus on our strategic goals: Catholic Identity; Learning and Teaching; Staff Development and Leadership; Student Wellbeing; and Growth. The second reason was that over time the school has grown and some positions had expanded and were larger than one person could reasonably do at a level that they expected of themselves and the growing needs of the school. The third reason was that we have introduced a number of new programs and these had now developed to a point where they required specific leadership and accountability. The fourth and in many ways the critical reason centred on the need to create new opportunities for staff growth and development. This new structure has more positions with more specific ambits. We have a very talented group of staff at Lavalla Catholic College and this new structure provides opportunity for all to make formal and informal contributions to improving the learning and wellbeing outcomes for the young people in our care.

I congratulate all appointees and they are listed below:

Deputy Principal- Student Wellbeing & Operations	Doug Doherty
Deputy Principal- Staff, Staff Development & Community	Lee McKenzie
Director Learning and Teaching- Pathways	Brett Van Berkel
Director of Learning and Teaching- 7 to 10	Claire Fabris
Director of Mission and Ministry	Chris Roga
Director of Digital Technologies and E-Learning	Doug Wright
Head of Information Service Centres	Pam Goodall
Director College Timetabling and Assistant Staffing (Kildare)	Jenny Sutton
Operations and Wellbeing Leader- Kildare Campus	Tamsin McCormack
Operations and Wellbeing Leader- St Paul's Campus	Kelly Murray
Daily Organiser/Assistant Timetabler/Events Logistics	Jade Whitehead
Senior Learning Programs Co-ordinator	Jeananne Brown
Retreats & Faith Development Programs Coordinator	Monica Justin
Remar, Youth Ministry and Social Justice Animator	Alex Rathbone
Wellbeing Leader Year 7	Roma Valentine
Wellbeing Leader Year 7	Tina Weston
Wellbeing Leader Year 8	Jo-Maree Sharman
Wellbeing Leader Year 8	Stephanie Sola
Wellbeing Leader Year 9	Kristiaan Vallak
Wellbeing Leader Year 9	Candice Ford
House Leader Champaganat	Pierina Fenech
House Leader Delany	Vashon Weaver
House Leader Mackillop	Meaghan Ambrose
House Leader Nagle	Matthew Buckland
Atlas 9 Leader/Coach	Michael McKenna



New Leadership Structure

Enhancement Coordinator	Gloria Zahra
VCAL Leader/Coach	Jason Szkwarek
Literacy Leader/Coach	Kim Widrich
Religious Education Leader/Coach	Shane Reid
Mathematics Leader/Coach	Deborah Murrell
Maths Pathways Coordinator	Jenny Sutton
English Leader/Coach	Lisa Templeton
Science Leader/Coach	Lisa Williams
LOTE Leader/Coach	Raffaella Cataldo
Health & Physical Education Leader/Coach	Fiona Morrow
Humanities Leader/Coach	Kim Widrich
Arts (Incl Drama) Leader/Coach	Elisabeth Scott
Technology Leader/Coach	Alice Nelson
Trade Skills Centre Manager	Jason Szkwarek
Director of Music & Liturgical Music	Shane Reid
Career and Tertiary Advisor	Prudence Scholtes
Inclusive Learning Co-ordinator	Adriana Bianconi
English as an Additional Language and Diversity Co-ordinator	John De Souza
Community Liaison	John De Souza
College Staff Mentor	Annemarie Clarke
Cultural Coordinator	Shane Lebbe
Sports Enrichment Coordinator	Karen Joyce

Camps, Sport & Excursions Fund (CSEF)

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps & sporting activities. Please see attached flyer and Application for further details.

Completed application form to be returned to the **Finance Officer, Lavalla Catholic College, PO Box 1080, Traralgon 3844**, by no later than **Tuesday 28th February 2017**.

About CSEF

- Families holding a valid means-tested concession card are eligible to apply. A special consideration category also exists.
- A payment of \$125 for eligible primary school students and \$225 for eligible secondary school students will be paid directly to the school to be used towards camps, sports and excursion costs for the benefit of the student.
- The CSEF helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities.
- This initiative is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.
- For more information about the CSEF program, visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef or phone the CSEF Helpdesk on 1800 060 970.



