



AWAKEN  
MARISTS 200+

## From the Principal



**Mr John M Freeman**

On Tuesday, last week, we held Twilight Evening. This is an important part of our processes to let the community know what we offer at Lavalla Catholic College. We had a large number of families attend and feedback was very positive. Thank you to Mrs Kelly Murray and the team at St Paul's Campus for all their work. The success of these events is not due to anyone person, but the collaborative efforts of everyone – teachers, administration team, maintenance team, our cleaners and very importantly the students. The success of "Open Days" is usually due to the students

who are escorting and talking with families or those performing, cooking, demonstrating and simply enjoying themselves whilst being at their school.

I would like to remind families that enrolment applications are due on 31 May 2017. We will accept applications after that date, but as a matter of justice priority will be given to those who have submitted their applications on time.

You would be aware that we were privileged to host two of the Marist Bicentenary Paintings at Lavalla Catholic College. We only had opportunity to have the "Fourvière Pledge" and "Dying Boy" from Friday afternoon of last week until Tuesday this week. However, we had a number of staff, students and guests come to our Chapels to both view and to enter into prayer at that time. There are four paintings and when seen together provide a clear narrative of the beginnings of the Marist enterprise and in our case its movement to Australia. We have

been given permission by the Marists to reproduce the paintings and if you are interested they can be seen in foyer of our Administration area at St Paul's Campus for the next few weeks.

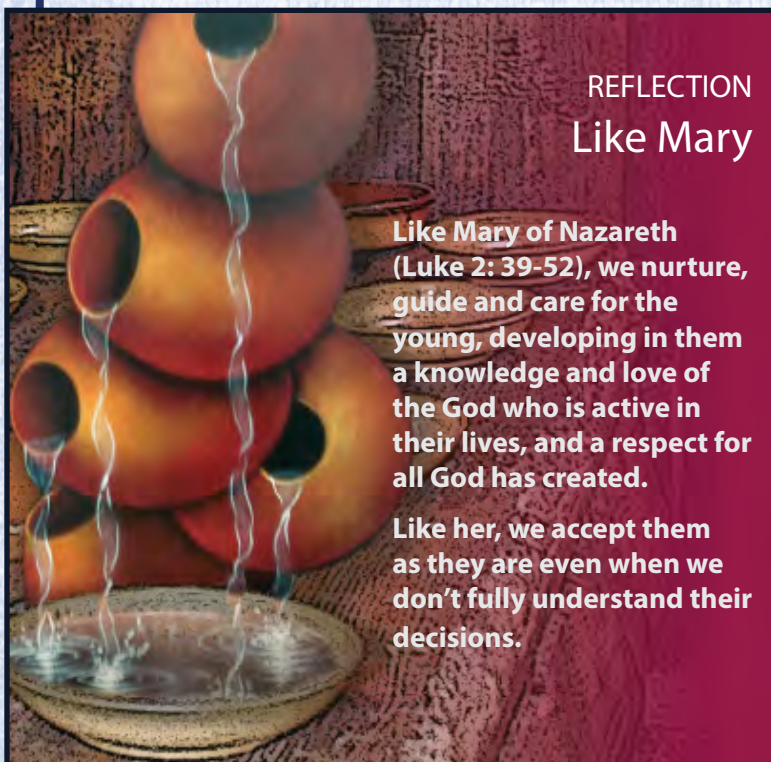
As part of the Marist Bicentenary a lecture tour by Mark Patrick Hederman OSB of Glenstal Abbey, Ireland has been organised. The lecture is entitled, Underground Cathedrals – A Spirituality for the 21st Century. Details are in this Newsletter and I invite you to consider joining many of us on 2 June at 6.00pm at Marist Sion College, Warragul.

Attached to this Newsletter is a Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of Victoria, written by the Victorian Bishops on the subject of euthanasia. This is a complex and highly emotive matter, particularly for those with personal experience of loved ones suffering as they approach death. To travel with others, particularly family, in these situations is difficult, and we can only imagine the hardship of those who suffer serious

### REFLECTION Like Mary

**Like Mary of Nazareth (Luke 2: 39-52), we nurture, guide and care for the young, developing in them a knowledge and love of the God who is active in their lives, and a respect for all God has created.**

**Like her, we accept them as they are even when we don't fully understand their decisions.**







infirmity. All the same, the complex question of how we can best care for those who are ill and in pain requires deep consideration, because many inter-related and important issues are at stake. As public debate on euthanasia approaches, I encourage you to read and consider the Bishops' Pastoral Letter.

Welcome back to Mr Doug Doherty who has been away on the Marist Pilgrimage from the start of this term. Thank you to Mrs Kelly Murray and Mrs Tamsin McCormack who covered Doug during this time.

We also welcome Ms Lynn McAllister who will replace Mr Peter Flahavin whilst he is recovering from surgery on a shoulder for the next six weeks.

