

Lavalla Catholic College

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear members of the Lavalla Community I'm sure you've heard this said before, **"When a community only has memories, and does not have dreams it is dying"**.

At Lavalla Catholic College, there are over 1200 students; assuming one each, this means that there are at least 1200 dreams for 1200 futures; 1200 different types of contributions to society and 1200 journeys in life.

It is thought provoking to think about our students, and your daughters and sons from this perspective. No doubt, from the day your children were born, as parents you have dreamed dreams for them, and you are working towards give life to their dreams for their future. We are too!

Every day is about those dreams and every lesson is about coming closer to reach those dreams. As teachers who have embraced the Marist way we honour the words of our founder *"to teach children, you must love them first and love them all equally"*. To love our student means to recognise the changing times and to develop our curriculum accordingly. We get excited about the possibilities of what's on offer at Lavalla. EXPO is an opportunity to examine the future pathways for the fulfilment of your educational dream.

On Friday 19th August the whole school will come together to plan the educational pathway for your child. Staff have spent the last few weeks preparing the advice and updating the curriculum options for our students. Monday 15th August is one of these days. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find the details of this very important event and the lead-up through information nights. I look forward to seeing you there.

DIRECTOR OF ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

While **Mr Chris Roga** is on Long Service Leave he has requested time to weigh up possible options for himself in 2012 and beyond. In discussion with him, we have agreed to advertise his position for 2012.

STAFF REFLECTION DAY

You might recall that an important part of our Mission as teachers at Lavalla is to stand in solidarity with the marginalised. As teachers in a Marist school we are challenged to understand and promote this work but we rarely get a chance to experience this as a total staff. On Monday 22 August, staff will travel to Melbourne to visit some Marist solidarity outreach programmes. Our hope is that this experience can be passed on to the students as we launch different programmes within Lavalla next year.

MARY MACKILLOP'S FEAST DAY

We remembered this week the feast of St



Mary Mackillop of the Cross, on 8th August. It has been one year since her canonisation and she was seen as a woman of heroic virtue and representing Australian values and hopes. Here was a

small woman with very big dreams, few resources but abundant resilience and determination. May she listen to our prayers of intercession and help us realise our dreams.

WORLD YOUTH DAY

We keep in our prayers **Corey Foster** as he embarks on his journey to World Youth Day in Madrid Spain. WYD will be held between 16-21 August and Corey will join with members of our own Parish as well as youths from all over the world. We eagerly await his stories on his return. Certainly, Bishop Christopher Prowse expressed his hopes for WYD with much excitement when I last saw him.

I look forward to seeing many of you next week at the Information nights and certainly at EXPO.



Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal

PRAYER FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011

God our Father, we place the preparation for World Youth Day 2011 in Madrid, in your hands.

Save and protect Pope Benedict and all the pastors of the Church.

Enlighten and strengthen all those preparing this event.

Grant them wisdom and strength to carry out their work.

Help our community to prepare deeply for this ecclesial event.
Amen



VARIATION DAYS

MONDAY 15TH AUGUST

(Staff Development day for the subject enrolment process)

FRIDAY 19TH AUGUST

EXPO AT KILDARE:
ALL STUDENTS INVITED AND
YEAR 9-11 REQUIRED
(No classes on all campuses)

MONDAY 22ND AUGUST

(Staff Reflection on Marist Solidarity)

continued...

www.lavalla.vic.edu.au

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

Well done to Kristina Psinas, Chloe Frantz and Ruby Callaghan who recently participated in the Model UN Conference held at Monash University. There were many Gippsland schools in attendance, with Lavalla Catholic College representing the views of Canada. The topic of the conference was 'Refugees: Rights and Risks'. Many amendments were proposed to the UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. Through negotiation between the representative nations students were able to pass some amendments. It was up to the students to prepare a stance that was compatible with their country's views. They were able to present their cases and question the ideas put forward by the other "countries". It was a successful day in which much was learned about the functions of the United Nations and the format in which they run their sessions.

Well done to the Lavalla Catholic College Team.



THE DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY POETRY COMPETITION

On Wednesday 8th June a group of committed LOTE (Italian) students participated in the Dante Alighieri Society poetry competition. It is a very prestigious competition where thousands of students from across Victoria recite a poem in Italian. A few weeks later we learnt that 21 students from across our College were finalists in the competition. They were all very excited! It was a great achievement to have such a big number of finalists. All students did their best on the day.

Results have been recently published and we have an overall winner in the Year 11-non-Italian background section. Ryan Ward won with a superb rendition of the poem "L'infinito" by Giacomo Leopardi. On Friday 9th September Ryan will receive his First Prize at an Awards Ceremony held at Melbourne University. He will have to recite his poem again and we will be there to cheer him. Our thanks to Ms Cataldo for her support of the students.

EXPO AND COURSE INFORMATION

We have been busy preparing for our Expo Day. Next week is particularly important for our students across the College as this is the start of their planning for 2012. You will find important dates highlighted in this newsletter. It is important that parent attend the relevant information nights and Expo.

