



Out of his infinite glory, may he give you the power through his Spirit for your hidden self to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your heart through faith...

Ephesians 3: 16

God of my potential, you show such patience towards me.

I seem to inch forward only to tumble back further from where I started.

Despite my constant failures to live up to my own expectations of myself

I sense you at work with me, on my secret self that hidden part of me

where you dwell in the moment and make me holy.

Mike Hansen

Dear Parents, students and staff,

As a history teacher I would often use U2's song, **Sunday Bloody Sunday**, to help express the sense of hopelessness and despair that the people of Russia must have felt after what began as a peaceful protest in St Petersburg in 1905, resulted in 1,000s of people being gun downed outside the Winter's Palace. Demonstrators were delivering a petition to the Tsar, hopeful that he would hear and have sympathy upon their dreadful living conditions. As many of you would know, U2s song actually refers to the massacre in Northern Ireland when in 1972, the British Army shot into a peaceful crowd of civil rights demonstrators, killing 13 and injuring another 13, which became known as Bloody Sunday. For 38 years, Army officials would claim that the protestors were armed and that the soldiers were defending themselves. Initiated by the then Prime Minister, Mr Tony Blair, the inquiry into this massacre would take 12 years to complete and cost £195m.

I admit being moved to tears, when I listened to the Prime Minister, Mr David Cameron say, "What happened on Bloody Sunday was both unjustified and unjustifiable. It was wrong". More so when listening to the family members of those killed as they spoke of the verdict. It instantly reminded me of the emotions felt by our own Nation during Sorry Day. History is riddled with such events and these public apologies are not about re-opening old wounds but rather about healing the gaping wounds of injustice left behind by atrocities and crimes against humanity. They are shameful acts diminishing our integrity as humans and yet we need to draw on our very humanness and act with courage and resolve to right the wrongs. We need to reflect on History's lessons, it teaches us much about human nature and if we learn the lessons well, can guide our future and give us hope for our own humanity.

The gospel values of justice and truth underpin how we conduct ourselves at Lavalla and staff and students are encouraged to be instruments of peace in their own lives and in their interactions with each other. We can be justifiably proud of striving for, **Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts**.

Arrangement for our Marist Brothers

In May, Br Julian Casey, Provincial of the Melbourne Province, wrote to explain the new arrangements for the Brothers in Traralgon. As of the beginning of semester two, Br Bill will be living in Melbourne; Br Kevin

will move to the Aboriginal mission at Santa Theresa; Br Tony is currently staying with family in NSW and Br Mark will reside in the community at Sale. It is the Province's intention to sell their house in Hourigan Drive. While we can fully understand the reasons for these changes, we are pleased that the brothers' presence will still be with us through the work of Br Mark. The 9.30am mass on Sunday 27 June at St Michael's will be offered in thanksgiving for the work and dedication of the brothers in Traralgon over the last 50 years. *(continued page 11)*



Faith & Ministry

Celebration

Like many Australians I sat glued to the SBS coverage of the opening ceremony of the Soccer World Cup recently. What a simple and elegant expression of the new South Africa the various songs and symbolic routines were. Nelson Mandela was absent because of the tragic death of his granddaughter but his spirit loomed large in his absence. He is one of the great figures of the modern age ... and there was archbishop TuTu jiving to the rhythm of a young nation united under a new vision. What a powerful image of hope for us all!



Last Saturday week, I worked with Gippsland Interchange and the 'Roadies' ... a respite programme for teenagers with disabilities. We all ended up in Warragul for a few hours and danced 'hip hop' in a professional dance studio. Two young women, not much older than the Roadies themselves, taught the group a few performance dance moves. As a group, they rehearsed again and again till the moves began to express the inner life of the participants. And as each rehearsal took place the participants deepened their contribution to the dance. The routine was filmed and then replayed. Everyone gathered to watch the group and relished seeing themselves on screen. At the end of the viewing each of the teenagers with disabilities was issued with a certificate of completion. Everyone was very proud... and one of the boys did a lap of the dance studio in an infectious celebration of his achievement.

So, what do these two events have in common? Surely both are a celebration of the moment.

I think it was T.S. Elliot who said that most men live lives "of quiet desperation". Yet it need not be the case. We have much to celebrate in life. What is it that the Irish say? ... "every day you stretch out your arms and don't feel the sides of a coffin is a good day".