**Well done to all involved in the following:**

**GIS MusArtz REHERSAL:** Last Monday we hosted close to 300 students from five other schools in the GIS for a day of rehearsal, co-ordinated by Mr Shane Lebbe, for the upcoming performance night on Monday, 22 May at the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre at 7.00pm on the corners of Grey and Breed Streets Traralgon. This will be a great night of entertainment and I encourage you to attend.

**GGENERATIONS IN JAZZ @ Mt GAMBIER:** This was our fourth time at this growing event for young people to perform and also have opportunity to see and enjoy world class Jazz musicians. Thank you to Mr Shane Reid for all his work and organisation of the tour as well as Mr Shane Lebbe, Ms Katie Lee and Mr Darren Flenley for supporting the tour.

**CAUSE WORTH WEEK:** Once again this annual fund raiser took place with support from both campuses to raise money for the Gippsland Cancer Care Centre. We have seen cake stalls, trivia competitions, plain clothes day and the highlight event where staff and students participate in Shave For a Cure. Thanks to all involved, but in particular Mrs Annemarie Clarke.

**NAPLAN TESTS::** These took place this week. The data that is made available from these tests are a valuable "snapshot" of students' capacities in a variety of numeracy and literacy metrics. Thank you Mrs Claire Fabris for her leadership in this process and thank you to students and staff in the professional and co-operative manner in which the tests were conducted.

**YEAR 8 CAMPS:** This week we have held our Year 8 Camps in Melbourne. The camps were very successful thanks to the organisation and leadership of Ms Jo-Maree Sharman and Ms Stephanie Sola. I also extend my thanks to all the staff who supported the camps with either their participation or covering classes back at school.

**CONFIRMATION RETREATS:** These took place today and there will be more next Friday. These retreats involve our students and staff collaborating with Catholic Primary Schools in the Latrobe Valley to assist in the formation of the candidates for Confirmation later this term.

## **Congratulations to:**

**W**ell done to Bridgett Alkemade who has been awarded as Interchange Gippsland's Volunteer of the Year for 2017. Details of this wonderful achievement are in this Newsletter.

For the second year running our Boys' Touch Football Team are the State Champions. Well done to their coach, Ms Karen Joyce and to the team, comprising of: Marcus Smith – Captain. Matt Scholtes, Harvey Neonocleous, Callum Hutchinson, Luis D'Angelo, Blair Rooney, Damien Hough, Tom Hamilton, Hough Dunbar, Nick Fox, Hunter Watson, Tyron Bramwell.





Last weekend (Friday 5th – Sunday 7th May), two of our Year 11 students represented the College at the Model United Nations Assembly. They were Chantelle (Francesca) Formaran and Matispaishe Ruzike-Makura. The girls chose to represent the country of Israel. To prepare they spent time under the guidance of Mrs Gaye Jenkins at the end of last term, extra time during the holidays and most lunchtimes this term to plan a response to each of the six resolutions which were debated over the weekend. The resolutions cover everything from the conflict in Syria to rights for women to international migration.

## Prayers

I reported in our last Newsletter that Paul Denny, husband of Theresa Denny and father of Kieran and Kathleen was close to death. Sadly, I write this week to advise that Paul passed away at 11.00pm Sunday, 30 April. So I ask that you please remember the Denny family in your prayers as the mourn the loss of a good man who was not only a loving husband and father, but a person who made a difference to many people throughout his life.

We also mourn the loss of Quadri Jimoh the grandfather of Yakub Ogunsina (Year 11) who passed away on 11 May. Again a loss to a family and no doubt a community.



## THE 2017 MARIST MARIAN LECTURE

### Underground Cathedrals A Spirituality for the 21st Century

You are invited to attend the Inaugural Marian Lecture delivered by Dom Mark Patrick Hederman OSB, preeminent educator, theologian, spiritual writer and Abbot of Glenstal Abbey, Ireland.

**Date:** Thursday, 1 June 2017

**Time:** 6.00pm - 7.00pm (Doors open from 5.30pm)

**Venue:** Marian Theatre, Marist-Sion College, Warragul

Register at [www.maristassociation.org.au](http://www.maristassociation.org.au)  
Limited seating available / Free Entry





# Mission & Ministry News



**Mr Chris Roga**  
**Dir. Faith & Ministry**

## Marist Bicentenary (1817-2017)



The Marist Bicentenary (1817-2017) celebrations of the Founding of the Little Brothers of Mary, took on a distinctly artistic flavour at Lavalla from 5-9 May.

Two commemorative Marist paintings arrived at the college and were viewed by a number of people from different walks of life, but who nevertheless connect with Marist story. The four paintings tell four different Marist stories: the story of Fourviere; the story of the dying boy, the story of the first Brothers' community at Lavalla, and the story of the May Miracle. And yet, viewed all together, these paintings tell us one important story- the story of the mission of Marists in the way of St Marcellin Champagnat: "to make Jesus known and loved".



Prayer Service Sunday 7th May



College Captains Tom Fleming, Eily Dalton, Amelia Pitzner & Matthew Pearce

## Marist Connect

Marist Connect is a Marist Youth gathering designed to connect with young people for an evening of fun, games, discernment, direction and prayer. The goal is to help young people grow into wholesome persons. More than twenty young people attended from Marist-Sion College, Warragul as well as from Lavalla. The feedback from those who attended was that it was a valuable evening for each of them. Pizzas for dinner was a special treat.







