



From the Principal

Mr John Freeman



Wednesday 11 November 2015 was Remembrance Day. This day marks 97 years since the guns fell silent following the signing of the Armistice of what was called the Great War – World War 1. This was meant to be the war to end all wars. Unfortunately, as we know, this was not the case. So on this day we paused at all our campuses to remember the generous, brave and selfless contribution made by the men and women who currently and/or in the past defended Australia and in particular paid our respect to those who died or suffered in all wars and armed conflicts.

*They shall grow not old
As we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them
Not the years condemn
At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning
We will remember them
Lest we forget*



Peace in our time can seem to be far away and we may feel helpless at the enormity of achieving such a goal. However, at times when I feel overwhelmed by such issues I recall the words of Archbishop Oscar Romero, who was beatified on 23 May 2015, where he reminded us in the passage below that whilst we are not the Master Builder, each in our own way make contributions that in their totality make a difference:

This is what we are about: We plant seeds that one day will grow. We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capability.

We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

What I take from these words in relation to achieving peace and justice in the world is that the responsibility we have is to strive to find peace in our own hearts, share that peace with others around us and from there we can make a difference.

Our school is privileged to have people on staff who have served in the Australian Armed Forces.

And at the end of my article I have included the edited text of the speech from one of them, Mr Michael Townsend, to students assembled at the service held at St Paul's Campus.

From the Principal cont.

On Tuesday, 10 November, we held a very enjoyable afternoon of Christmas Concert which featured singing of Christmas Carols by Year 7 students in Music classes this semester. We also were entertained by some of bands and ensembles across the College. The turnout from families was great and I know the students were very excited and happy to perform for their families. Well done to all students involved and in particular Matthew Harris and Shane Lebbe who did an great deal of work preparing the students. They were also ably assisted by Shane Reid and the work of Sarah Duncan was key to the success of the afternoon.



You will find included in this newsletter is a notice to all families regarding our Bushfire Procedures. This summer season is predicted to be 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 imp[act] on your family if a fire threat occurs during school time.

Finally, congratulations to John and Teresa Wilkie who welcomed a baby girl, Jemima, into their family last week.



Remembrance Day 2015

Speech by Mr Michael Townsend

3143502, Cpl Townsend M, 5 Troop 38 FD SQN, 7 FER, 3rd Division Royal Australian Engineers; Service 12 Years 1978 – 1990, Australian Army Reserve.

We are here today for Remembrance Day.

Why today?

Why this day? do we have a minute silence at the 11th Hour of the 11th Day of the 11th Month?

Originally called Armistice Day it was when hostilities ceased in WW1; in other words the war ended.

In this war between 1914 to 1918.

18 million people were killed.
20 million were wounded.
That's 38 million people.

Remember the population of Australia today is 24 million, so that's more than 1 and half times all those living here today. Australia's population at that time was only 5 million and 430,00 enlisted.

We lost:

60,000 troops.
150,000 wounded.
Of all enlistments half were casualties.
On average 38 Australians died every day, of that war, which is equal to 1 and a half class of students every day for 4 years.

So, if you look at the person sitting on your right and you were a soldier in WW1 he or she most likely would have died or been wounded. The person on your left would have lost a brother, father and most of his mates. You would have lost most of yours.

In **WW2** the figures get worse:
60 Million dead;
Australia: 41,000 dead.

In **Korea**:
55,000 dead;
Australia: 340 dead.

Vietnam:
1.3 Million dead;
Australia: 500 dead.

Afghanistan:
Est. 360,000 dead;
Australia: 41 Dead and 256 Wounded.

So Why today?

Since Federation over 100,000 Australians have died in wars and almost ¾ of a million have been casualties. The youngest a lad of only 14 years of age when he enlisted, died just after his 15th Birthday at Gallipoli. These are the people we remember along with all those who served.

They have allowed us to maintain our rights and freedoms we enjoy today. It is a small price, at a minute silence, in respect to those who gave so much, many who paid the ultimate price.

Lest We Forget.