The Sufi mystic Jelaluddin Rumi says, "Stay here, quivering with each moment like a drop of mercury." We are called to be here in the moment, as an artist is here with focused attention, whether we are welcoming our children home from school, talking on the phone, on our way to work, greeting a colleague, answering a question, cooking dinner, holding close one that we love, or discussing a plan. We must be here in the moment, as an athlete is here in that sweet spot of time when everything is effortless, fluid and free.

We need to pledge ourselves to the moment and let it teach us... surrender ourselves to the moment and let it preach to us. It is the quality of our presence that determines the quality of our life. We tend to hurry through the so called boring things in our lives in order to attend to that which we deem more important and interesting. Perhaps the final freedom will be a recognition that everything in every moment is 'essential' and that nothing at all is 'important'.

The Book of Ecclesiastes urges, "Withhold not your heart from any joy." Stay in the moment. That is where the Invisible Lover is, close as your breath.

Mike Hansen Director of Faith and Ministry

Sports Update

MARIST NETBALL CARNIVAL 2010

The following girls have been selected to represent Lavalla in the 2010 Australian Marist Netball Championships from Sunday 27th June – Friday 2nd July:

Monique Battista, Tayler Brouns, Brittany Mustoe (VC), Hayley James, Molly Clavarino, Jaimee Salleh (C), Shantelle Thorburn, Georgia Dyer, Kim Cunico and Bec Jennings (Pictured below from L - R)

The carnival is hosted by St Johns' College Woodlawn, NSW, and the team will be leaving next Sunday. Lavalla has a very strong reputation in the Marsit Netball Competition, we are hoping to represent Lavalla well and do us all proud. A big thank you to everyone who helped organise our fundraisers and also to those who supported us in these events. The Sex and the City 2 movie fundraiser was a huge success and a fun night out, raising \$890. The golf fundraiser proved to be an enjoyable and challenging day with \$540 raised.

The girls are heading to the Gold Coast for a well deserved break after the carnival. They are all very excited and eager to do well.

GOOD LUCK GIRLS "GO LAVALLA"























Presentation Campus

Youth Mass

In recognition of the partnership we have with our local parishes we recently celebrated a youth focussed Mass with St Kieran's Parish. Arrangements are in place to develop this as well at St Mary's and to visit St Kieran's in September. The following note was received from *Fr Bernie O'Brien*, Parish Priest.

"I want to thank you very much for all your efforts towards making the Youth Mass such a success last Sunday. It was great to have that good number of young people involved. It was much appreciated, and very prayerful, for all. God bless all."

Parents Support

I would like to make special mention of another partnership, that which we have with our parents. For so many who have fully engaged in the opportunities that the *Learner Advisor* program offers both to them in keeping in contact with the achievements and challenges that their son/daughter is having. As well, thank you to the staff, for devoting their time to ensure good care is being taken to get to know their individual families and for the guidance they are giving in setting meaningful goals for the next learning block.



Thanks to parents as well for their support in recent pastoral meetings about specific behavioural, uniform and learning related issues. This undoubtedly helps us all to understand that wise choices need to be made and others considered when young adults are faced with decisions about how they act and what impact they have on others. Confirmation of the importance of this came in an email received only yesterday

To the entire school at Lavalla College

I just returned from a visit to Imax with my wife and at first was a little taken aback to see a large group of young people lining up at the counter for some treats. My wife and I discussed whether we should reconsider watching the movie. How wrong could I have been? Although your group looks like regular young people they are far from the young we have unfortunately come to expect in the city. Your students were courteous in line, respectful in their behaviour both in, and around the theatre, there was no yelling, jostling, mobile phone use, rude or disruptive behaviour or throwing things.

I was so impressed. I made a point of walking all the way down a long flight of stairs to inquire as to which school these students belonged to. There is great hope for our future with students such as these being given the morals and ethics that could perhaps shape the leaders of tomorrow.

Students of Lavalla College, I implore you to continue in this regard with respect and courtesy. You have shown in representing yourselves and your school, no matter where you are or what you do, somebody is watching, and will see how you carry yourselves. I hope that you are able to follow and fulfil your dreams no matter how difficult they seem, work hard and find success.