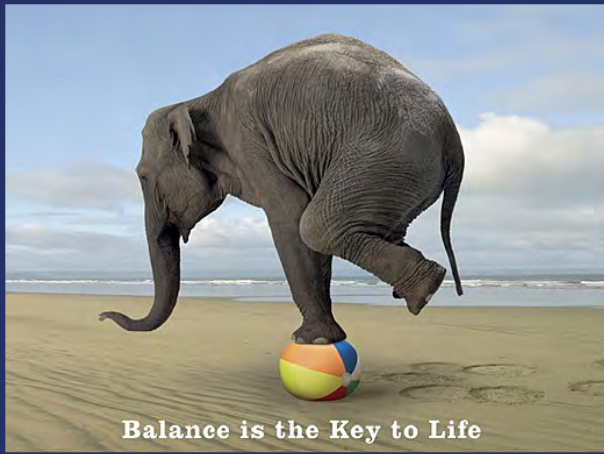
# Wellbeing & Operations News



**Mrs Tamsin McCormack**

## Balancing Work and Study

When asking a class of students how many of them work, generally the answer would be at least 50% and often as high as 100% of the students. The next interesting question to ask is how many hours a week do they work? I have had students who were working as many as 40 hours a week. Or there are the students that are working until midnight and expected to go to school the next day. This amount of work or timing of work does not allow a student to have the balance that is needed in their life. The balance of work, study, family and relaxation. Without balance students start to get stressed, fall behind or don't know how to move forward.



So what sort of balance should we be encouraging our students to be implementing? According to Reachout.com the following are some tips to assist with creating balance within a student's life.

- Set goals- It may be a good idea to think about what you need and want to do with your time. From this you can set your goals, which may help you to manage your time more effectively.
- Project plan- Ever had a big project to do for work or school and never quite known where to start? It may help to write down all the things you need to do to complete the project and list the order in which you can do this. This can give you some direction and help you to form a timeline.
- Use a diary- Writing down appointments, homework, or things you have to do may help you to keep track of what's on. This way you may avoid things catching you by surprise.
- Be flexible- Sometimes situations change and you may need to re-adjust your goals or work plan to fit in with the changes.
- Balance your time- Having a balance of activities in your life may help to avoid you burning out. It is a good idea to find time for relaxing, being active and hanging out with friends. Spending time relaxing or re-energising yourself may help you be more productive both at work and with study.
- Talk to someone- It is not uncommon to have lots of things we need to get done and this may make it difficult to manage your time. If you are finding these things hard, it may be helpful to talk to a teacher, lecturer, or counsellor.
- At Lavalla we have counsellors available every day to assist students to work through issues and hopefully start to create balance within their lives.

## Attendance

A reminder that if your child is away, please contact the college to alert them to the absence and follow up with a written note (this is a legal requirement). If you know of an intended absence, please contact the school in advance.





# Learning & Teaching News



**Mr Brett Van Berkel**

## Importance of Feedback in Assessment

**Y**ou will soon be receiving your child's feedback (week of the 15th May). We are consistently asked how best to utilise the feedback given and how to discuss it with my child. Below are some important points in how to make the most of the feedback given during the 6 weekly feedback cycle?

In recent years there has been a fundamental change in the way schools think about the role and nature of assessment and the vital role feedback plays in significantly improving learning outcomes.

The driver of this change has been the overwhelming weight of evidence and research from international experts such as Professor John Hattie, who have shown how learning outcomes significantly improve when teachers and other practitioners use assessment to provide 'feedback information' about aspects of a learner's performance or understanding. Feedback, Hattie states "fills a gap between what is understood (How am I going?) and what is aimed to be understood (Where am I going?)."

### Types of feedback used with learners

Feedback is one of the most effective teaching and learning strategies and has an immediate impact on the learning progress of each child. This feedback can be teacher to learner, learner to teacher, self-assessment and feedback to and from peers.

### The importance of descriptive feedback

Whilst grades are still commonly given for tests and reports, descriptive feedback is what teachers are typically providing on a day to day basis in their interactions with learners. They can be provided but not limited to a comment, rubric or verbal feedback.

Descriptive feedback can emphasize the strengths of the child's work as well as areas that they may need to work on and what they need to do next.

It is important that parents and carers support the importance of descriptive feedback and not focus only on the grades.

### How to support feedback given to your child

One way parents and carers can support teachers feedback to learners is to make a regular time to talk with their child about specific pieces of work which their teacher or has provided feedback on. Some guiding questions could include:







# Learning & Teaching News

- What do you think you did really well?
- What do you think you need to improve on?
- What do think your teacher wants you to work further on?
- What did you learn?

Start by establishing that your child understands what is being discussed. Do encourage your child to note down any questions they may have about feedback given, and encourage them to ask follow up questions of their teacher in a timely fashion.

