



News
12 November 2010

Lavalla Catholic College

Excellence In Everything We Do



Prayer for Peace

We stand with the nameless and the faceless victims of war and oppression.

We stand with those who face conflict.

We stand with those whose lives have been taken.

The gospel of Jesus demands this from us.

May we see dignity in every human life,

May we be agents for God's kingdom.

Today, and every day, may we embrace the freedom that is the legacy of our fallen ancestors.

In the name of the Father

And of the Son

And of the Holy Spirit

Amen.

Dear parents, students and teachers

We are fortunate as a school community that we make our beginnings and endings together and at this time of year we do both. All of the students from Yr 7 to Yr 12 are completing work or exams and teachers are finalising assessments. Yr 10 and 11 students will be moving into the "Head start" program to ensure that they understand what lies ahead of them in Yr 11 and 12. It is vital that students take advantage of this program to gain insight into subjects and to commence preparatory work for 2011. On December 6th and 7th Yr 9 students will also take part in a transition program to help them become acquainted with the Kildare Campus and the demands of study at the senior level.

In coming weeks it is essential that you and the College maintain the importance of your child attending school every day. There are exams and assessments to complete as well as the rituals that are part of completing a year. Should it be necessary for your child to be absent at any time, please call the Campus office as usual and return your child to school with a note.

Friday 26th November is our Yr 12 Graduation Dinner. 6:30, Champagnat Centre. Cost is \$55 per head, and tickets will be available until the 18th November at the Student Services Centre. The dinner is a formal and fitting way to celebrate our students' transitions from the College and for parents to enjoy a time of deep pride in seeing their son or daughter come to the end of their secondary schooling. I encourage all Yr 12's and parents to join us for this celebratory evening.

I invite all our families and extended families to join us for the ***Christmas Music Concert***, Monday ***22nd November, 7:00p.m at Victory Park Sound Shell***. Please bring your rugs or chairs and perhaps a picnic for your dinner. This is an annual College event and part of the wider Christian understanding of Advent as a preparation for the coming of Jesus. The concert gives us an opportunity to enjoy the music of our young people and also to take some time to slow down and consider our blessings in the midst of our busyness.

Ms Lee McKenzie
Deputy Principal



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Kildare Campus

To sum up year 10 in one word, it would be the word exciting. From work experience, to VCAL, VCE and VET, to beginning the journey of exams; it has all been a fun yet challenging and rewarding time for students completing their Year 10 education. The first chapter of our year was making a smooth entry into the 'big and scary' Kildare Campus. Most of us had seen it before and plenty of us had heard stories about it, but when it is time to face the 'hallowed halls', you really don't know what you are about to face. For a lot of Year 9 students preparing to move into Year 10, the experience is one that brings about feelings of nervousness, happiness and uncertainty. No one is really sure what to expect and how they will cope, being in entirely new surroundings. One of the best parts of moving to Kildare Campus, among many others, is Presentation Campus and St Paul's Campus students meeting up. It is interesting to have a whole bunch of people that you rarely see, be in your classes and in most circumstances, they become friends. Year 10 offers new challenges, great experiences and many opportunities to make new friends, keep friendships and renew old ones. It may seem impossible to complete but we all know that it is just one of many unique stepping stones that guides us and creates who we are for the future.

As Year 9's last year, we were presented with an opportunity to apply for an accelerated Year 10 course for 2010. Many students consequently completed one VCE subject this year, where they were placed in the class amongst Year 11 students to study the subject of their choice. Some examples of these VCE subjects include Maths, Biology, Psychology, Health & Human Development, and Business Management. VET subjects were also popular amongst Year 10s, as many chose to study subjects like Business Administration to expand their knowledge and skills in particular areas of the workforce. Other students applied for the VALU program, which focuses on applied learning and is a stepping stone into the Year 11 VCAL program. Completing enhanced studies in Year 10 was a fantastic learning experience for many students, which allowed us to practice better organisational skills, mix with new students, and most of all, get a firsthand experience of what the next 2 years of schooling will be like for us.

