



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

15 June 2007

From the Principal

Dear Parents and Students

A warm welcome back to *Mrs Annemarie Clarke*, Assistant Campus Director at the Kildare Campus, who has returned looking quite fresh and energized after her long service leave. She was able to spend valuable time with her family in Ireland and travel to various romantic cities in Europe. In welcoming Mrs Clarke, we thank *Ms Liza D'Aloia* for capably and enthusiastically filling Mrs Clarke's shoes and we also thank *Mr Peter Collins* for his practical approach to the Nagle co-ordinator's role which he shared with Ms Leesa Wakefield.

Reporting and Examinations in Semester 1, 2007

At this time last year there was quite some activity around the new compliance reports that provided parents with information regarding the assessment of their child's progress measured against the new VELS curricula. You will remember that the English and Mathematics reports were piloted using the progression points to indicate levels of achievement acquired at various stages. The extent of this new reporting method will be broadened this semester to include *Humanities, Health & Physical Education and Civics & Citizenship* with other subject areas to be phased in by 2008. Teachers are currently working on ensuring that learning activities and assessment tasks reflect students' performance according to the VELS standards.

The College is also introducing a *Pastoral Report* for all year levels, across the campuses this semester. This report will be written by Homeroom teachers to provide you feedback on how your daughters and sons develop meaningful relationships and engage in collaborative pursuits that contribute to community building, while strengthening their own personal, spiritual, social and academic growth.

By the time you receive this, Year 12 students will have sat their General Achievement Test (GAT). The Campus Director, Mr DiCesare and a team of interested staff have offered the Year 12s valuable workshops highlighting the need to take this exam seriously and the importance of each student trying her/his very best to ensure the best possible score. In the past, some students have perhaps taken this examination without these considerations and risked their end result. Through these workshops, hopefully students were well motivated to give it their best effort on the day.

We have also entered into the examination and assessment weeks for most year levels and your children should be quite busy completing work for assessment. If this is not the case it might be worth checking that your child is on track with your child's homeroom teacher.

Student Achievements: Tim Northe

The College is proud to let it be known that Tim Northe has been selected to represent Victoria in the Victorian Secondary Schools' Sports Australian Rules Football Country Team. This team will compete in the annual School Sport Australia Championship, which will be held in Sydney from 21 July. The selection process was extensive and rigorous giving testimony to Tim's outstanding football skills. We wish him all the best in July.

Rest in Peace: Erin Hansford

Sadly, last week the College learnt of the sudden and premature death of Erin Hansford (Year 12, 2004). We remember her as a vibrant, joyous and life-filled young woman who will be greatly missed by her sister Claire (Year 12, 2006) and brother Peter (currently in Year 11). We offer our deepest sympathy to her family and pray that our faith will be strengthened and our loving care of our God will be renewed in remembering the gift of Erin in our lives.

Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal

St Paul's Campus

Semester 1 is coming to a close. For the past fortnight we have had a "No Interruptions" time to allow students and staff to complete work requirements in preparation of the Report Writing Day on 15 June 2007. Reports will be distributed to students on 27 June 2007.

For some students the reports are a time to celebrate their achievements, their motivation, consistent work and their desire to do their best. For others it is a wake up call, a time to reflect on their attitudes and learning behaviour. Learning is a habit for life, to reach your own potential.

Some parents, too, will celebrate, while others might be disappointed. Reports are like a 'health check' for learning. It is wise to look at the report truthfully, to analyse it and to find some remedies that will produce a better performance. The question every child should answer is "have you done your best?" and "how can I help you do better?" The remedies can be as simple as talking with your children about what they have learned, or putting in a structure of silent, undisturbed time for learning every evening. And there are many creative things that can be done.

Remember "it takes a village to raise a child", and every child who is successful makes the "village" so much better.

Year 7 Museum

The Year 7 Centre is abuzz! The Humanities classes, as a culmination of their study of Ancient Civilisations, and inspired by the recent excursions to the Melbourne Museum, have been holding their individual class Exhibits. Greek food, Roman togas, the Great Wall, Egyptian cartouches and pyramids have all been featured, among other exhibits. The Year 7s have had a whale of a time making detailed models, posters, doing research and talking to visitors, including other Year 7s and even Year 9 students. Creating invitations and setting up have taught them about planning and organisation.

