

LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE NEWSLETTER



21st August 2009

Dear Parents, Students and Teachers

From the Principal's Desk

Well it certainly has been a **big news fortnight** this time. The College calendar has been very crowded with parent and student activities and it has been very heartening to witness the strong partnership that comes to the fore between the teachers, students and their parents during events like EXPO and subject information nights. In fact, one outside provider at the TAFE booth at this year's EXPO complimented our parents on their obvious involvement and commitment to their children. Another guest from the University commented on the 'spirit of enquiry' that came from the students and their good manners. Clearly not every school is as blessed as we are.

The College understands the importance of students thinking positively about their future and making the right subject choices for themselves. As a result we prioritise our resources, making our facilities and our specialised teachers' expertise available for the benefit of our students' future. There is so much good will and passion that goes into preparing EXPO, the year 8 into 9 EXPO programme, the Year 9 into 10 transition programme and various information nights that we can only but reap the rewards as students and families become confident about their choices and enjoy their courses.

A warm visit from Bishop Prowse

Lavalla Catholic College was pleased to welcome our **Bishop Prowse** on Tuesday 18th August. It was an informal gathering of the College Leadership Team and the College Student Leaders and an opportunity for the Bishop to become familiar with our school and the complexity of three campuses. Bishop Prowse was very interested in our Student leaders and asked many questions about their interests and talents. I admit to feeling quite delighted as they answered questions about their school with confidence and pride. What wonderful young people we have in this school. Bishop Prowse will return to Lavalla Catholic College in October for a more extensive visit across the three campuses. Parents and families will also be invited to attend should you wish to meet the Bishop.

Ms Erica Pegorer

PRINCIPAL

Coster Circle TRARALGON

Ph: (03) 5174 5272

Fax: (03) 5174 9235

Mr Marco Di Cesare

KILDARE CAMPUS DIRECTOR (Yr 10-12)

Kosciuszko Street, TRARALGON

Ph: (03) 5174 8111

Fax: (03) 5174 0783

Mrs Leanne Mills

PRESENTATION CAMPUS DIRECTOR (Yr 7-9)

John Field Drive, NEWBOROUGH

Ph: (03) 5127 1311

Fax: (03) 5127 7110

Mr Chris Roga

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS DIRECTOR (Yr 7-9)

Grey Street, TRARALGON

Ph: (03) 5174 7355

Fax: (03) 5174 1827

POSTAL ADDRESS:

PO Box 1080

TRARALGON 3844

Correspondence Home

By now all families should have received their **raffle booklets** and a flyer in the mail explaining the prizes and the procedure for returning sold tickets. I urge you to get behind this fund raising activity and to play your part in being stewards for the future generations of this College. The Parents and Friends will also need your support to help sell tickets in the community on weekends. If you can spare a few hours please make contact with my Personal Assistant – Ms Megan Wisewould at Marcellin House. We really need lots of helpers. **Parents with students in year 8** should have also received in the mail information about our new Year 9 programme for 2010 and an invitation to attend an information evening on Wednesday 26th August commencing at 7.00pm sharp. If you have not received this information please make contact with the appropriate Campus office.

Italian Visitors

With appreciation we thank Ms Maria Doganieri for her great hospitality and care of our Italian visitors. There was a warm and friendly dinner held in their honour at the St Paul's staff room with a great variety of 'inter-cultural' cuisine. Thank you too to our families who billeted students and who generously offered a meal to share on the night. This was yet another example of the wonderful family support we enjoy at Lavalla.

Principal's Absence

By the time the next newsletter comes your way, I will be engrossed in the Marist Brothers' Chapter in Rome. I am very excited about having received this invitation and remind you that **Ms Lee McKenzie** will be Acting Principal in my absence. I wish you all a steady finish to the term.

Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal

2009 Expo



Little Expo - Year 8 into 9



Visit by Bishop Prowse



Choosing Subjects for 2010 !

EXPO week has been an exciting and also a confusing time for students and parents. Steering their way through so many choices and knowing that they can maximise their potential in a variety of ways has brought home to students their responsibility to be organised, to do their research first and to choose subjects that they will both enjoy and work hard at.

By this time, all 'Re-enrolment' forms for 2010 Years 10 to 12 should have been lodged at campus offices. Years 7 & 8 forms are due on 31st August.

Next week, Interviews for variation subjects such as VCE, VET, VCAL and YR 10 VALU will commence for students who have lodged applications. We ask students to prepare for these interviews with the relevant criteria in mind. Applicants will be notified about the result of the interview prior to online enrolment. Also during the next week, Year 11 students will commence online enrolment while at school.