These particular students were in fact the MSP group in Melbourne for their CITY experience. Congratulations to them and to their supervising staff!

Leanne Mills Campus Director

St Paul's Campus

Good News! Only 7 days to go! And then blissful HOLIDAYS! The past few weeks have been a blur of activity; students completing assignments, and waiting for the reports to arrive with some trepidation; teachers marking assignments, writing reports, proof reading them. The reports will be printed, collated and handed out soon. And everyone will have earned a well deserved rest.

The Marist Brothers

By the end of June 2010 the Marist Brothers will have closed their house in Traralgon. The Marist Fathers established St. Paul's College in 1956 and the Marist

Brothers assumed responsibility in 1962. Since then they have served the local community faithfully, especially the young people. Their contribution and effect cannot be measured.

Br. Bill Dillon has been attached to Lavalla since 2007. As a volunteer he works with students, especially at Presentation Campus and St. Paul's. His area of expertise is Mathematics. Br. Bill first taught at St. Paul's in 1963 and fondly remembers those happy days when he coached every sporting team at St. Paul's. A gentle, wise, humble man, he can often establish links with students in some unusual way, with lines such as, "Is your father.....? I taught him in How is he?" Children warm to him immediately. Br. Bill will be based in Melbourne.

Br. Kevin has been with us for only a few months. He will be posted to Alice Springs. **Br. Mark Needham**, the RE Liaison at St. Paul's continues at the College and will make the daily journey from Sale to Traralgon.

We will miss the presence of the Brothers, but we wish them well in their new missions, and we shall continue in the



Marist tradition they modelled of helping young people grow into balanced young men and women.

Mr. O'Hara

After 29 years of outstanding service to St. Paul's and Lavalla Catholic College, Mr. Brendan O'Hara (pictured above) is retiring to spend time with his family, and grandchildren. Mr. O'Hara arrived in 1981 as Deputy Principal to Br. Doug. Over the next 29 years he has not only taught RE and maths, but he has also led the college through times of great change and amalgamation. He leaves behind a legacy of commitment to teaching, loyalty to his colleagues and to the college and his staunch Catholic outlook. His mild and soft spoken demeanour belies an iron will and unflinching integrity. What is less well known is his large heart and generosity. We will miss Mr. O'Hara and we wish him and his family many happy years ahead.

Parent teacher interviews will be conducted on 24th June 4.00 – 7.30pm & 25th June 9.00 – 11.30am. Parents are requested to fill in the interview forms and return them to the front office as soon as possible.

Chris Roga

Campus Director



Kildare Campus

As Semester 1 comes to a close I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful staff at the Kildare Campus for their hard work and perseverance. We have seen a number of changes across the campus: new buildings, new initiatives, P4P and improving standards. I also congratulate our students - the reason why this community exists. At the start of the semester I outlined my aim to lift standards. Our young people have answered this call. There was a very noted improvement in general behaviour and approach by students across the campus. Congratulations to you all and well done! Please take time to reflect on and update your goals over the semester break. Semester 2 is a fast-paced term and I encourage you all to continue to remain focussed.

Parent-Student-Teacher Meetings

Interview request sheets were recently mailed out to parents. Please ensure that these are returned as soon as possible so that times can be booked and finalised. Our meeting times for general subjects will be Thursday 4:00-7:30pm and Friday 9:00-11:30am. Learner Advisor meetings will occur during the week at a time convenient for parents, students and LA's. I welcome feedback on these sessions and encourage parents to make contact with myself or any member of the Campus Administration Team (pictured below). L-R from back Ms Lyons (Nagle), Ms Amezquita (Delany), Mr Warnock (MacKillop), Mrs Clarke, Mr Erdely, Mr DiCesare and Mrs McCormack (Champagnat).



Year 12 Retreats

Retreats are an important time for our Year 12 students, it is a time to reflect on who they are and their relationship with God. This year we have rearranged the format and included two guest speakers. *Mr Rod Lawn* spoke about setting goals and remaining focussed. *Samuel Clear*, who has been a part of the Youth Mission Team that presented to our students over the years, will share his experiences of walking 29,000 kilometres around the globe praying for the unity of all Christians! I trust that our Year 12's will appreciate what they hear while on retreat and thank our staff for giving their time to share their faith experiences. I also acknowledge *Mrs Jo O'Brien* who gave of her time to be with our students. Jo was a former staff member at the College. Three REMAR post-school students also attended and we thank them for their support.