From the 19th to the 23rd of July, Year 10 students headed out into the workforce for their week of work experience. From bricklaying to healthcare, and school teaching to kitchen hands, there were plenty of opportunities and choices made available to us as to what we wanted to look into as a future career. The idea of the week was to get a taste of what life is like working full time, and to clarify any concerns or questions we had about our future career possibilities. For some, the career that they were interested in turned out to be exactly what they wanted to do in the future, but some others found that the career that they had their minds set on was not all they thought it would be, and do not want to work as this when they leave school. For all students, though, the week was an invaluable experience that we learnt a lot from in many ways.

We finish our first year at Kildare with exams coming up in a few weeks, followed by two weeks of 'head start', which gives some preparation for Year 11 next year. Looking back on 2010, it has been a great year. We have become accustomed to new traditions of the campus. For example- the swimming carnival is taken more seriously (in a fun way), with everyone dressing up and giving it 100% for their house team to win; A Cause Worth Week, where activities take place throughout a week to raise money for a charity; and the last day for Year 12s, when a selection of graduating students give the rest of the campus a performance of songs and dances. Overall, this year has been a challenging and fun year and I know they will only get better in the years to come.

**Kristina Psinas, Erin Lawn,
Ryan Ward & Dylan Glasson**

Lockers

The Campus is slowly replacing all of our older lockers with larger, more sturdy lockers. It is important that students empty their lockers during the last week of the Head-start Programme. Any lost locks will need to be replaced – these are available for purchase from the SSC.



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Presentation Campus

As the events surrounding the canonisation of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop become more Diocesan based and our community members who made the pilgrimage to Rome return, their stories are set to become precious parts of this time in the Australian Church's tradition. Mr Tony Van Rossum will be a special guest in our classes in the coming days.

MSP Camps Student Reports **26th to 28th October**

The City students went to Melbourne via the train. In Melbourne we were able to do many different activities. How did it come to be built there? Why was the city built there? At our accommodation while the rooms were small, it was fun to be there with everyone. When we went back into the city we had to do an Amazing Race. It was fun to run around the city looking for certain places. We almost got lost a few times but we always knew that teachers could easily be contacted! Later we went to the Eureka Tower, the view was so pretty and the city looks so different from up that high.

The next day we learnt about what Melbourne was like before European Settlement and we learnt that there used to be a waterfall on the Yarra River and that there is still a creek under Elizabeth St. Imagine that in the middle of the city. We did lots different activities during the day, like a street art tour and then at night we went rock climbing. It was scary to start off with but some people were so good at it.

The last day, we went to Docklands to go ice skating. Most of us had never ice skated before and it was good to see how people coped with the challenge. The camp was so much fun but our feet hurt so much by the end of it. We all slept well that night back in our own beds.

As Bush themed kids we went to Tamboritha as part of our studies for MSP. We had three days and two nights at the Sambain Chalet.

We stayed in the chalet the first night and had intended a long hike day 2 but the weather was against us for hiking, so the second night we simply pitched our tents outside around the Chalet. It was nice to do something a bit different. We went horse riding, mountain bike riding and we walked quite a lot. The waterhole was nice but the water was cold!

Our trip to the beach was really good. We had the opportunity to go surfing, presented our PAL program to students at St Josephs, Wonthaggi. We looked at desalination and its impact on the environment and the locals.

Remembrance Day

What a privilege it was to have our students attend the Remembrance Services at Newborough and Moe and pay respect in both of those public forums. The students selected were all students who have indicated their interest in the Campus Captain roles for 2011. Resplendent in crisp summer uniforms and their blazers they placed their wreaths with style and dignity. The tone there and in the ceremony led by **Miss Adriana Bianconi** was one of great respect for those who had made the ultimate sacrifice so that we could live in freedom.