Student Leaders - Kildare

After a thorough process of interview and discernment conducted by Doug Doherty, Tamsin McCormack and our 2016 School Captains – Nick Duncan, Isabella Lappin, Erin Roberts and Lachie Spiteri – I am happy to announce that the Student Leaders at Kildare Campus for 2016 are:

Role	House	Name
House Captains	Champagnat House	Lexi Savige Mary Jane Vernier
House Captains	Delany House	Maddison Balcombe Matthew Makowski
House Captains	Mackillop House	Rachel Albanese Jessica O'Toole
House Captains	Nagle House	Maggie McCormick Jamie Quigley
Liturgy Leader		Matthew Pearce
Justice Leaders		Mersina Gelagotis Natalie Justin
Campus Mentors		Harry Lovatt Grace Besselink
Community Cohesion Leaders		Grace Ware Amelia Pitzner
Cross Age Tutor		Francis Licciardi
Cultural and Events Leaders		Taylah Da Ros Emily Grumley Cameron Brinsmead James Mulry

Well done to all these students who will no doubt great representatives of our College and I look forward to working with them all in 2016.

Congratulations!

St Paul's Campus Update

Ms Lee McKenzie - Campus Director



Thanks to all the families who came along to the Christmas concert on Tuesday evening. It was a simple event, where students sang carols and we raised funds for Vinnies to help with Christmas for those in need. It was a delight to see various classes take to the stage to sing their Christmas carol. In this high tech world, it was great to see our students involved in this simple Christmas celebration. From

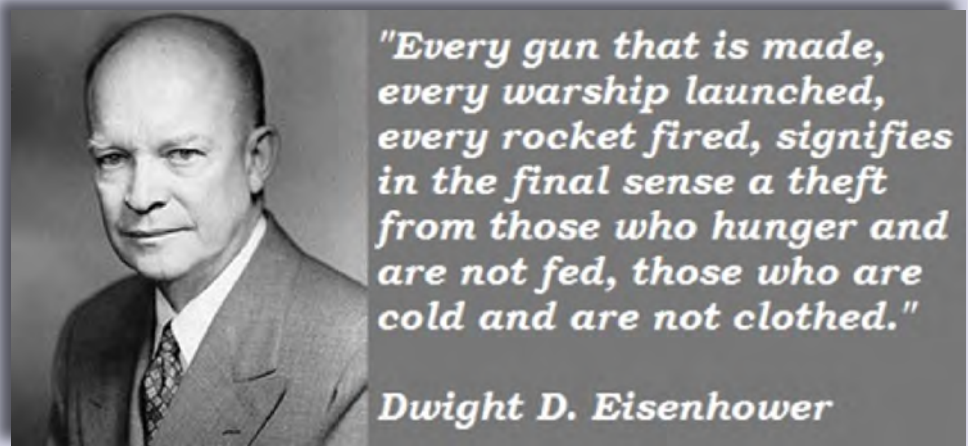
a personal development point of view, it was also valuable for them to face fears of public performance and to work in a large group.

Of course our music students are more used to these public performances and entertained us with their own pieces as well as supporting the singers. My thanks in particular to the music team; Shane Lebbe, Matt Harris, Shane Reid and Sarah Duncan as well as the teachers such as Mr Michael Archipow and Mr Bill Antonopoulos.

Remembrance Day

Wednesday we gathered for a Remembrance Day Service, held in the Champagnat Centre. The prayer, a reading from the Gospel of John 15:9-14 was read by Mub Murshed. Sarah O'Brien read "In Flanders' Fields", and Mr Michael Townsend, a former serviceman, addressed the campus.

Wreaths were laid, Lauren Grimes read the Ode and Mr Shane Lebbe played "the Last Post" and "Revielle". The students were attentive and very attune to the solemnity of the occasion.



Plans for the final weeks of term

16th- 20th Nov

Classes as usual

19th - Sports Nutritionist to work with Sport Enhancement students.

23rd- 27th Nov

23rd - Year 9 final day on St Paul's campus

24th - Years 7, 8 & 9 transition to the next year level. Year 9's operating at the Kildare campus

27th - Report Writing day, Student Free

30th Nov-2nd Dec

Transition continues

2nd Dec - Last day for Years 7 & 8

As always, it is vital that your child attends school or if they are absent that you follow the usual procedure of ringing the school on the day of the absence and sending a signed note of explanation when they return.