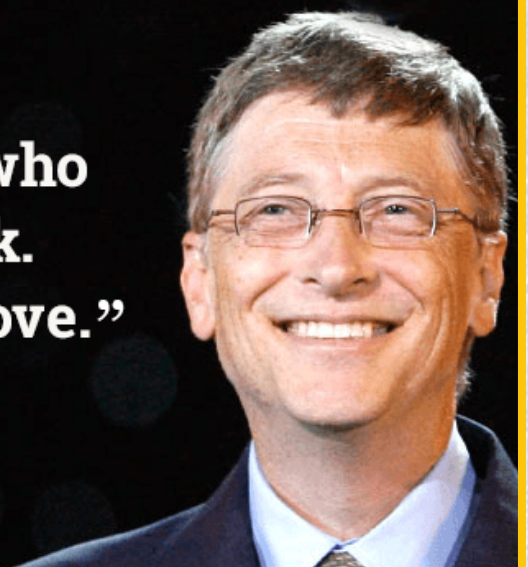
If your child feels that they are making mistakes, do not understand or can't do something immediately, remember to reinforce that making mistakes, or struggling to understand or to do something, are a normal part of the learning process. Stay positive about your child's learning. It is important to remember that each child is different; some will find parts of their learning program more challenging than others.

Speak with your child's school or teacher if you have any questions about what your child is learning and how they are progressing. Some questions that may be useful could include:

- How well is my child doing?
- What are my child's strengths and what do they need to work further on?
- What progress have they made?
- What do they need to do now?
- How can I best help my child with their learning?

**“ We all need people who  
will give us feedback.  
That's how we improve.”**

**—Bill Gates**







# Feeling Good About Wellbeing



**Jaysen Sharman**  
Year 9

Late last term the year 9 students travelled to Presentation Campus to participate in a wellbeing day. There were four sessions, which catered for all the different aspects of student wellbeing. Each session challenged us and offered us opportunities to grow and learn.

Mr Vashon Weaver spoke to the boys about what it takes to be a good man. Even though he is a professional athlete he explained that he would rather be known as a good man. He told us that real men shouldn't be afraid to show emotions and talk to someone about these emotions.



The session on mental health provided us with a new perspective. It taught us that we should take care of our mental health because it is as important as our physical health and our overall wellbeing.

We had 2 very different Physical sessions; one of the sessions introduced us to the sport of kickboxing. Steve Baldacchino came and taught us the skills of kickboxing he also taught us how important health and fitness is to our physical and mental wellbeing. On the session was yoga. You

might think that stretching and breathing might not be helpful but yoga can actually help to relieve tension and focus your mind. Yoga can help build flexibility, balance and core strength, all of which help you feel better about yourself.

The year 9 wellbeing day had something for everyone and gave us a variety of different skills and opportunities that will help us improve our overall wellbeing.

On Friday the 24th March, all year 9s attended Wellbeing Day at the Presentation Campus. The day consisted of various activities focused on educating students about the mental health of themselves and those around them. Wellbeing discussions were held separately between girls and boys, giving an opportunity for students to speak out about issues faced regarding the topic.

**Mobarrat Monir**  
Year 9



During Wellbeing day students participated in 30 minute sessions of yoga and kickboxing. This encouraged all students to get active and have fun as being fit and active play major parts in our mental health. Yoga assisted in students loosening themselves up, calming their senses and releasing the tension from their bodies. A two time Australian Kickboxing champion, Steven Baldachino volunteered his time to the students and taught them simple kickboxing drills and skills.

Two representatives also volunteered their time to educate students about multicultural backgrounds and history amongst their own families. Wellbeing day was a day dedicated to teaching students about the importance of their mental wellbeing through educational and recreational activities.





# Man vs. Wild



**Sarah Little**  
Yr 9



**Claudia Said**  
Yr 9

In March the Man vs Wild team travelled to Walhalla to complete a photo-shoot for our exhibition. The aim of the Man vs Wild project is to work with new people to build our teamwork and leadership skills.

Walhalla was the perfect venue for our photoshoot with its historical buildings and natural beauty. The teams really enjoyed experimenting with different shots and effects. We all had different outfits that were themed for our shoots to help explain our thinking and stories.

We had challenging weather conditions that made taking photos difficult as we were constantly covering up the camera lens to protect it from the rain. In the end, the rain helped to add a moody perspective to our shots and we couldn't be happier with the results.



We would like make a special thanks to Darren our bus driver, Ms. Talbot who assisted on the day, and Mrs. Ford for arranging everything and for taking us there on the day and making our photo-shoot happen.

We are all excited for the upcoming exhibition where we will present our images to school leaders, photography enthusiasts and our parents.







# Remar Solidarity Camp



**Mr Shane Lebbe**

On Saturday the 25th of March our Blue Remar Caravel made up of 6 Year 11 students embarked on their Solidarity Camp to Santa Teresa NT. Santa Teresa, also known as Ltyentye Apurte is a Catholic Aboriginal Community that is situated about 85 kilometres south-east of Alice Springs. This immersion experience offered our students the opportunity to: explore and experience issue relating to social justice within the community; actively take part in practical projects for the benefit of the community; and build upon their understanding of humility, loyalty and solidarity as they lived out these Gospel Values through their work and experiences.