Mission & Ministry News



Mr Chris Roga
Dir. Faith & Ministry

On 2nd January 1817, Marcellin Champagnat welcomed two young men, Jean-Baptiste Audras and Jean-Marie Granjon into a house which he had rented in the town of La Valla where he was assistant pastor. Later they were joined by Jean-Claude Audras, Antoine Couturier, Barthelemy Bedard, Gabriel Rivat, and Jean-Baptiste Furet. They formed the first La Valla community. Later that year, they began to teach the young people of La Valla, thus beginning the first Marist school. The school still stands in La Valla.



For us, the bicentenary provides an opportunity to refresh what we are about in Lavalla, Traralgon and Moe-Newborough. The Marist story is one of passion for God and compassion for people, expressed through educating people to make

Jesus known and loved in a myriad of ways across the globe. As a Marist community, we are actively engaged in building the Reign of God. For Marists that is best captured by 'Making Jesus known and loved.' We have much to be grateful for in the last two centuries. And we look forward to how we respond to caring for people this year, and the next...



La Valla

Catholic Identity Mission Team

We begin the year with a new Catholic Identity Mission Team. The team aims to serve students, staff and parents to discern how best to live a good life balancing Strong Minds with Compassionate hearts. The team members are myself along with:



Shane Reid
RE Curriculum
Leader



Monica Justin
Retreats & Faith
Development
Co-Ord.



Alex Rathbone
REMAR, Youth
Ministry & Social
Justice Animator



Courtney Baker
Faith & Ministry
Admin. Assistant

Commissioning Mass

Commissioning of College Student and Staff leaders and the Whole College Family.

Thursday 16th February, 2017
9.30 am

Champagnat Centre
at St Paul's Campus, Traralgon.





Mrs Claire Fabris

Welcome back to parents and students.

We have had an excellent start to the year and students and staff have come back refreshed and ready for a big year of learning.

Maths Pathways

We all know that students each have their own strengths and weaknesses and as such, have a diverse range of learning needs. This is particularly true in Mathematics and in a typical Mathematics class students enter with a wide range of levels; with different gaps and competencies than their peers. As a result, our teaching teams are working very hard to meet these diverse needs. Since 2014 we have implemented the Maths Pathway program, where Maths lessons are tailored precisely to what each student is ready to learn. In a class, students might be filling gaps in prior learning, or working on extension activities. Each child will complete work individually in their maths exercise book, guided by questions and videos from his or her online Maths Pathway account. They will also work with their teacher in small groups, and one-on-one. The whole class will come together for rich learning and real-world mathematical applications.

Students in Years 7-10 are expected to complete six Maths Pathways modules between each test. The tests are scheduled approximately two weeks apart. There is time during class to complete these modules, but students are also expected to work on these from home. It is essential that students come to school each day with a fully charged laptop and bring a workbook, summary book, pens, pencils a ruler and protractor to each Maths class.

Parents are able to view the progress of their child(ren) at any time, via a parent portal, using the log on details that have been distributed to students. Parents will also receive feedback about their student's progress/growth after each 6 week Learning Block. In addition, an Information session will be held at this time to help parents understand the Maths Pathway program and how to interpret the results.

Please contact your child's Maths teacher if you have any queries.

Further information is also available at www.mathspathway.com





Wellbeing & Operations News



Mrs Tamsin McCormack

Bell Times

Please find below the Bell times for both St Paul's and Kildare Campuses. Students are expected to be on campus and in class and prepared for the lesson on time. For those new to the College or to a particular campus you may find it beneficial to print off and put on the fridge at home.

St Paul's Campus

Mon - Fri

TIME	ACTIVITY
8.45am	First Bell
8.50am	LA
9.11am	Changeover
9.16am	Period 1
10.26am	RECESS
10.46am	End RECESS
10.50am	Period 2
12.01pm	Changeover
12.06pm	Period 3
1.16pm	LUNCH
1.41pm	2nd Half Lunch
2.05pm	Period 4
3.15pm	End of Day

Kildare Campus

Mon, Wed & Fri

TIME	ACTIVITY
8.45am	First Bell
8.50am	Period 1
10.00am	LA
10.30am	RECESS
10.53am	Period 2
12.05pm	Period 3
1.18pm	LUNCH
1.43pm	Mid Lunch
2.10pm	Period 4
3.20pm	End of Day

Tues & Thurs

TIME	ACTIVITY
8.50am	Student Choice
9.20am	Period 1
10.30am	RECESS
10.53am	Period 2
12.08pm	Period 3
1.18pm	LUNCH
1.43pm	Mid Lunch
2.10pm	Period 4
3.20pm	End of Day

Attendance

If your child is absent from school please contact the College at the appropriate campus to let us know. Please follow the absence with a letter or medical certificate for explanation. Students are required to have at least 90% attendance as per guidelines.