LEST WE FORGET

Leanne Mills
Campus Director





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St Paul's Campus

Student Leadership at St Paul's

The St Paul's Campus has just completed its 2011 leadership selection process. Students have written applications, attended interviews and last week the 8 chosen candidates gave their leadership speeches to the Campus at an assembly. All candidates spoke very enthusiastically and confidently and the voting was quite close. We are happy to announce that the Student Leadership Team for 2011 is:

Campus Leaders

**Sam Clavarino, Aaron Wall,
Lily Nash, Kayla Massaro**

Student Representative Council Leaders

**Con Kavadias, Annelise Answorth,
Korey Kavadias, Bianca Gawith**

4 House team leaders and 24 Year 9 house captains were also selected.

The new leadership will begin taking over from the 2010 group and will run the next Campus assembly and an activity for St Gabriels students.

The staff and students would like to thank the 2010 Student Leadership Team for the outstanding job they have done this year. They have introduced new activities, run many successful events and set an impeccable example of how to behave and work together as an efficient team.

2011 Year 7 Orientation Day

Students enrolled for **Year 7 in 2011** will visit St Paul's Campus on **Tuesday 7th December** from 8.45 a.m. to 12 noon, participating briefly in some curricula activities, and getting to know some of the other students. Information packages will be distributed to parents within the next two weeks.

Last Day Current St Paul's Campus Students

Tuesday 7th December is the last day of attendance for our current students; Years 7 and 8 to attend at St Paul's and Year 9s to spend the day at Kildare Campus. All students to attend for a full day from 8.40am to 3.20pm.

2nd Hand Uniform Purchases

On Monday 13th December from 3.30pm to 8.00pm families for new 2011 students will be able to purchase 2nd hand uniform items at our Uniform Shop located at the St Paul's Campus.

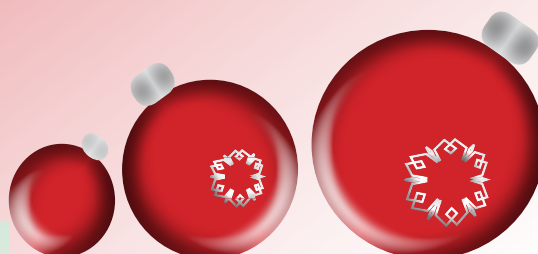
Lavalla Catholic College

Christmas Concert

Monday 22nd
November 2010

Soundshell
Victory Park

7.00pm - 8.30pm





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St Paul's Campus

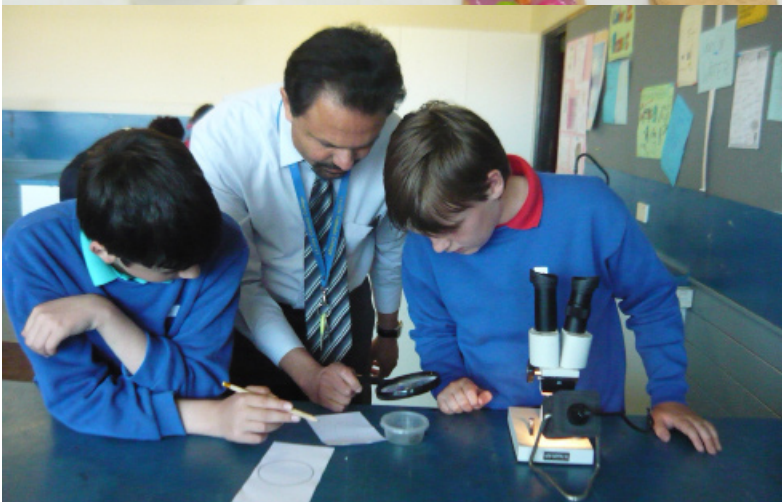
Grade 5 and 6 visit

Recently we had the grade 6 students from the State schools and the Grade 5 students from the Catholic schools visit the St Paul's Campus. At Presentation Campus the grade 5's and 6's from the Catholic schools visited. They participated in a variety of classes including Wood, Art, PE, English, Wii, Music, Maths, Science, Lote and Food.

The staff were enthusiastic about their various classes and looked forward to the day. Their preparations paid dividends as the primary students thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Feedback we have received from their teachers was very positive. Thanks to Lavalla staff for their efforts on the day and to the visiting staff members for their support.