Long Service Leave

We have a few staff taking a well earned rest during the next term. For part of the term *Mrs Justin* will travelling around Australia with her family. *Mr Hansen* will be taking his leave for the rest of the year and will be heading to Spain for the Camino de Santiago de Compostela, also known in English as The Way of St James Pilgrimage. Mr Hansen will be taking many written prayers and intentions with him. Good luck to them both.

I will also be taking leave next term. *Ms McKenzie* will move across into the role of Campus Director while I am away. Having mentored me in this role some 4 years ago and having been Campus Director at the St Paul's Campus ensures that Ms McKenzie will move comfortably into this role (not too comfortably though!!). I will be travelling to Japan and spending time with my family in what I hope will be sunny Queensland.

In closing off semester one, I pray that the Kildare community has a restful break. May God continue to bless us and keep us safe.

Marco Di Cesare Campus Director



A Note from Our Students

lot of activities occurring. As you may have heard we had 'A Cause Worth Week...' and this was the first time ever that to keep the Campus in a relatively good condition. the Student Leadership Council had organised this event. This year we decided to raise all funds for the Gippsland Cancer Care Unit and we are very proud to announce that and safe break and we look forward to seeing you again we raised just over \$5000.

It has also been an extremely busy time with all year levels completing Mid-Year exams. While this was a stressful period for everyone we are pleased with the work ethic of all students. We trust that all students have worked hard and that this is reflected in their exam results.

The Year Twelve Jumpers are also currently being finalised. Our aim is for the jumpers to be delivered during the middle of term three and that all students are happy with the final product. It can be hard to get over 160 students agreeing on a design. We have worked hard to ensure the best outcome with the design.

This year we were very lucky to be given an office for the Student Leadership Council. This has been beneficial in not only giving us our own space to meet and work in, but also work more closely with the majority of the Student Leadership Council.

It has been an exciting time at the Kildare Campus with a On a very positive note Mr DiCesare is going on Long Service Leave. We wish him a restful break and we promise

> On that note we wish all staff and students a well deserved next term.

> > School Leaders Andrew Ware, Kosta Psinas, Brooke Ward and Joey Black







Suddenly out of nowhere comes the end of semester one! It has been a long term and we all deserve time to **regroup**, **restore energy levels** and **prepare for the final stages of the year**.

How will we make the most of the three weeks between now and the beginning of term 3? What steps can be taken to maximise our results in the SAC's and exams ahead? Most importantly – Don't drop the ball! This means considering the following points

- Keep studying stay ahead of those VCE students who choose not to work through the break
- Keep your body clock on track as tempting as it is to stay up socialising on line or watching the soccer and then sleeping in all day, it is more important to maintain your routine.
- Come back next term organised, energised and ready to do your best

In the last week of term you will be provided with clear guidelines of the work you should be focusing on during the break. As well as this important work you should be considering the following:

- Review your goals
- Learn from your mid-year reports
- Evaluate your performance so far
- Reset your goals
- Don't wait until Week 1 of Term 3 to start working on these goals commence working towards these now

It is important to have a rest during the holidays, but a balance between rest and work will bring you closer to successfully achieving your goals.

Cyber Smart

Have you recently accessed the Australian Government's Cyber Smart site at *http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/*? It has a great Parent section that you can investigate to learn more about how to manage your child's use of the Internet.





The parents section includes information on

- digital kids
- online technologies
- risks and concerns
- how to keep your computer secure
- mobile phones
- family safety resources
- downloadable resources for parents
- glossary of terms

For example, in the online technologies section, there is a useful video about the use of mobile phones. Take time to explore the above sections.