Throughout the week our students attended the Community Centre where they helped to prepare and deliver means to members of the community; the school canter where they prepared and served the students breakfast, morning tea and lunch; the spirituality centre where they were able to speak with the local artists about their culture and community; the school classrooms where our students engaged with the primary ages students of the Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School; Mass throughout the week; a camp out under the stars and many more culturally enriching learning opportunities. Here is what some of the students had to say:

## **Selby Fisher recounts:**

It was such a remarkable opportunity to go into some of the classrooms at the Ltyentye Apurte Catholic School and experience the different culture and style of education. It was very enjoyable to help the primary aged students with english, science and music and to see how excited about having us there they were – it was truly a rewarding experience.

## **Kirra Troughton explained:**

Going to Santa Teresa and having the opportunity to see and be immersed in the culture they have there was an extraordinary experience. I fondly remember being in the spirituality centre and talking with Clair – one of the artists in the centre – about the Arrernte culture and the stories behind the painting of the community's beautiful church.



## **Corey Broeren reminisced:**

When you are there you truly realise how much the small communities benefit from the most minor of help, for example when I was there I helped dig a trench for the school to put in a new pipeline. It took us that week to finish the project, which may seem like a long time, but without that help it would have taken much longer.

It was with a heavy heart and great reluctance that the group departed Santa Teresa on Friday the 31st of March on their journey home. We would like to congratulate Selby Fisher, Kirra Troughton, Jasmine Binder, Molly Lewis, Andrew Tops, Corey Broeren and Grace Ware for representing our College in such an

upstanding fashions and actively living out our College's motto as they continue to demonstrate their strong minds and compassionate hearts.





# Year 10 Geography Field Trip



**Mr Stephen Erdely**

On Monday, 24th April, the Year 10 Geography class travelled to the Bunurong Marine Park on the Bass Coast as part of their studies on Changing and managing the environment. Students were focussing their investigations into two key areas: 1. processes and examples of erosional & depositional coastal change and 2. evidence of coastal change as a result of human-induced climate change.



Primary data was collected through a range of methods including: recording of observations, using a range of mobile apps as well as photographing different landforms and erosional impacts. The sites we visited included the Cape Patterson surf beach, The Oaks, Twin Reefs, Eagles Nest and finally Inverloch surf beach & boat ramp. Blessed with good weather, the day was both enjoyable as well as providing the opportunity for the class to see first hand examples of the changing coastline and varying management strategies which we had introduced in class.

Thankyou to Darren our bus driver for making himself available on the day, as well as our support teachers, Karina Taylor and Lyn McAllister who assisted with the smooth running of the field trip.







# Physics Excursion



**Mr Mark Judd**

Lavalla VCE Physics students were recently treated to a Skype conference with science communicator, filmmaker and television presenter, Dr Derek Muller. Derek regularly appears as a television presenter on the ABC's Catalyst, he has been a guest speaker at TEDxSydney and recently presented the documentary "Uranium – Twisting the Dragon's Tail", which aired globally last year. However, he is most famous for his YouTube channel Veritasium. As of 12 December 2016 his channel had 205 video uploads, 3.8 million subscribers and 292 million video views.

Derek, who was incidentally born in Traralgon, now resides in Los Angeles, USA, made himself available for a 40 minutes video conference with around 30 of Lavalla's keenest Physics students. He answered a selection of student questions ranging from quantum mechanics to life advice. He was extremely generous with his time and full of praise for the standard of questions asked by the students.

It was indeed an amazing opportunity for our students to gain access to one of the global science communities most popular citizens. Derek even found time to teach students all about Schrodinger's famous equation, all in less than ten minutes.

The students left the session inspired and maybe even a little star struck. One student said "It was a really valuable opportunity to speak with someone who has so much experience yet comes from humble beginnings. The idea that someone from Traralgon could go on to be an international success is an inspiring thought." Whilst another stated "I very much enjoyed meeting Derek, he is one of my favourite science educators and I find his videos very informative." Some even went as far as to say "I'd consider it one of the most memorable and definitely the most exciting experience I've ever had at school".

It was indeed a memorable and inspirational event for those present, myself included. I would like to thank Dr Derek Muller for his generosity and enthusiasm.



**Dr Derek Muller**

## FIRST PHYSICS LAW OF CARTOONS



**GRAVITY WILL NOT WORK  
'TILL YOU LOOK DOWN...**





# Award for Gippsland Volunteer

Interchange Gippsland has announced its annual Volunteers of the Year for 2017.

Congratulations to Bridgett Alkemade who was awarded Young Volunteer of the Year 2017 and Aaron Boscombe-Hill who has been awarded Adult Volunteer of the Year 2017.