We look forward to doing the same next year.

Chris Roga
Campus Director





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Curriculum Update

The last 12 months have seen a great deal of innovation in the middle years curriculum at Lavalla Catholic College. The focus has been on **Mastering Learning at Year 9 and the Master Survivor Program** which forms a major part of that. The Year 9 staff in general and the MSP team in particular are to be commended for the way in which they have managed the changes and placed the needs of the students at the forefront of their planning. We look forward to a time of consolidation during 2011 and 2012.



Pictured on this page is a small taste of what the MSP students have achieved this term.

At Year 10 teachers of Maths and English are beginning to think of the ways in which the Australian Curriculum will impact on courses of study. We are now entering a time where the curriculum must cover VELS and yet prepare for the demands the new requirements will make of us. Throughout the remainder of the term the English and Maths staff at Kildare Campus will be meeting to plan courses for the new Year 10 structure in these subjects. I am pleased to say that the English staff met for most of the day on November 3rd and developed some wonderful ideas about how the English curriculum can be enhanced in 2011. Thank you to all the teachers who participated, it was fabulous to see such passionate discussion.

At the heart of these changes is student choice and preparation for specific pathways - whether this be VCE or VCAL, employment, an apprenticeship or traineeship. Students will begin with a common English subject called





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Curriculum Update

"English Fundamentals" in Semester 1. This unit will cover all the requirements of the VELS and is structured so that it will easily accommodate the demands of the Australian Curriculum. In Semester 2 students can choose English **electives based on their specific interest**, whether that be Australian literature, drama, digital texts, journalism and the media. Each of these electives will aim to develop the skills necessary for the VCE. Students are not limited to one elective in Semester 2, meaning they can further hone their skills in these areas.

Mathematics staff are due to meet for planning next Tuesday. In mathematics the Year 10 courses will be based on the ultimate end point of mathematical knowledge. For example, Maths for Trades and Commerce will focus on those concepts which are essential for any trade, however it will also provide a sound basis for General Mathematics in Year 11. Maths for Science and Engineering is designed for students who wish to study Mathematical Methods in their senior years.

If parents or students are in any doubt as to the choices they have made, they are encouraged to contact any of the curriculum team members at Kildare Campus before the end of 2010 or early in 2011. There is always the opportunity to make changes should a student find him or herself in an unsuitable course.

Curriculum reforms always provide challenges to schools and individual teachers. The familiar suddenly becomes unfamiliar as there is a new professional language to learn,

courses to develop and different authorities to report to. The next few years will be extremely busy in the area of curriculum development as the education agenda becomes nationalized - at least in the areas of Mathematics and English, Science and History. As a school community we need to be patient with each other as we learn these new ways of planning, operating and reporting. It will take time to develop and source the necessary resources and of course the proliferation of ICT must be managed and incorporated into teaching and learning. At Lavalla Catholic College much work is being done behind the scenes at all levels to ensure that all of these transitions occur smoothly and enhance the learning experience of students as well as the professional welfare of teachers.

We look forward to a productive last half of Term 4.

Maria Haggett
Curriculum Team Leader Years 9 - 10





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Marist Focus

It may seem a little early to focus on Christmas but this is my last article for the year. The three favourite places for Marcellin Champagnat were "the crib, the cross and the altar". What is it about 'the crib' that intrigues us?

i. What sort of love is it that leads to God becoming human? God sharing our journey with us and giving us, in Jesus, a set of values to live by?

ii. The baby – defenceless, totally reliant on others, open to new life, but needing others to live and learn about life?

iii. For Jesus, the crib was a manger, we are told in Luke's gospel – nothing elitist about a manger. So what are the really essential values for life – different levels of relationship rather than what we own or where we live?

iv. Mary and Joseph totally present in the moment with Jesus? What does this suggest about living life? Some theologians talk about the 'sacrament of the present moment. Am I present in the 'now' or distracted by past or future?

v. What is waiting to be born in us this Christmas? Jesus being born in you and me.