Mr Ben Verghese - Director of Educational Resources

VCAL/VALU Term TWO

VCAL

Term 2 saw students complete the Skills Acquisition Program which now leads us into the Career Enterprise and Opportunity Program (CEO) that will be operational for the remainder of the year. Students have created their businesses and employees have been allocated their roles within each business. Managers (year 12 students and some year 11's) tradesmen/women (year 11's) and apprentices (year10 VALU). This is an exciting time for students, as they have finalised the planning and hands on work has commenced. There has been a lot of activity in the shed and surrounding areas, with the installation of raised garden beds, landscaping, sustainability shed and development of metal work etc. The Stylish Hair and Beauty salon have plans underway for room improvement and a trial invite day for the 24th June (details have been given to those involved to bring home)

Year 11 Literacy students have been studying the holocaust and this culminated with a visit to The Jewish Holocaust Museum, which was a very rewarding experience for all who attended.



Pictured above: Year 11 visit to Jewish Holocaust Museum with Mr Warnock and Mrs Hunter

During the term students were given the opportunity to undertake Industry Card training; necessary for those students you intend to undertake work experience/work placements in the power industry and on many work sites. This course was delivered by Gipps TAFE and students have now been issued with their cards after successful completion of the course.

Also, Girls keeping Up Appearances was offered to anyone interested, but especially the girls who are working in the salon. It covered areas in skin care, facials, make up, manicures, pedicures, personal grooming/self worth and structure of a business within the beauty industry.



Pictured above: Girls keeping Up Appearances Course students

VCAL was presented with 5 state awards recently in Melbourne (as highlighted in College Newsletter) for work achieved by both students and staff in 2009 and the 2010 students are keen to be future recipients of these highly regarded awards for their efforts within their VCAL program.

VCAL will be holding an exciting 'Showcase Expo" on the 2nd and 3rd September (more details will be sent home at a later date) where students will be able to proudly display their projects they are working on to family, friends and invited quests.



Picture: VCAL Awards in Melbourne

Curriculum Update



Year 9 MSP

Students completing the Master Survivor Programmerece ently participated in a three day bush camp at Licola & Tamboritha. This experience built

upon previously developed skills and knowledge. Students were involved in many personal challenges and activities including horse riding, bike riding, high ropes, rock climbing, hiking, river crossings and camping.

At the time of writing this report students were participating in an overnight city camp which correlated to units of work completed in the city theme. The activities that students completed related to the seven components of the program. For example, an Amazing race (personal growth), Grafitti Melbourne (Marist Commitment and community project), Eureka Skydeck (environment and construction), and Melbourne Museum (indigenous culture).

Kim Stewart - MSP Coordinator

Year 9 Science for Mastering Learning

Science students are about to take off! This term students in year 9 Science have been learning about sound, light and chemistry, as as well as furthering their skills in scientific inquiry. As part of their final weeks of term students will put their knowledge and skills to the test. Using chemistry and careful design students will endeavour to create functioning and flying rockets. This classic Science challenge should be a sight to see.

ICAS Science Competition

Nominated students at years 9 and 10 recently took part in the 2010 ICAS Science competition. This national competition tested students on their ability to interpret and apply data, and their skills in reasoning and problem solving. About 50 students across these year levels participated.

The Science Experience

The Science Experience is an opportunity for students at year 9 and 10 to undertake 3 days of hands on Science at one of 35 participating Universities. Most programs run during the Christmas holiday period and incorporate a large variety of Science based sessions for students to experience. The experience costs \$110 for the three day program and transport and accommodation is not provided. Interested students should speak with their Science teacher or contact Ms Suzanne Farley. Rotary Club sponsorship may be available.

YEAR 10 EXAMS

Students at work



The mid-year exams for year 10 students have recently been completed. The examinations and the time leading up to them provide our year 10 students with a valuable learning experience, and students recognised the importance of this.

Corrected examinations should be returned to students prior to the end of term and student performance will be discussed with classes. Students should be encouraged to reflect on their performance and preparation for their exams and plan for future examinations.

Suzanne Farley - 9/10 Curriculum Team

From the Principal... (continued from page 1)

Marist Mission Assembly

I was fortunate to have participated in the Regional Marist Mission Assembly held in Mittagong at the end of May. Brothers and Lay people from the Melanesian, New Zealand, Sydney and Melbourne provinces came together to discuss some possible future directions for the entire region. So important was this Assembly that we were fortunate to have in our company, the Superior General Br Emili Turú and the Vicar General Br Joseph McKee. Recommendations made at this Assembly will inform the combined Provincial Chapters of New Zealand, Sydney and Melbourne that will occur in December.