Extended absences (such as family holidays) need to be forecast to the College.

"Schooling is compulsory for children and young people aged from 6 – 17 years unless an exemption from attendance or enrolment has been granted."

Daily school attendance is important for all children and young people to succeed in education and to ensure they don't fall behind both socially and developmentally. Children and young people who regularly attend school and complete Year 12 or an equivalent qualification have better health outcomes, better employment outcomes, and higher incomes across their lives. It is important that children develop habits of regular attendance at an early age.



Wellbeing & Operations cont...

School participation is important as it maximises life opportunities for children and young people by providing them with education and support networks. School helps people to develop important skills, knowledge and values which set them up for further learning and participation in their community."

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/participation/Pages/attendance.aspx>

Student Choice

Please note that at Kildare Campus on Tuesday's and Thursday's the day starts with Student Choice time. This is time when students can use how or what they are doing towards their studies. It is recommended that students are at school making use of the many resources available to them, such as subject teachers, cross age tutors or meeting for group tasks.

Uniform

Thank you to all the students who are wearing their uniform with respect and pride. There are unfortunately a matters we would ask parents to concentrate on at the moment in regard to uniforms.

Jewellery

- Only one pair of earrings (sleepers or studs only)
- No facial piercings (including nose rings/ studs)
- Only one ring
- Only one plain neck chain
- Only one plain bracelet

Dress length

- Dresses should have hems that reach the top of the knee.

Spray Jackets

- To be worn in wet weather only or with PE (St Paul's Campus only).

Hair

- Should be natural in colour
- Conservative in style
- Facial Hair – should be clean shaven.

Makeup

- Should be skin toned and subtle.

More information regarding the uniform requirements can be found in the Student Planners.



Student Achievements

Congratulations Emily!

We are pleased to acknowledge that Year 11 student, Emily Beecroft, was awarded Latrobe City's Young Citizen of the Year at the Australia Day celebrations. She was recognized for her recent participation in the Para Olympics in Brazil. Emily has been a committed swimmer for the last seven years, her preferred events are 50m Free style and 100 Butterfly. She is currently focused on the trials for in the World Championships. Gaining a place in these would mean a trip Mexico to compete again at an international level. Congratulations Emily on your achievements so far and best wishes for the future.



WNBL Debut

Congratulations to Chelsea D'Angelo on her WNBL debut. Her first game was on Wednesday 25th January for Melbourne Boomers (verses Dandenong Rangers).





College Calendar - Term 1

DATE	CAMPUS	ACTIVITY	NOTES
16th February	BOTH	Commissioning Mass	COMPULSORY
	KILDARE	Welcome Evening	
17th February	ST PAUL'S	Swimming Carnival	COMPULSORY
20th - 24th February	ST PAUL'S	Year 7 Camp	
	KILDARE	LA Academic Review Week	
24th February	KILDARE	Swimming Carnival	COMPULSORY
28th February	BOTH	Shrove Tuesday	
1st March	BOTH	Ash Wednesday	
10th March		GIS Ecumenical Service	
13th March	BOTH	Student Free Day	Labour Day
22nd March	St PAUL'S	Year 7 Immunisations	
30th March	BOTH	Parent Teacher Interviews	
	BOTH	Easter Liturgies	
31st March	BOTH	Parent Teacher Interviews	
31st March	BOTH	STUDENT FREE DAY	School Holidays

Uniform Shop

Open 3.30pm- 6.00pm

St Paul's Campus

16th February

2nd March

16th March

This Year 2017

LOVE WHAT YOU SEE IN THE MIRROR

MAKE TIME FOR CREATIVITY

NEVER SAY NO TO ADVENTURE

EAT MORE GREEN FOOD

SEND SNAIL MAIL

SEND HANDWRITTEN THANK YOUS

BUY LESS, CHOOSE WELL

GIVE OUT TOO MANY COMPLIMENTS

TRAVEL

BE KIND TO STRANGERS

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME AND SKILLS

TAKE A COOKING CLASS

GIVE THE PRESENT OF PRESENCE

LEARN FROM OTHERS

EMBRACE SIMPLICITY



Community Noticeboard

SMY@L – St.Michael's Parish Youth Group

St.Michael's Youth group is for all young people from Year 5, 6 & lower secondary levels (from any school).