Macrina Wiederkehr has an interesting reflection, part of which I quote here:

Loving you

I am not at all interested in how much money you are spending on Christmas gifts this year but rather, in how much blood, sweat, and tears you are shedding to make Christ a vital part of your life for you and I will never be able to erase the fact that He came:

to touch lives – to break bread
to heal hurt – to forgive sins
to wash feet – to calm seas
to walk on water – to give us His spirit
and to care immensely

Yes, to care enough to be born in our Bethlehem, to live in our land, and weep over our cities, and die and rise again.

May your Advent waiting and your Christmas be richly blessed for you and your family.

Br. Mark Needham

Sports News

Year 9 & 10 Milo Cricket

Lavalla entered into the Super 8's cricket held in Bairnsdale on Wednesday 20th October. The weather was a fantastic start to the day with blue skies and not a cloud to be seen. Lavalla entered a boys and a girls team in the competition with Mr Michael McKenna coaching the boys and Mrs Nikki Schroeter coaching the girls.

The boys had a shaky start, losing their first two games and then winning their third game to play off in the finals for 4th & 5th place. Unfortunately they were beaten and finished up fifth for the day. Congratulations to our team on a great effort, the competition was very strong.

The girls started off the day by showing Maffra their complete talent, beating them by a massive 200 runs. Then coming up against Nagle College they shone again, beating

Nagle by 140 runs. Their next game was against Gippsland Grammar, winning by 74 runs. The girls played outstanding cricket all day with some of the greatest catches I have seen. Best players of the day were Monique Tracey, Jaimi Turnbull, Bec Jennings and Maddi Mackin. The girls then had to play Nagle College again for the championship to make it through to the next level of play and did this very easily winning by 130 runs.

The girls play this week in Pakenham up against some of the Valley's top regional winners and if they win this round they play at the MCG in the State Finals. Good Luck Girls

"GO LAVALLA"

Mrs Nikki Schroeter
Sports Co-ordinator



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Questacon: Science Moves

Students at the Kildare and St Paul's Campuses of Lavalla Catholic College were treated to a visit from the **Questacon: Smart Moves** team last week. The travelling show, presented by the National Science and Technology Centre (Canberra) dropped in to share with students new advances in science, technology and innovation.

During the interactive presentation, students heard about innovations involving water, fashion and ecology.

Among the examples presented students learnt how the design of the Japanese Bullet Train was perfected using inspiration from nature, and saw new fashions for the technology conscious. Handbags containing DVD players or carrying solar panels and clothing incorporating electric guitars stimulated the student's imagination.

The hour long presentation provided students with the opportunity to try out some of the new technologies discussed. Students modelled new life saving technology that incorporates rocket propulsion for a more rapid response in drowning situations and attempted to use the power of their mind to control a simple game.

Students were encouraged to think big and to see any



idea as a possibility if they have passion. Budding innovators were extended an invitation to next year's Innovation Convention in Canberra.

Suzanne Farley
Curriculum Team Member

Pictured below: Monique Tracey (Yr 9) trying to work a game with the power of her thoughts





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Music Department

V.C.E. Music Performance Evening

When I was a kid, video rentals were the highlight of the week. We were scraping the barrel at one point (after countless viewings of 'Back to the Future' and 'The Goonies') and rented a movie called Hoosiers, mainly because my sister and I recognised the face of Gene Hackman on the cover from the Superman movie. This movie tells the true story of a high school basketball team from small town Indiana who went on to become state champions; a classic underdog tale.

There is a wonderful scene in this movie where the team becomes speechless and overawed upon entering the enormous stadium where their final match will be played. Their coach, sensing this, asks the smallest player in the squad to climb onto the shoulders of their giant centre so that they can measure the height of the ring from the floor. When they do this, he calmly informs his team that the dimensions of the court are identical to the one they have back home in Indiana, where they began their climb to state champions.