On **26th August**, an information evening will be held for all current **Yr 8 parents** in the Champagnat Centre at St Paul's campus. Parents will also have an opportunity to participate in discussions about the new curriculum initiatives and special learning programs on offer in 2010.

In the following week, students currently in Years 8, 9 & 10 will commence online enrolment during class time.

Mrs Rita Nainie
Director of Curriculum

Presentation Campus

Life on the Campus has been largely focused around **choices and decision making** and the opportunities that await students in 2010. Students have been impressive in the way they have engaged in a serious consideration of their learning style, their interests and the need to make plans for a future which has many pathways.

The recent daytime visit to Kildare prior to **Expo** to explain subject choices and to begin the transition process was very successful and our thanks to **Mr DiCesare** and **Ms Haggett** for their guidance through the process. The **9 into 10 Information Evening** and subsequent enquiries and the great support that parents have shown for the aspirations of their child is to be commended.

Expo itself was a busy and exciting event which opened up many career opportunities to those searching for greater clarity about what their future might hold and the steps they need to take to get there. Presentation Campus welcomed all the current Year 8 students and allowed time to hear firsthand the new initiatives being planned to enhance their learning.

Ms Pegorer emphasized the place of technology and the need to set goals and strive to achieve them in the world they will compete in during their working life. **Mr Roga** and I looked at how the complementary courses running in core subjects and the experiential focus of the Master Survivor programme would offer the students the very best preparation for that world. The problem solving tasks, orienteering, smokejumpers activity and team building activities were all valuable parts of the day and allowed many to showcase their talents as resourceful, lateral thinkers.

For those travelling to **New Zealand** on September 20th many of you could readily tell how many days before takeoff – some 33 at the time! The enthusiasm of students is obvious with plenty of buzz about countdown calendars and currency exchange taking over from concerns about passports and insurance or itinerary.

As well in this time **Ms Stewart's** Projects class were busy bringing their business proposals to life. Congratulations to all who participated. The creative ideas, good marketing strategies and welcome of prospective customers showed how engaged they became in this practical learning experience. Eventual winners were **Katelyn Somerville, Jamie Ferguson** and **Beaudine Hunt**.



Mrs Leanne Mills
Campus Director

Kildare Campus

It has been a busy fortnight. We are now entering into the enrolment phase for 2010. Please ensure that you have handed in your enrolment and variation forms to the Kildare office.

This week I met with each year level about the need to remain focussed and forward looking. There is no room for mediocrity and tardiness at this time of the year. Work output, behaviour, Campus presentation and student uniform were discussed. Students are expected to focus on each of these as the semester progresses.

Course and Careers Expo

Parental involvement in College life is never taken for granted. I know I speak on behalf of staff when I acknowledge and thank parents for their involvement last week in the information nights and Expo day. The Information Nights were well attended and the many questions that were asked in the break-out groups highlighted the importance of these nights. I thank the College Leaders who were present on these nights. In particular, I would like to thank **Nick Silver** for his presentation and work with Year 9's over the week.

St Paul's Campus

The future is a distant proposition for early-teenagers because they are wired to live in the present. However, the Year 9 students are looking ahead to possible career pathways and choosing subjects that give them the best options in the future. They are showing a sudden spurt of maturity.

The Year 8 students are also looking to becoming the top dogs in Year 9. For them a fresh approach to learning and teaching will prove exciting. I know the staff at Lavalla is looking for new ways to engage students and help them discover what is right and useful for them. At the same time, the Federal government is also looking at education and how to make schools more performance oriented. Education is a hot topic at the moment and it would be good for all parents to engage with their children in determining what they need the education for, and to pursue it energetically.

Year 8 – Year 9 Learning Program: 14 August 2009

For the Year 8 students going to Year 9 in 2010, the 14th was different. At 9.00 am they were transported to Presentation Campus and given a taste of the Year 9 Learning Programme. Besides information sessions, they engaged in subject selection, and activities that provided a taste of the Year 9 programme. The breadth of the electives drew a gasp of excitement from most students, and they threw themselves into the activities with gusto. From Presentation they went to visit EXPO to see the doors that learning could open. Then it was back to St. Paul's to catch buses to go home. All in all, it was a packed day, but the staff and students felt it was a worthwhile day.