Bridgett Alkemade is a year 12 student at Lavalla Catholic College, Traralgon. She volunteers on Interchange Gippsland's ROADIES Program that services Latrobe City and Baw Baw Shire. Roadies is a community based disability support program for teenagers with disabilities in Gippsland that provides opportunities for young people with disabilities to be involved in group based activities. Roadies has a strong focus on creating opportunities for young people with disabilities and enhances social inclusion and community connection. Volunteers attend the program and provide peer support to teenagers with disabilities. Teenage volunteers assist Interchange Gippsland participants by encouraging participation and being young leaders on the trips.

Debbie Knight CEO, Interchange Gippsland said, "Bridgett is a very deserving winner of Young Volunteer of the Year for 2017. She is a very popular young volunteer with Interchange Gippsland and has been volunteering with us for two years now. Bridgett's generosity with her time and her commitment to our teenage participants is truly commendable."

"Bridgett is an incredibly popular volunteer and she is highly valued by the staff, volunteers and participants of Interchange Gippsland. She is known for her beaming smile, outgoing personality and her can do attitude. Bridgett is considered a fabulous role model as she is very inclusive and actively encourages and supports young people with disabilities living in Gippsland," Ms Knight added.

Interchange Gippsland's teenage volunteering program is a life skill development program that provides value to both the participants and the young volunteers. The young volunteers provide peer support and encouragement to Interchange Gippsland participants on trips and camps. The volunteers lead by example, assist others to get involved and provide companionship and support under the guidance of support staff. The benefits to our volunteer are great, they learn acceptance, inclusion and develop understanding and empathy for others. Importantly their volunteering role also assists them with future educational pursuits and career opportunities.

Interchange Gippsland volunteers make a real difference to the lives of individuals with disabilities in Gippsland and are always appreciated and cherished by participants, their families and the organisation. They assist Interchange Gippsland enhance social inclusion and help connect the Gippsland community.

People interested in exploring volunteering opportunities with Interchange Gippsland should contact Interchange Gippsland Monday – Friday on 1300 736 765 or email Jenni Rohde, Marketing and Communication Manager on [jenni@icg.asn.au](mailto:jenni@icg.asn.au) to discuss their interest. Further information on the types of volunteering activities and roles available can be obtained from Interchange Gippsland's website at [www.icg.asn.au](http://www.icg.asn.au).





# Generations in Jazz



**Matthew Lawn**  
**Principal Baritone Saxophone**

Over the last weekend the Senior Jazz Ensemble journeyed to South Australia to perform at the Generations in Jazz Festival in Mt Gambier. We joined 5000 other student jazz enthusiasts from all over the country in competing across a wide range of divisions and sections. Some of the world's biggest jazz names such as Wycliffe Gordon, Gordon Goodwin and James Morrison performed in the professional concerts, these performers as well as some of the other school groups that we heard were a real inspiration. After our performance it was time for some sightseeing where we got to see the natural wonders of Mt Gambier; the Umpherston Sink Hole and the famous 'Blue Lake' - a game of ten pin bowling showed the competitive nature of some within the Music Department. After a final concert on Sunday, we left for home arriving late, tired and inspired after the incredible trip. I'd like to thank Darren, our bus driver, Ms Lee and Mr Lebbe for accompanying us and finally, our conductor Mr Reid. We'd also like to thank Mr Freeman, Mrs Duncan and the Music Support group and all those involved in the planning for making this great experience possible.



**Mr Shane Reid**  
**Director of Music**

Thanks to Matthew for his report. This is the fourth time that our College has been involved in the Generations in Jazz Festival. Nothing else quite like it exists in Australia as an educational experience and I'm grateful to the students and their families for the work and efforts that led to us once again being able to take part. It is a rare thrill indeed to perform at this level. Our Senior Jazz Ensemble students are also members of our Senior Concert Band and Senior Choir, this level of commitment to College representative sees these students involved in four early morning rehearsals each week, a laudable commitment from them and their families. I am grateful to them, especially our year 12 leaders: Zara-Louise, Judd, Abbey, Maddison, William and Tobias for representing our College so well last weekend.







# Careers News



**Mrs Prudence Scholtes**

Many students and parents may be concerned by the recent changes to the cost of Higher Education announced by the Federal Government in the past fortnight. As a result of this I have decided to postpone the promised article on interview skills this week in order to address what these proposed changes might mean for students.

I would like to encourage everyone not to panic and focus on the word 'proposed'. These changes are yet to pass through parliament. We know that the last changes to student fees did not pass through parliament. The current proposed fee model is not as severe as the past model, and there is still bound to be some opposition to the proposed changes by the Federal Opposition and minor parties.

The Australian Catholic University has published the following outline of how the changes might impact students.

## Higher Education Reform Package (May 2017)

### IMPACT ON STUDENTS

Overview: The Federal government's higher education reform package retains the existing framework of the higher education funding system. This includes the commitment that no Australian student will pay a cent upfront for their Bachelor degree studies. However, the reform package also aims to rebalance the funding of university education, by reducing government funding and increasing the contribution from universities and students. The reform package will require support from the Parliament, and will not be implemented until the Senate has passed relevant legislation.