FRIDAY 17th FEBRUARY

(The annual) MESSY & GROSS GAMES NIGHT!
Don't let your friends miss this one!!

Wear old clothes or bring a spare set & a towel!

Warning! You WILL get messy!

Meet at St.Michael's Mackillop Hall, Cnr Church & Kay St, Traralgon.

6.30pm – 8.30pm

Cost \$3 - Lucky Door Prize

All Welcome!

Contact Leah 0438811709 for any further inquiries regarding St.Michael's Youth Group or for a copy of the full program, please contact Louise Varsaci on 0414540296.

Latrobe Valley "All-Ability" Tennis Term One

All school aged children with special needs are invited to join us for 'ALL Ability' Tennis, the sessions will run weekly during Term 1, 2017.

Registrations are now open for All ability Tennis. The tennis sessions will be held at Pax Hill tennis courts in Traralgon, with coach, Sally Kirstine, every Thursday evening from 5.30-6.15pm, during Term 1. The cost will be \$20 for the term, payable by the 4th session, which includes a shirt. Siblings welcome to participate but must also be registered. Tennis will start on Thursday 9th February, 2017.

A parent/carer must attend and be willing to participate with the child if necessary.

Please register your details or further queries to Louise Varsaci: 0414540296 or email varsaci@aussiebb.com.au or via the facebook group 'All ability sports, Latrobe Valley'

Traralgon Community Fun Run / Walk

Sunday 5th March 2017

All entry money goes to the Gippsland Rotary Centenary House.

- 8.45am closing time for pick of bibs for the Kids 1.5km
- 9.00am Start of Kids 1.5kms
- 9.00am closing time for pick up of bibs for 5km walk or run
- 9.30am Start of 5km run and walk. NB. Fastest runners will start at the front followed by other runners. Walkers will follow the runners and anyone with a pusher is asked to be at the end of the walkers to ensure the safety of everyone.
- 10.35 am Presentations will take place in Kay Street

Entry Fees:

- Adults \$30
- Adult Concession \$20
- Harriers Members \$25
- Under 18 yrs \$15
- Under 12 (1.5km event) \$10
- Families (2 adults & 2 Under 18yrs) \$50

**Note: we encourage everyone to enter online before 11:59pm 3 March however entries will also be accepted on the day for an additional fee <http://www.traralgonharriers.org.au/> for entry



Canteen News

St Paul's Campus

Lunch Menu (Orders Only)

SAUSAGE ROLL	\$3.50
MEAT PIE/PASTIE	\$4.00
POTATO CAKE	\$1.00
or in a roll	\$2.00
HOT DOG plain	\$3.00
with cheese	\$3.50
CHICKEN WEDGES	\$2.00
FISH SNAX (3)	\$2.50
TOASTED FOCACCIA	
choice 3 fillings	\$5.00
HASH BROWN	.50c
or in a roll	\$1.50
PIZZA TOASTY ROLL	\$1.50
FRUIT SALAD TUB	\$3.00
PLAIN SALAD ROLL	\$4.00
HAM/CHICKEN SALAD ROLL	\$5.00
BAKED SPUD	\$6.00
- coleslaw , butter, cheese, bacon & sour cream	
NACHOS	\$4.00
- corn chips ,salsa, cheese& sour cream	
With Guacamole add	\$1.00
CHICKEN WRAP	\$5.00
- chicken strips with lettuce tomato,cheese, mayo and sweet chilli sauce	
VEGIE BURGER	\$4.50
- vegie patty, lettuce and tomato relish	

SUSHI

NOW AVAILABLE TO ORDER FOR FRIDAY LUNCHES
SUSHI IS NOW AVAILABLE TO ORDER FOR FRIDAY ONLY.

PLEASE FILL OUT ORDER FORM AND PLACE IN ENVELOPE WITH MONEY BEFORE THURSDAY LUNCH AND YOUR SUSHI WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP ON FRIDAY. WITH CORRECT CHANGE.