Volleyball

On, 6th, 7th and 8th August, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, two Lavalla teams, U-16 Boys and U-16 Girls competed in the Victoria Schools Cup Volleyball at the Stud Road Volleyball & Basketball Centre Dandenong. The students had just taken up the sport a month earlier and have been training with the Latrobe Valley Volleyball Association coaches. Of the 134 competing teams there were only 6 new teams, two from Lavalla. The students enjoyed the experience. The U-16 Girls were placed third and the U-16 Boys competed closely in all matches. **Mitchell Watson, Ryan Ward, Tayla and Phoebe Trembath, Lauren**

Staff worked hard to ensure that our Careers and Courses Expo on Friday was a success. I acknowledge their hard work and thank them for all of the work that went into the day. Well done **Mr Erdely, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Sutton** and **Ms Hagggett** for all your hard work.

Melbourne Schools Band Festival

The last two weeks have seen our various ensembles perform at the Melbourne School Bands Festival. Students and staff involved in our Music programme work hard throughout the year to not only enhance their musical skills but also to support our College functions. We wish them all the best for this festival and the upcoming Eisteddfods.

Careers and Further Education Visits

This last fortnight has seen many faculties from universities and employer groups speak to our students about future options. **Mrs English** is constantly looking at the alternatives available to our students and ensures that our students have the latest information available to them. The recent scholarship presentations were a highlight and I encourage our students to continue to take advantage of the guest speakers.

Mr Marco DiCesare
Campus Director

Wain and **Rachel Bird** performed notably. All players, parents and staff were positive and supportive. This is a good example of successful parent-teacher-student collaboration. Congratulations go to the Latrobe Valley Volleyball Association, parents particularly **Mr. Glenn Trembath, Danny Anderson** and **Mr. Both, students** and **Mr. Sizeland**.

Debating

The Junior Debating Team had its first Training Session last week in Warragul. The excited debaters are preparing for their first 'War of Words' in Warragul tomorrow. Best of Luck to Mrs. Widrich and the team!

Year 7 Enrolment Visits

The Year 6 students from state schools enrolled to enter in 2010, visited the campus on 18 August. They were met by the Transition and year 7 coordinators and took part in a number of activities including PE, Food and Art.

Mr Chris Roga
Campus Director

Second Hand Book and Uniform Shop.

Thursday 17th September

Hours: 3.30pm – 6.00pm

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

Music Department News

Our **Senior Wind Ensemble** and our **Senior Jazz Ensemble** have both recently performed at the **Melbourne School Band's Festival**. We received some very positive feedback and the hard work of our students was both recognised and celebrated. Our college has had some great success at this redoubtable event, being one of the most decorated schools over the past ten years. Our music department has received **eight of their prestigious shields** since the year 2000.

Our **Intermediate Concert Band** will perform at the festival this Friday. We are also about to commence a series of performances at the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod. By the time of this newsletter's publication our **Senior Choir** will have opened the festival with performances by the **Senior Wind Ensemble, Senior Jazz Ensemble, Intermediate Concert Band, Intermediate Jazz Ensemble** and our **magnificent Training Band** to follow in coming weeks.

We would warmly welcome all members of the college community to join us in the Kildare Hall on Wednesday the **9th of September** for our **Annual Music Concert** beginning at 7.00pm. This is the main event that our music department works towards each year and is always a great celebration. **Please consider yourself most welcome.**

Mr Shane Reid
Director of Music

Forthcoming Events

TERM 3 AUGUST

19 - 21 Aug	Year 8 Camps (8.4 and 8.5)
21 Aug	2010 Year 9-12 re-enrolment intention forms and deposit (\$100) due
21 Aug	2010 Year 8 re-enrolment intention forms due
20 Aug	Uniform Shop open (3.30pm to 6.00pm St Paul's)
20 Aug	Lavalla Catholic College Restuarant
24 Aug	Parents & Friends (7.30pm St Paul's Library)
24 Aug	On-line enrolments commence for current Year 11 students
25-28 Aug	Year 11 Retreat
26 Aug	2010 Year 9 Parent Information Session
26 - 28 Aug	Year 8 Camps (8.1)
31 Aug	On-line enrolments commence for current Year 8-10 students. Re-enrolment intention forms distributed.

SEPTEMBER

2 Sep	Year 8 Camps (8.3 and 8.6)
9 Sep	Annual Music Concert 7pm Kildare Hall
17 Sep	Parent & Teacher Interviews
18 Sep	Term 3 concludes

RE 4 the rabble



Catechesis sessions for ordinary, everyday young people.

What: Bishop Christopher Prowse asks:

“What legacy will you leave to the next generation?”

Where: Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 266 Commercial Rd, Morwell

When: 5.30pm Saturday September 12th

How much: Free

www.sale.catholic.org.au