### Increased fees

From 1 January 2018, students will pay a greater share of the cost of their studies. Student fees will rise over time, at the rate of 1.8% each year up to 2021. In total, this is a 7.5% increase in student fees.

- For a Bachelor of Nursing student enrolling in 2018, this will add \$1250 to the cost of the degree over four years.
- For a Bachelor of Education student enrolling in 2018, this will add \$1250 to the cost of the degree over four years.
- For a Bachelor of Arts student enrolling in 2018, this will add \$700 to the cost of the degree over three years.
- Fees for all places funded by the government may still be deferred through the Higher Education Loan Program (HELP).

### Higher Education Loan Program (HELP)

The government proposes to increase the pool of graduates making repayments on their HELP loans, by lowering the repayment threshold to \$42,000.

- From 1 July 2018, graduates earning the new minimum (\$42,000) will repay 1% of their income through the taxation system – equating to \$8 per week.
- The repayment rate will rise as incomes rise: graduates on a salary of \$44,520-\$56,205 will pay 1.5%-3.5% of their income (up to \$37 per week).
- At the other end of the spectrum, graduates earning \$100,655 or more will pay a higher rate (8.5%-10%) of their income towards their HELP loan.





# Sports News



**Mr Dwayne Tiballs**

## Back to Back State Touch Titles

Lavalla Catholic College has once again produced a Touch Football State Championship Title and this time it comes as back-to-back success.



On the back of last year's success, coach Karen Joyce has trained and educated the boys in the game of touch football to a point where a number of boys have been invited to try-out for the Victorian State team.

Marcus Smith was the only student athlete to be a member of both State Championship winning teams and played a pivotal role in guiding the U15 boys' team to victory.

The boys encountered Brighton Grammar School, their grand final rival at the South East Metropolitan Regional event, and were able to prevail 2-1 in their closest contest of the day.

Lavalla remained undefeated throughout the competition to be rewarded with back-to-back state titles.

## Lavalla Dives in for Second



Lavalla Catholic College enjoyed great success at the SSV Swimming State Championships held at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre recently.

Our student athletes' collected seven individual gold medals while two more gold medals were added during the relay events.

Ruby Storm was the highlight of the day with three gold medals and Kaylee Beecroft grabbed a gold and bronze medal from her two events.

The College can be extremely proud of the efforts the 17 students put forth in elevating the school back to a second place finish overall after dipping a few rungs in the standing last year.







# College Calendar - Term 2

DATE	CAMPUS	ACTIVITY	NOTES
<b>MAY</b>			
Mon 15 - Fri 19th		LA Academic Reviews	
Mon 15th - Wed 17th	ST PAUL'S	Year 8 Camp 3	
Wed 31st	ST PAUL'S	2018 Year 7 Enrolments Close	
	ST PAUL'S	Year 7 Immunisations	
<b>JUNE</b>			
Thu 1st	BOTH	SSV Cross Country	
Tue 6th	BOTH	<b>Feast of Champagnat</b>	
		<b>Champagnat Mass</b>	9.30 am- 11.00am
Wed 7th	BOTH	SSV Wellington Football	



## REUNION

***Kildare College Year 10  
Class of 1986***

All ex students, teachers and staff welcome

**17th JUNE 2017 - 7PM till Midnight**

**House of Frank**- Franklin Street, Traralgon  
Further information please contact:

anged17@bigpond.com or  
michelle@coolone.com.au

"THERE IS  
NO ANGRY  
WAY TO SAY  
BUBBLES."

## UNIFORM SHOP

Open 3.30pm- 6.00pm  
St Paul's Campus

18th May  
1st June  
15th June  
20th July  
3rd Aug





# A Pastoral Letter to the Catholics of Victoria

18 April 2017

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

There is a renewed push in Victoria and in many other parts of Australia for euthanasia and assisted suicide to be legalised. Misplaced compassion leads some to call for the deliberate ending of life by the direct action of a doctor or by a doctor helping someone to suicide. This is never justified (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2277).

In this latest push the term ‘assisted dying’ is being used to describe both euthanasia and assisted suicide. While it is never easy to face the end of life of a loved one, we cannot support this kind of legalisation however it is described. Assistance in our time of dying is something that we should all want for ourselves and for others – however, this should not involve a lethal injection or offering a lethal dose.

As Pope Francis recently reminded us, “The predominant school of thought sometimes leads to a ‘false compassion’ which holds that it is ... an act of dignity to perform euthanasia. Instead, the compassion of the Gospel is what accompanies us in times of need, that compassion of the Good Samaritan, who ‘sees’, ‘has compassion’, draws near and provides concrete help.”<sup>1</sup>

Euthanasia and assisted suicide are the opposite of care and represent the abandonment of the sick and the suffering, of older and dying persons. Instead, we encourage all people of goodwill, to respond to this new challenge with truth and compassion. We wish to affirm that our task is to protect, nurture and sustain life to the best of our ability.

We thank the Government for its recently increased commitment to palliative care. We encourage them, rather than taking the negative path towards euthanasia or assisted suicide, to continue to invest in the care and support of all Victorians in need. There is clearly much more work to be done.