Please note that :

Intention Forms and Processing Fees are due at Expo in the Student Services Centre

**Subjects choices are based on information provided at Expo
Applications for VCAL, VET and Enhancement subjects are obtained from relevant areas at Expo**

As a staff we are looking forward to the day and the energising conversations that occur. All year levels are welcome and I encourage our younger students to attend so that they can see what our fine College offers.

YEAR 12 RESULTS

I congratulate our Year 12 students on their Semester 1 Exam results. These were distributed this week. These positive results were an indication that our students are taking their studies seriously and that they are pacing themselves well for the final exams. For those students who didn't necessarily achieve what they had hoped for, we encourage you to take this time to refocus and reset goals so that they can achieve exceed their expectations for the end of year exams.

SUBJECT SELECTION 2012

It has come that time again and on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th of August year 10 students began the process of subject selection for 2012. In the next few days year 9 and year 11 students will also attend information sessions at school.

This year our year 10 students began their consideration of VCE subjects with a visit to Monash University. The program conducted at the University was designed to inform students about university life and possibilities, and to increase their awareness of how to gain entry to tertiary studies. AGA (apprenticeships groups Australia) and TAFE were also in attendance to provide information on different pathways for students.

As they move into the final years of schooling discussions of future pathways are particularly important for year 10 students. The time has come for them to select subjects that may form prerequisites or requirements for entry to future study or career. The conversations about subject selections for 2012 are continuing in LA classes over the next few weeks leading up to the Subject and Careers EXPO. I encourage parents to join the conversation and discuss the possibilities with their students. Information on curriculum offerings and programs are now available on the College Website.

For your information, I draw your attention to the calendar below which outlines the process of students selecting their subjects for 2012.

NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM

We recently received word that two of our students have been selected to take part in the National Youth Science Forum. Congratulations to Leigh Jones and Dylan Glasson on their achievement. Our congratulations too to Monique Hustler who was selected an emergency for the event.

The National Youth Science Forum program consists of a mix of scientific, formal, personal development, and social activities and is held annually at the Australian National University in Canberra. The event allows students to engage in a wide variety of science based experiences including the opportunity to see current scientific research in action.

Second Hand Uniform Shop.

NEXT OPEN

Thursday 4th August

Thursday 18th August

3.30pm – 6.00pm

Upcoming change:

Thursday 1st September session will be run from 3.30pm to 4.30pm only.

SUBJECT SELECTION CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	WHEN	WHERE
Tuesday 16th August	Year 9 into 10 Information Evening	7.30pm	Kildare Hall
Wednesday 17th August	Year 10 into 11 Information Evening	7.30pm	Kildare Hall
Friday 19th August	Subject and Careers EXPO College Intention Forms & payment Due	11am – 4pm	Kildare Campus
Thursday 25th August	Subject Preference Forms Due for Yr 9-11.		
Monday 29th August	Subject Selection Interviews for Applied Learning VCE, VET & VCAL Applicants from Yrs 9 - 11.		
Early September	Subject preferences are entered online.		



THE 2011 SUBJECT & CAREERS EXPO PLAN YOUR NEXT MOVE

FRIDAY AUGUST 19TH 11am - 4.30PM
KILDARE CAMPUS (KOSCIUSZKO STREET, TRARALGON)

PRESENTATION CAMPUS REPORT

Mrs Tamsin McCormack - Campus Director

JEANS FOR GENES DAY – FRIDAY 5TH AUGUST

This day is used not only to raise much needed funds for Children’s Medical Research Association, but also to raise awareness of the number of genetically linked diseases and children affected by them.

At Presentation Campus, students of Champagnat House chose this event as their charity of choice for the year.

All students could wear jeans for the day and buy blue cupcakes available for sale. This was a great day. We achieved a total collection of over \$200 and, most importantly, an increased awareness of the work that the Children’s Medical Research Association do. Congratulations to all students for their participation and assistance with the sale and production of cupcakes, with particular thanks to the Gill family.



CONGRATULATIONS TO BEN SCHENA!

On the weekend, Ben competed in the Australasian C & D titles for Go Karting. Ben came first in the Junior National Heavy and Junior National Medium and second in the Junior National Light classes. Ben’s success this year comes after five years of intense competition. In order to win these titles, he had to compete in three heats for each title. Ben was particularly pleased with his win in the Junior National Medium class, as he falls outside the weight criteria, resulting in about an 8/10ths of a second disadvantage in comparison to all the other competitors.



UPDATE FROM MASTER SURVIVOR PROGRAM

Last week saw 14 students head to Licola to enjoy many different Bush pursuits. They were particularly lucky with the weather, as it had been anticipated there would be snow at Tamboritha, so the camp was shifted to Licola. Students participated in activities such as High & Low ropes course, commando course, bike riding and hiking. By all accounts it was a great camp. Currently, 38 students are in Melbourne on the City Camp. Students will be exploring the City, learning to navigate around using a map in an amazing race, trying ice skating, going bowling and visiting the Eureka Sky Deck, Aquarium and Queen Victoria Market. We are sure that all will have a great time and learn something new along the way.