Vinnies Hampers

The tradition on the campus is that each home room collects items or money to create a hamper to contribute to Vinnies for families in need at Christmas. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and certainly make a difference to the lives of many people in our community.

Congratulations

Mrs Nikki Schroeter who was recently nominated and was a finalist for Coach of the Year- AFL.

Faith & Ministry Matters

Mr Chris Roga - Director of Faith & Ministry



The Year 12 students will finish exams soon. They have done their best, made the effort, and now they need a well-deserved rest. The Year 10 and 11 Students are preparing for the end of year exams; we wish them best of luck. The year 7-9 students are completing classes, assignments, assessment tasks as they complete their classes. The staff are making the final push to finish well. And parents are looking forward to the 'holidays' that are drawing near.

The Church is looking forward to the great Jubilee Year of Mercy.

The Holy Year of Mercy

(08.12.2015 – 20.11.2016)

The Holy Year of Mercy will be celebrated from December 8, 2015 to November 20, 2016. It is a call for us to meet the real need of people with concrete assistance and to forgive as the Father forgives. Pope Francis explained that the motto, "Merciful Like the Father serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure." He asks us to be witnesses of mercy.

The yearlong extraordinary jubilee includes some special celebratory days, including World Youth Day in Krakow and separate jubilees for teenagers.

Our college motto is, "**Strong Minds Compassionate Hearts.**" The year of Mercy calls us to exercise compassion to people, live our motto deliberately and consciously. We can do that.

Year 9 Retreats

The year 9 Students experienced the Retreat at presentation Campus two weeks ago. As retreat was more youth-based, with catchy music, song, prayer, ritual and input. The students responded enthusiastically, and I was even more impressed when the teachers joined in.

Father James said the Mass and spoke well to young people. The Remar Mission Team from Melbourne with some Red and Blue Rowers (Year 10 and year 11 Remar) did a presentation on Remar. There was a good response from the year 9 students.

Remar: Blue Solidarity Camp

The Blue Caravel, 10 students and two teachers, are looking forward to a four day solidarity camp in Melbourne from 1st -4th December. They will stay together for the four days in 'The Nunnery', cooking and looking after themselves. They will do community service in the Primary school, the House of Welcome, the Soup Vans and the exodus Community.



The Official Logo of the "Holy Year of Mercy"

The image, created by Jesuit Fr. Marko Rupnik, also shows one of Jesus' eyes merged with the man's to show how "Christ sees with the eyes of Adam, and Adam with the eyes of Christ."



Sport Report

Mr Dwayne Tibballs - Sports Co-Ordinator



Track & Field State Champions

Three Lavalla Catholic College students attended the SSV Track and Field State Championships and produced solid efforts in their endeavours to perform well on Tuesday, October 20th at Albert Park.

Jade Melbourne (year 7), Riley Evans (year 8) and Flynn Shields (year 9) did themselves and the College proud in their representation of Lavalla Catholic College and are to be congratulated for their performances.

The results for each student were as follows:



Girls 12-13 1500 Metre

9th Jade Melbourne 5:49.68

Boys 14 Year Olds 800 Metre

7th Riley Evans 2:29.98

Girls 12-13 800 Metre

5th Jade Melbourne 2:43.02

Boys 14 Year Olds Long Jump

4th Flynn Shields 5.67m



Boys 14 Year Olds Triple Jump

2th Flynn Shields 12.06m

Cricket Team Destined for the MCG

The intermediate girl's cricket team has qualified through to the Cricket Victoria T/20 Blast State Final at the Melbourne Cricket Ground with an outstanding performance throughout the Eastern Region Final last Tuesday.

The girls produced a resounding win over Camberwell Grammar School winning with 225 runs to 52. Lavalla then propelled themselves into the Eastern Final after eclipsing Fairhills High School with a 133 to 89 victory.

In the final, Lavalla had the small total of 91 runs to chase down and eventually surpassed Dromana Secondary College's score to eventually win by eight runs. The girls proceed to the MCG for the State Final on Thursday, December 3rd.

The intermediate boys didn't fair so well with three losses on the day but all by narrow margins.