Year 9 ArtsConnect

The Year 9 ArtsConnect experience has been wonderful for our students. Leaving early for Melbourne (7.30 am), they visited the Arts Centre and then the State Library. For many of them this was a first time for both. They were engrossed by the Ned Kelly experience, which portrayed Ned as both, a hero and a villain. Most students thought he was a bit of both! They were also amazed at the books at the State library. As part of the experience they made plastic replicas of Ned Kelly's armour.

Table Tennis

On Tuesday the 5th June Lavalla students in Year 7 - 10 participated in the Victorian Schools' Singles Table Tennis Championships - 2007. Gippsland and Eastern Region Zone Finals.

While our students enjoyed the day, Kate Metlikovec, Sarah Metlikovec and Jessy Meredith performed outstandingly. They will represent the College in the State Finals in Melbourne on June 27th.

Cross Country

On Thursday 24th May students from Years 7 - 10 participated in the Catholic All Schools' Cross Country Championships - 2007. The day was extremely competitive and all participants did their best to combat the extreme weather conditions. Congratulations to Lauren Isles of Year 10 who placed 3rd and to our other students who just missed out on the minor places. Our next event is at Nagle College in Bairnsdale in Term 3.

Girls Football

Our Lavalla girls football team travelled to Sale to compete in the Gippsland Power Football competition. The girls were in very good form knowing that other schools were out there to win also. In the end Lavalla won all games at Sale and move onto the Championship round to be held at Traralgon Stoddart Oval on Tuesday 19th June. We are hoping to bring back the shield for Lavalla.

Victorian Under 15 Touch Football Team

The College would like to acknowledge Jordan Symons and Matt Royal who have been selected to represent Victoria in a preliminary competition in Queensland in July. They will be representing Victoria at the Australian Carnival in October in Melbourne.

Social

The St. Paul's SRC has organised an alcohol free social for Friday 22 June at 'Inferno' from 6.00-10.00pm for Lavalla students from Years 7-9 only. They have organised security and staff will attend the function. Tickets are available at the Front Office at St Paul's campus. Parents are advised to pick their children up from 'Inferno' at 10.00pm.

AMSA Marist Netball

We are very excited about the prospect of hosting the Australian Marist Netball Carnival which begins on Sunday 24 June concluding on Wednesday 27 June. You are all invited to attend all aspects and events of the Carnival including the Opening Mass at 4.00pm at St Michael's Church.

The Opening Ceremony will be held at the Agnes Brereton Netball Courts at 9.00am on Monday 25 June, followed by game play all day and continuing until Wednesday.

Lavalla has a very strong and competitive team in the competition this year with some very talented players. We look forward to a successful event.

*Mr Chris Roga
Campus Director*

Kildare Campus

We are very close to the end of our first semester for 2007 and this term has been a very busy time for our students and staff. Year 12s are now faced with their mid-year exams and the realisation of the importance of SACs and SATs is now evident. Our Year 10s and 11s are also busily preparing for exams and they have been encouraged to take advantage of this learning tool and the post-exam follow-up sessions.

General Achievement Test (GAT)

Over the last two weeks a number of our staff ran GAT Information Sessions with our Year 11 and 12 students studying a Unit 3 and 4 subject. Our students were attentive and understanding of the growing importance of the GAT. It was a pleasure being involved in the sessions and the level of questions and general willingness of our students to maximise their understanding and potential was impressive.

Student Achievement

In an earlier newsletter you read about the achievements of our Lavalla Catholic College Basketball team in Adelaide. Laura Joyce was one of our star players who left early from the Basketball in Adelaide to attend a 4 day State Basketball Camp. From there, she was short listed to 10 students who will represent Country Victoria. Laura is busy training for the National Basketball Championships which will be held in Tasmania in July. We wish her all the best as she shows her skills during the Championships.

VCE English Language

Mrs Jenkins' VCE English Language class has been studying how children acquire language. They have looked at stages of learning and the various theories to describe language acquisition. They have also been transcribing children's speech using the International Phonetic Alphabet.

Recently they have been fortunate enough to have some young children come to visit them in the classroom so that they could observe their language acquisition. Mrs Jenkins passes on her thanks to Mr Andrew Wald, Ms Anita Kay-Taylor and Mrs Moira DiCesare for bringing in their delightful children for the class to observe. The Year 11 class appreciated their efforts and it certainly made their study more enjoyable.