We've had that kind of a year in the music department. Our choir recording a piece of music composed for us by the

eminent Mark Pollard, our Jazz Ensemble reaching the highest peak available in playing at the Melbourne Bands Festival Finale Concert and a group of year twelves who have led the department with musical finesse and gallant character.

Monday evening saw a remarkable new dawn. Our Year Eleven Music Performance class presented their solo recitals to a large and appreciative audience in the St. Paul's Lecture Theatre. It was a wonderful evening for our College, an evening that forged a new group of music department student leaders. Based on the quality of performances on Monday night, 2011 promises to be just as magnificent a year. We wish our former year twelve musicians well as their time with us closes, they can be confident that their legacy is in excellent hands.

Our performers on the evening were: **Breanna Albanese, Demi Bishop, Joanne Coleman, Joshua Diamente, Michael Freeman, Hannah Maunder, David Moulton, Sabrina Salvatore, Isobel Weckmann and Daniel Whitty.**

Shane Reid - Director of Music





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Safe Partying

Suggestions for Parents / students:

At this time of year parents and teenagers can often come into conflict over social issues related to partying and alcohol. Teenagers are often keen to show their independence while parents struggle with allowing for personal growth and making sure their child is safe. Often parents feel that 'they are the only ones' who have old fashioned rules or don't buy alcohol for their child. This is generally not true and most parents are working through these complicated issues to the best of their abilities.

A safe party provides the opportunity for everyone to enjoy themselves, teenagers and adults. Without adequate planning and preparation, the level of fun for everyone is reduced. There are considerable differences between families regarding what is thought to be appropriate at different stages of a student's development. The different expectations of teenagers and parents can create problems when managing parties and gatherings. It is important that parents get to know their children's friends, and where possible, their parents. Co-operation between families enables parents to feel comfortable when clarifying arrangements and helps to avoid misunderstandings about standards.

Lavalla Catholic College does not condone under age drinking or smoking nor the use of illegal drugs. Our school does not consider the serving of alcohol at parties to school age people to be appropriate or wise. Please see listed below resources which may help you have meaningful discussions with your son or daughter as the festive season begins.

Safe Partying Resources

Teenagers and Alcohol: A Guide for Parents

[www.alcohol.gov.au/internet/alcohol/publishing.nsf/Content/4576756CA5268C8ECA25719400181178/\\$File/brochure-teen-alcohol.pdf](http://www.alcohol.gov.au/internet/alcohol/publishing.nsf/Content/4576756CA5268C8ECA25719400181178/$File/brochure-teen-alcohol.pdf)

NSW Safe Party Strategy

www.police.nsw.gov.au

Safe Partying Guide

<http://youth.frankston.vic.gov.au>

Safe Partying: 10 Tips for Parents

www.schoolparents.canberra.net.au

Celebrating Safely

www.celebratesafely.com.au

Hosting Teenage Parties

www.adf.org.au

Safe Partying

www.youth.nsw.edu.au

www.alcoholsummit.nsw.gov.au

www.teenstrategiesgroup.com.au/pdf/resources/factsheet-binge-drinking.pdf



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Second Hand Uniform Shop OPEN DAY

2011 Year 7 Students only

Monday 13th December

3.30pm – 8.00pm

We recommend bringing your child in with you to try on clothing. Smaller sizes are limited.

**Shop located at: St.Paul's Campus
Payment options: Cash, Cheque or
EFTPOS**

**VOLUNTEERS FOR 2011 ARE URGENTLY
REQUIRED!**

Riggalls Traralgon

10% discount

Lavalla Catholic
College Uniform

One day only
7th December

Forth coming events...

12 Nov	Year 11 last class
15 Nov	Year 10 & 11 exams commence
22 Nov	Headstart commences Christsmas Concert 7 - 8.30pm Victory Park
26 Nov	Year 12 graduation
2 Dec	Year 10 last day Year 9 farewell mass
3 Dec	Student Free Day
6 Dec	College Awards Night
7 Dec	Orientation Day Year 7 2011 Last day Year 7, 8 and 9
10 Dec	Last day for teaching staff
13 Dec	Year 12 results released
14 Dec	School closure