Last year a Parliamentary Committee recommended Victoria move towards legalising assisted suicide and euthanasia. This was endorsed by the Government in December with a consultation currently underway to look at how such laws can be made ‘safe’.

We should be clear – there is no safe way to kill people or to help them to their own suicide. For millennia, the Church and civil society has understood such actions to be morally and ethically wrong. The commandment, ‘Thou shalt not kill’ is both a biblical and civil dictum and should remain so for very good reason.

Since the Northern Territory’s brief experiment with euthanasia in 1996, euthanasia and assisted suicide legislation have been continually rejected in state parliaments around Australia. Why? Because when parliamentarians take the time to debate the issue fully and to consider all the consequences they realise that to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide would threaten the lives of vulnerable people.

During 2008, this issue was at the forefront of the public debate in Victoria. Since then little has changed. The proposals then, as now, would allow some people to be treated differently under the law, where their lives could be taken at their request. It would create

<sup>1</sup> [http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2014/november/documents/papa-francesco\\_20141115\\_medici-cattolici-italiani.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/speeches/2014/november/documents/papa-francesco_20141115_medici-cattolici-italiani.html)

*(Continued overleaf ...)*



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a lower threshold of care and civil protection afforded to the sick, suffering and vulnerable. Such a law would serve to exploit the vulnerability of those people, exposing them to further risk.

Such legislation is usually presented as being limited: only for terminal illness; only for those in the last weeks and months of life etc. However, the evidence from jurisdictions where assisted suicide and euthanasia are practiced legally show that incremental changes follow over time once the notion that some lives are not worth living becomes accepted in the community. Euthanasia for children was adopted in Belgium in 2014. Likewise, euthanasia for psychological illness is now legal in Belgium. In Holland, there is pressure to allow assisted suicide for people over the age of 70 who have simply become 'tired of life'.

We must, therefore, urge our elected representatives to resist this 'first step'.

As medical advances increasingly lead to a longer life for many people, we should view older people as a blessing for society rather than a problem. Each generation has much to teach the generation that follows it. We should therefore see care of the elderly as repayment of a debt of gratitude, as a part of a culture of love and care.

The Catholic community already does much to care through our network of hospices, hospitals, aged care facilities and other services. We call on the Catholic community and people of goodwill to continue to care for the frail, elderly, the sick and the dying, at every stage of life. We ask you to continue to journey with those who are sick and in pain, to visit them, and ensure they have appropriate care, support and pain management and most of all someone to remain close to them.

We thank those healthcare professionals and palliative care specialists, nurses, doctors, psychologists, pain management teams, pastoral carers, religious, volunteers and others who work every day to reduce pain as well as social and spiritual suffering, in positive and life-affirming ways.

We ask Victorians to continue to love and care for those who are sick and suffering rather than abandoning them to euthanasia or supporting them to suicide. Our ability to care says much about the strength of our society.

At this time we especially also want to encourage you, our sisters and brothers, to pray and to act. We commend the efforts of lay groups and associations and all people of good will who respectfully let their parliamentary representatives know of their concerns.

Please do what you can to stay informed about this issue.

If you would like to contribute to the efforts of your local parish, ask your parish priest how you can be involved. If you would like more information on this issue or would like to find out how you can contribute locally, contact the Life, Marriage and Family Office of the Melbourne Archdiocese on: [lmf@cam.org.au](mailto:lmf@cam.org.au) or (03) 9287 5587.

In all our efforts, let us never cease to call on Jesus Christ and the intercession of Mary our Mother.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

**Most Reverend Denis Hart DD**

Archbishop of Melbourne

**Most Reverend Paul Bird CSsR DD**

Bishop of Ballarat

**Most Reverend Patrick O'Regan DD**

Bishop of Sale

**Most Reverend Leslie Tomlinson DD**

Bishop of Sandhurst



## ***St Paul's Campus Canteen***

### **AUTUMN/WINTER MENU 2017**

#### **WHATS NEW!**

Baked bean or spaghetti jaffle \$3.00

Egg & bacon wrap \$3.00 ( recess only )

Egg & bacon Roll \$4.00 ( lunch order only)

Lasagne \$4.00

#### **WEDNESDAY SUPER SPECIAL CHANGES WEEKLY CHECK MENU BOARD**

SAUSAGE ROLL \$3.00

PIE/ PASTIE \$3.50

POTATO CAKE \$1.00

IN A ROLL \$2.00

HOT DOG \$3.00      with cheese      \$3.50

CHICKEN WEDGES \$2.00

HASH BROWNS 0.50c

PIZZA TOASTY \$1.50

POTATO GEMS \$1.00

\*CHICKEN BURGER - with salad \$5.00

\*NACHOS - \$4.00 with guacomole \$5.00

\*BAKED SPUD – with the lot \$6.00

\*TOASTED FOCACCIA – 2 fillings \$4.00

\*SALAD ROLL \$4.00 with meat \$5.00

**HOMEMADE SOUP AND HOT CHOCOLATE AVAILABLE MID TERM**