Mr Marco Di Cesare
Campus Director

BREAKFAST CLUB AT LAVALLA

The Kildare Campus of Lavalla Catholic College is hoping to set up a breakfast club *with the assistance of local parishioners and College parents.*

Aims of the Breakfast Club:

- To offer a warm and friendly environment for students to have a simple toast and beverage breakfast at no cost.
- To offer the opportunity for voluntary mentoring between adult members of the local parish communities and Kildare students on a weekly basis.

There will be a practical information and training session at Kildare on June 19th at 7.30pm in the Virtual Services Centre (next to the Kildare Hall). For more information and to register interest please phone Mike Hansen at Kildare on 51748111.

This invitation is extended to all adults in the Valley region, especially those who love kids. Please pass the invitation on to those who you think might be interested.

This initiative depends totally on community response. Please consider this opportunity.

Mr Mike Hansen
Director of Faith Development

Presentation Campus

Our focus for the next few weeks will be the compilation of the Semester 1 Reports. It is an important time in the academic life of your son or daughter. Staff have been collecting a range of learning outcomes and these will be presented in a comprehensive report which you will receive in week 11. Parent / Teacher interviews will be held on Thursday 28th June from 4.00 – 7.00pm. We would like to see all parents in that evening.

Last week the College received an e-mail from Rob Wood, Regional Cricket Manager for Cricket Victoria, regarding Super 8 Carnival in March in relation to the following students; Sam Price, Lachlan Wooten, Jayden Camm, Emma Handley, Ashlee Raymond, Sam O'Mara, Stephanie Bishop, Liam Bednarski, Chris Bortignon and Karlee Attard.

I am pleased to report that they were outstanding and I would go as far as saying that they were the best group of secondary students that we have had assisting us at our Carnivals across Gippsland.

Yours in the spirit of strong minds and compassionate hearts.

Mr Chris O'Brien
Campus Director

COLLEGE CALENDAR

Reminder that;

The *last day of Term 2*, Friday 29th June is a normal school day for all students.

The *first day of Semester 2*, Monday 16th July is a Student Free Day and a College Review and Renewal day for all staff.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Weekends for 2007 will be at Millgrove July 13-15 and Lysterfield October 19-21.

Contact Peter and Erika Smith for further details or to book on (03) 9899 0824. Checkout the website for more information on www.wwme.org.au

Lavalla Arts & Technology Exhibition 2007 Competition

Design a name or logo that can be used for the invitation and promotional advertising for the 2007 Arts/Technology Exhibition.

The Brief:

Design a name or Logo that is appropriate for the following information:

- Art, Technology, Music & Drama
- Year 7-12
- Exemplary pieces of student work & student performances

Due by: Monday 18th June

Submit: Reception

Further information contact
your art, technology, drama or music teacher

Forthcoming Events

JUNE

17-19 June Intermediate Band Camp
18 June Year 12 Oral Exam
20 June Year 12 LOTE Oral SAC
24-27 June **Marist Netball Carnival**
27 June Reports Distributed
28 June Parent/Teacher Interviews (4.00pm-7.00pm)
29 June Last Day Term 2

JULY

16 July Student Free Day
16-23 July Italian School Visit [K]
17 July **First Day Term 3 commences**
26 July Champagnat Mass

13th Australian Marist Netball Carnival

Sunday 24 June –
Wednesday 27 June 2007

CANTEEN ROSTER

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Mon 18 June I. Gregson, J. Caffrey
Tue 19 June C. Towns, J. Gregg
Wed 20 June L. Hodder, E. Panayiotou
Thu 21 June M. Bird, (help required)
Fri 22 June C. Bruzzese, (help required x 2)

Mon 25 June R. Gillow, (help required)
Tue 26 June J. Campbell, (help required)
Wed 27 June S. Fisher, T. Grunwald
Thu 28 June A. Mooney, (help required)
Fri 29 June F. Webb, (help required x 2)

KILDARE CAMPUS

Mon 18 June C. Jackiw, J. Adams
Tue 19 June A. Dorrington, (help required)
Wed 20 June L. Lloyd, (help required)
Thu 21 June C. Shippen, H. Stoddart
Fri 22 June A. Fogarty, (help required)

Mon 25 June I. Gregson, D. Buckley
Tue 26 June H. Vanberkel, K. Dugan
Wed 27 June S. Briddges, (help required)
Thu 28 June M. Johnson, (help required)
Fri 29 June P. Johnston, (help required)

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