Champagnat Day at the Montagne Centre

On Sunday 6th June, members of our College community joined other Marists to celebrate our Founder's Day at the Montagne Centre in Brunswick. Apart from celebrating the great work of Marcellin Champagnat it gave us all an opportunity to visit the new centre which houses the many ministries that the Marist Brothers support. Many of you would be familiar with the REMAR programme but this centre also houses the Young Adult Ministry group; the Lay

Leader and Formator and his work; the local and international solidarity mission and the Vocations team. Situated on the same site is also the DOXA



school for students at risk being a vivid reminder that our mission as Marists is to work with the poor and marginalised youth.

May they Rest in Peace

The College was deeply saddened by the death of Sandra Henderson, mother of *Jarrod Henderson* in Yr 7 on 7th June, after illness. We extend to the Henderson and Hutchinson families our condolences and prayers during this time of grieving and sadness. We were also shocked by the death of our former student *Mr Andrew Wilson*, the pilot who bravely landed his plane avoiding a primary school in Bankstown. We remember in our prayers his family and friends who will miss this precious young man in their lives.

Mrs Theresa Denny is grieving the loss of her father and her aunty only days apart and we also extend to her and her family our sympathy. May we keep all these members of our community in our prayers and hope that each family is comforted by wonderful memories of their loved ones.

Staff News

On Long Service Leave in Term 3 will be *Mr Marco Di*Cesare and *Mrs Lisa French*. As you will read in the Kildare Campus report, Ms Lee McKenzie will be Acting Campus Director in Mr DiCesare's absence and *Ms*Dominica Szylkrot will replace Mrs French for the term. *Mr Mike Hansen* will be on leave for the remainder of the year and plans to complete a pilgrimage in Spain. To replace Mr Hansen as the Director of Faith and Ministry, *Mr*Shane Reid and Br Mark Needham will share the role. We welcome both to the Leadership Team & thank them for generously accepting this significant role for the College.

We also welcome back from leave *Mrs Debbie Reynolds* who resumed duties last week. New to the College are *Ms Erin Wellsmore* and *Mr Sunil Nand* who are already working in the Master Survivor programme and *Ms Katie Kindellan* as the teacher's assistant for this programme.

As we approach the end of the semester, may you find joy in your child's/children's reports and may you all have a safe and restful break. **Erica Pegorer, Principal**



Important Dates - Student Free Days

Friday 25th June Student Free Day
Monday 12th July Student Free Day

Monday 9th August Year 12 classes only (VCE and VCAL)

Monday 16th August Student Free Day

Forthcoming Events...

Term 2

21-25 Jun Yr 8 &10 LA Interviews

24 Jun Yr 7,9,11,12 Parent Teacher Interviews

(4pm - 7.30pm)

25 Jun Yr 7,9,11,12 Parent Teacher Interviews

(9.00am - 11.30am)

26 Jun - 11 Jul Term Break

Term 3

12 July Term 3 commences (Student Free Day)

13 July Students return

19-23 July Year 10 Work Experience

Second Hand Book and Uniform Shop.

NEXT OPEN

Thursday 15th July

3.30pm - 6.00pm

Shop located at: St.Paul's Campus
Payment options: Cash, Cheque or EFTPOS
(Please note Kilts/Skirts must be tried on. They
are not sized)

CHANGES TO SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP POLICY

Due to the large amount of second hand clothing items received and lack of volunteers the Uniform Shop is no longer able to contact you to pick up items unsuitable for sale.

All clothing items deemed unsellable will now be discarded without notice to the seller. This includes items that are

- Torn
- Badly marked
- Worn thin
- Not genuine Lavalla Catholic College Uniform
- Dirty

If you are unsure about the suitability of your items please drop them into the shop on one of the open days and we can assess them for you.

All Kilts and Blazers MUST be dry cleaned with the drycleaners tag left on.
All other items must be clean and ironed.

Volunteers are urgently required to help with the shop. If you are able to assist any time between 3.30 – 6pm every third Thursday of the month please contact the College and leave your details.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Interviews for Term 2 will be held

Thursday 24th June 4:00-7:30pm Friday 25th June 9:00-11:30am

Interview request sheets were recently sent home, please ensure that these are returned as soon as possible so that times can be booked and finalised.