The Year 10 work experience program has been completed this year with over 210 students involved in exploring the world of work. This program came at a good time for these students as they have been able to make connections between the jobs they observed, the training required to get these jobs and the subjects they should do at school in order to qualify for the training. Thanks must go to the employers who hosted each of the students.

The year 12 Uni exploration trip was also a great success with 6 different Unis being visited in the two days away. It is always interesting to get a feel for each campus and to see current students in lectures and making use of the facilities. Year 12 students are now preparing their VTAC (Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre) applications. It is

a challenging and stressful time for them as they identify where they would like to be in 2012. Universities, TAFEs and a variety of private Colleges offer many opportunities for further education which will hopefully lead them to some exciting employment prospects.

All students are encouraged to visit these institutions on the OPEN DAYS that are being held throughout August. A list of dates for these days can be found on the VTAC website – www.vtac.vic.edu.au. Representatives of some of these organisations will be present at the Lavalla Expo so please take the opportunity to talk to them there.

Students are also encouraged to visit the Careers office if they have any questions they need answered.



Competing in the Lavalla volleyball program was a great experience, not only for myself but for all of my fellow team members. The hard work of Glen Trembath, Dan Anderson, Chris Wood and Brian Scott made the program and the tournament an fun and enjoyable time. Having been coached by many of these men in various other volleyball teams, proves their commitment to keep improving skills for the experienced athletes and the teaching of skills to new athletes of the game which they love.

Although not every team was successful in winning, the skill improvement and teamwork from game time was remarkable especially the senior boys, winning gold in their division. Being the only Year 12 in the team, seeing all the younger and not as skilled players enjoying themselves and not being intimidated by myself and any of the older players was a sight to see.

All and all the Lavalla volleyball program was an experience that most high schools have running the entire year, a thought to be considered. As with most competitions, not only myself but the entire group of athletes have memories that will last a lifetime.



ICT A VALUABLE RESOURCE

In an earlier newsletter, I drew your attention to the fact that some students on the Kildare Campus need to be more careful with the IT resources at the College. At the end of 2008, the College purchased some 350 computers, and all of them are in their third year of use. Understandably, laptop batteries have failed to retain their charge over that period through frequent use. The College has recently outlaid an additional expense of some \$25000 to purchase replacement batteries for 200 of this ageing fleet of laptops. As access to ICT is now an essential tool in Years 10, 11 and 12, it is important that we take extra care of this aging resource so that all students can benefit.

The arrangements that have been put into place on the Kildare Campus are as follows:

- Students collect their laptop at the start of the day from their Learner Advisor Room
- They have been given the option to look after a free laptop bag to carry this laptop around with them from class to class
- When not in use, laptops are to be left locked in the student's lockers, especially during recess and lunch breaks.
- Students are not permitted to access the 240 volt power pack supply to recharge their laptops during the day. This precaution is necessary to minimise any remote risk of accidental electrical shock.
- A student is responsible for the care and security of the laptop assigned to them from the time they pick it up to when they return it to the Learner Advisor Room at the end of each day.
- When absent, the student's laptop is left locked in a secure trolley and the room is locked at the end of each day.
- The College network will not allow any student to login to any other laptop other than the one that has been assigned to them.
- A small number of spares are available to swap over for units that need to undergo repair
- Warranty will only cover hardware failure, and any damage to keyboards or screens is not covered by such arrangements.

Students need to be responsible for their laptops and will bear the cost of repairs or loss that results in careless use or careless security. Please discuss this issue with your child to become familiar with how they currently use it.

The College is investigating how best to maintain these resources at an optimum level for another year in 2012.

SSV AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL



Lavalla's junior girls' football team and the Year 7/8 boys football team has advanced through to the Conference Finals of the SSV competition after becoming the Regional Champions on July 21st in Sale and Traralgon respectively. The junior girls put in an impressive display against some bigger opposition and were able to survive a second half challenge from Nagle to win by three points. The girls then

proceeded to get better as the day progressed by defeating Drouin by 17 points and then thumped Wonthaggi by 38 points. The 7/8 boys team defeated Bairnsdale by 13 points in their opening contest of the day. Then the boys survived an enthralling clash with Lowanna by outlasting them by one point before outclassing Wonthaggi with a dominant 43 point victory. The Conference Finals for both these age levels will be held at the Traralgon West Sports Complex on Thursday, July 21st.

Two of the five remaining Lavalla netball teams have progressed through to the Conference Finals after excelling at the recent Regional Finals staged at Traralgon on Tuesday, August 9th.

The Year 7 girl's team and the Intermediate boy's team outplayed their opponents to remain undefeated while the Year 8 boy's team and the Intermediate girl's team squandered their opportunities and succumbed to some strong opposition.



SSV SOCCER

The Year 8 boys and the Year 8 girls' soccer representative teams ventured to Latrobe City Stadium in Morwell recently for the SSV Regional Finals and were able to produce some very one-sided

results to progress through to the Conference Finals. The boy's team excelled with dominant performances from their three matches while the girl's team produced a 6-0 drubbing of Wonthaggi before producing a one-all draw against Nagle. The girls won through ahead of Nagle on point differential. The senior boys and girls teams had their recent event postponed and will play their Regional Finals in the coming weeks!