Kildare Campus

Lunch Menu (Orders Only)

SAUSAGE ROLL	\$3.50
MEAT PIE	\$4.00
POTATO CAKE	\$1.00
- in a roll	\$2.00
HOT DOG plain	\$3.00
- with cheese	\$3.50
S&V CHICKEN STRIPS	\$1.50
CHILLI CHICKEN STRIPS	\$1.50
- 2 in a Roll	\$4.00
DEVIL FILLET	\$2.50
- in a Roll	\$3.50
HASH BROWN	.50c
PIZZA TOASTIE	\$1.50
FRUIT SALAD TUB	\$3.00
EGG & BACON ROLL	\$4.00
CROISSANTS- Ham & Cheese	\$2.50
ROLLS & WRAPS	
PLAIN SALAD ROLL	\$4.00
HAM/CHICKEN SALAD ROLL	\$5.00
EGG & LETTUCE	\$4.00
TUNA & SALAD	\$5.00
CHICKEN (only)	\$4.00
HOT CHICKEN ROLL	\$4.50
- Mayo or Gravy	
CHICKEN WRAP	\$5.00
- w/ lettuce, tomato, cheese & mayo	

TOASTED SANDWICHES

HAM & CHEESE	\$3.50
HAM & TOMATO	\$3.50
CHEESE & TOMATO	\$3.50
CHICKEN & AVO	\$4.00
HAM, CHEESE & TOMATO	\$4.00

FOCACCIA

HAM, CHEESE & TOMATO	\$4.50
CHICKEN & AVO	\$4.50
SALAMI, CHEESE & TOMATO	\$4.50



Catholic Diocese of Sale

Bishop of Sale

PO Box 1410
6 Wilton Street
WARRAGUL 3820

Ph: 03 5622 6600
Fax: 03 5623 3535

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2017
Diocese of Sale
130 Years

1st February 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ in the Diocese of Sale,

I am writing to you as the final hearing involving the Catholic Church at the *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse* commences this coming Monday the 6th February, 2017.

For the victims and survivors, for the Catholic community and for many in the wider Australian community, this hearing may be a difficult and even distressing time, as the Royal Commission reviews the evidence it has already received and seeks to understand why and how this tragedy has occurred. The Sale Diocese has had its share of grief and of hope.

I am deeply aware and mindful of the hurt and pain caused by abuse, I once again offer my apology on behalf of the Catholic Church. I am sorry for the damage that has been done to the lives of victims of sexual abuse. As Pope Francis said recently, 'it is a sin that shames us'.

Over the next three weeks, evidence presented during the Royal Commission hearings will be analysed, statistics about the extent of abuse will be made public, and the way forward will be explored. Many of our bishops and other Catholic leaders will appear before the Royal Commission. They will explain what the Church has been doing to change the old culture that allowed abuse to continue and to put in place new policies, structures and protections to safeguard children.

I am grateful to all the members of the Diocese of Sale who have responded to our Diocesan initiatives in putting into place all the necessary protocols and changes in attitudes and behaviour that seek to ensure that the proper care of our children and vulnerable adults be our highest priority.

Pope Francis has urged the whole Church to, 'find the courage needed to take all necessary measures and to protect in every way the lives of our children, so that such crimes may never be repeated'.

In 2017 the Diocese of Sale celebrates its 130th Anniversary. May the hope and faithfulness we celebrate this year, continue to draw us ever deeper into the mystery of God's love.

Throughout the coming weeks, then, I wish to assure you of my thoughts and prayers. I encourage you to turn in prayer to the one who is always ready to listen: Jesus Christ, who brings healing and hope.

Yours in Christ,

+ Pat O'Regan

Bishop Patrick O'Regan
Bishop of Sale



Bushfire Season

Procedures

Fire danger ratings and warnings in Victoria aim to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life. Schools and children's services identified as being at high fire risk will be closed on days declared by fire authorities to be Code Red.

Lavalla Catholic College has not been identified as being at high fire risk, so we will **not** be closed on a Code Red day. In reality, the school is a safer place than many of our families' homes, some of which are located in fire-prone areas.

While our school has not been identified as being at high fire risk, offsite activities such as excursions, camps and field trips, are planned to occur during the fire season. If such activities are considered to be at risk from fire, they will be rescheduled or cancelled.

Our school is well positioned to respond to emergencies, including an unpredicted breakout of a fire or a known fire unexpectedly changing course. If this occurs, our school's emergency management plan will ensure that we respond to the threat in a timely and appropriate manner.

As part of preparing for the fire season, we have completed the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria's (CECV) self-assessment of our emergency preparedness. We have also reviewed our emergency management plan and conducted maintenance works aimed at helping reduce the threat of fire.

In the unlikely event that fire threatens the school, the staff and students will be evacuated from classrooms to a safe refuge, consistent with our emergency management plan. The College's SMS messaging service will be the primary media used to inform families of critical incidents such as fire threats should they occur. We will also send emails and place information on the main page of our website, but this will only be done after sending an SMS. Accordingly, if you have changed your mobile number and have not updated the College you are asked to do so by sending an email to registrar@lavalla.vic.edu.au.