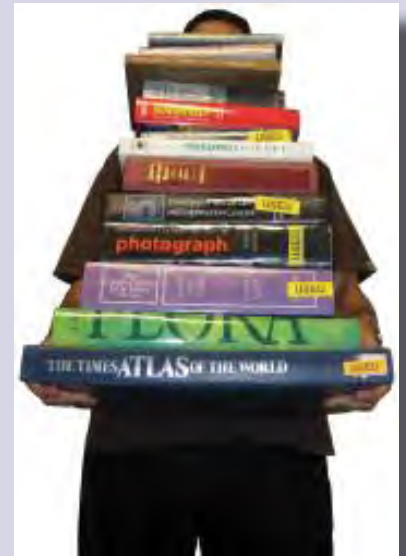
Community Noticeboard

2015 TEXTBOOKS

2015 Textbooks are no longer required for classes after the **20th November 2015**.

We recommend taking textbooks home as soon as possible, after this date, and begin listing them **For Sale** on the **Sustainable Schools Shop** website:

www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au



Information regarding the ***Sustainable Schools Shop Textbook Trading System***, is included with your 2016 booklist on the Lavalla Catholic College website.

Blue sky think-along

CONSULTATION INVITATION

MOE LIFE SKILLS
COMMUNITY CENTRE
INCORPORATED

Learn
Local



- Please join us at in imagining how Moe Life Skills Community Centre can develop the former Masonic Centre at 4 High Street, Moe for its new life.
- We hope to share ideas for a vibrant and inclusive space for all
- What would you like to see happen in your community?
- Can you see potential in this new community space?

Tues. November 17, 2015 || 4 High St
12.30 p.m. to 3.00p.m. OR 5.00p.m. to 7.30p.m.

Light refreshments provided

RSVP Jay: 0484 348 804 OR MLSCC 5127 7999 by Nov 13

Secondhand Uniform Shop



Yes We Are Open!

3.30pm - 6.00pm

**Every 1st & 3rd Thursday
of the month**

The Second-hand Uniform Shop is open from 3.30pm to 6.00pm every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month except during school holidays.

We accept Cash, Cheque and EFTPOS.

If you have never been to the Second-hand Uniform Shop please come in and have a browse. We recommend bringing your child in to try clothing on, this is especially necessary with Kilts and Blazers. Changing rooms are provided.

The Shop is currently very well stocked on most clothing items but smaller sizes are limited. A full list of our quantities and prices can be found under the Uniform section on the College website in the "Quantities and Dates" PDF. This listing is updated after each open day.

Labels and guidelines for selling your items are also available on the website.

The new Second-hand Uniform Shop is located on the St Paul's Campus near the canteen.

A map showing its new location can be found at the end of the "Quantities and Dates" PDF on the College website.



Calendar

Monday 16th November

- Year 11 VCAL Work Experience
- Year 10 & 11 Exams
- SSV State Basketball 7-10 Boys

Tuesday 17th November

- SSV State Basketball 7-10 Girls
- 7/8's Cricket Victoria Semi Final

Wednesday 18th November

- Amazing Race - Geography Field Trip

Thursday 19th November

- Nutrition Guest Speaker

Friday 20th November

- SSV State Tennis - Year 7
- Year 12 Graduation

Monday 23rd November

- Student Teacher Conferences
- Marist Cricket 9-11
- Year 9 Transition Ceremony

Tuesday 24th November

- Student Teacher Conferences
- Whole School Transition

Wednesday 25th November

- Student Teacher Conferences
- Whole School Transition

Thursday 26th November

- Student Teacher Conferences
- Whole School Transition
- Last Day of Term Years 9 - 11

Friday 27th November

- Student Teacher Conferences
- SSV State Tennis Year 8

Monday 30th November

- Year 7 Retreat
- Junior School Transition
- Marist Cricket 9-11
- Year 8 Cinemas
- **END OF YEAR AWARDS CEREMONY**

Click the link below to go to the Calendar on our website for any updates:

<http://www.lavalla.vic.edu.au/News/Lavalla-Calendar/?viewmode=monthgrid&markDate=05-14-2015>



Procedures for the bushfire season

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.

It is recommended that parents who may be unavailable for their children in the case of fire, particularly those likely to be involved in firefighting or defending their property, make contingency plans for the care of their children in such situations.

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