If, at the end of a school day, fire activity prevents parents/guardians from being available for their children, parents/guardians should make alternative arrangements for the supervision of their children, e.g. to go stay with a family member or friend. In the event that such alternatives cannot be arranged, volunteer staff will supervise students for a time at school in the St Paul's Campus ISC. Students at Kildare campus will be transported by the College to the St Paul's Campus by 4.30pm. By evening, if it appears that the children will need to be accommodated overnight, they will be taken to an emergency relief centre by the school staff, as directed by the **Latrobe Council Management Response Team**. The Incident Controller and Municipal Emergency Response Co-ordinator (Victoria Police) are the only **authorised personnel** that can authorise an evacuation. They will advise of an emergency relief centre when it is deemed safe to do so. Details of the centre will be notified via SMS, email and placed on the website when it is released. These centres are normally setup in either Traralgon, Morwell or Moe depending on circumstances ***as part of the Latrobe City's emergency management processes***. These will be staffed by people with responsibility for supervision and care of children without parents or guardians.



Parents are reminded that if students are to be collected prior to the normal end of day time that the children are to be signed out in the usual manner. If another person is required to pick up your son(s) and daughter(s) we require that they be registered with us as an emergency contact person or if an alternative person is required we be contacted by telephone or preferably email of this arrangement.

What can parents do?

Make sure the College has your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. These should be sent to the College Registrar by email - registrar@lavalla.vic.edu.au .

Keep in touch with us by reading *our Newsletter*, by checking our website: www.lavalla.vic.edu.au and by talking to your child's Learning Adviser or other members of the staff.

We suggest that you talk with your children about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan, particularly if you live in or are planning trips to fire-prone areas.

On days of high fire risk, children should never be left at home unattended or in the care of older children.

You can access more information about bushfires and schools on the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria's (CECV) website www.cecv.catholic.edu.au .

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the Victorian Government Emergency website at emergency.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on **1800 240 667**.

John M Freeman
Principal

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF will be provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

MORE INFORMATION

For the CSEF application closing dates and more information about the fund visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef



CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

☐ Foster parent* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and/or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____

Date / /

CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
- on the first day of Term two;
 - a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
 - b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
 - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (27 January 2016) or term two (11 April 2016).

Closing Date

Parents are encouraged to lodge the application form by 29 February 2016, so that payments can be made from March 2016. However schools can accept parent applications up until 03 June 2016.

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child. .

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see: www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.

Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.

If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.

2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Form a team and have fun on the run!



The DFP Recruitment - Latrobe City **Community Fun Run & Walk**



9am Sunday 6th March 2016

Enter a team of students and / or staff from your school and help our cancer support service, Gippsland Rotary Centenary House. Enter at traralgonharriers.org.au



- Join us for a morning of fun and fitness including a BBQ and spot prizes
- Awards for Gippsland schools, workplaces and organisations with the most entries
- Choose from a 5km run or walk for adults and a 1.5km run for kids under 12 years
- Enter a team or as an individual

Proudly supported by





SUPPAUT



Latrobe Region Parent/Family Support group for those who have kids with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

SUPPAUT is a parent-run group that aims to support one another as parents /families of a child/children with Autism. The group is open for all, whether your child is a baby, pre-schooler, school aged – specialist school, mainstream school or home-schooled or is an adult – we all need support and can support each other. We share our own experiences, problems, joys, successes and support each other with a listening ear and understanding.

It is a very informal gathering, sometimes a guest speaker is invited. All parents/carers/family members are welcome and children/siblings are welcome too.

**We meet every LAST THURSDAY of the month – except during
School/Public Holidays.**

2017 meeting dates

Feb 23rd - Mar 30th - Apr 27th

May 25th - June 29th - July 27th

Aug 31st - Oct 26th - Nov 30th

At LATROBE SPECIAL DEVELOPMENTAL SCHOOL,

Hickox St, Traralgon

(Please enter through 1st gate & sign in at the Office)

From 10.30am - 12pm

ALL WELCOME TO COME FOR A CUPPA AND A CHAT!

For more info or enquiries about the group phone Louise Varsaci 0414540296 or email
varsaci@aussiebb.com.au

Join our group on Facebook – SuppAUT Autism support group for families in Latrobe
Valley, Victoria