

LAVALLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

NEWSLETTER

28 NOVEMBER 2008



Dear parents and students

As we write the last newsletter for the year, no doubt you are well and truly aware that the end of year is fast approaching. The busyness and urgency of things has increased and we are especially focused on ensuring that students remain attentive and present. It is our expectation that students attend every day as usual and early departure for holiday reasons will not be looked upon favourably. There is of course one exception – and that is our students who have arrived safely in Italy for their immersion experience. **Ms Doganieri, Mrs Mustoe and Mrs Swasbrick** are accompanying our 24 Year 9-11 LOTE students. Already their news tells of the great excitement of being in Italy and the wonderful hospitality received. We wish them a safe and fun trip and look forward to their stories on their return.

The first formal end of year celebration began last night with the **Year 12 Graduation** dinner and awards night. It was an elegant and fitting farewell to our students and families who have been loyal and committed to the College for a number of years. It was an opportunity to thank parents for their support of the College and for entering in partnership with us as we accepted the privilege of educating their daughters and sons.

The **Year 9 Graduation** for the Presentation Campus students is on Wednesday 3rd December at St Mary's in Newborough and for the St Paul's students is on Thursday 4th December at St Michael's in Traralgon. Both occasions begin at 5.30pm. Years 7, 8 and 10 will have less formal gatherings and liturgies to mark their finishing. In the celebrations, we will remember the days of joy and the more challenging days, but more importantly the many, many days of hope as we kept focussed on the road ahead.

Semester 2 reports, subject confirmation for the following year, uniform sales and second-hand book sales & new book lists and are all key events that you need to keep in mind. It will also be of some interest to you that both Riggalls stores are **offering 10% off uniform items** if purchased or ordered on the day of the Year 7 Orientation – Tuesday 9th December.

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Awards Night

The Annual College Awards night will be held on Monday 1st December commencing at 7.00pm sharp. Letters of invitation have been sent and most replies have been received. Students have worked hard to be nominated for these awards and the expressions of pride when their names are called marks the night as a particularly joyous occasion. It is important that parents and friends become part of the celebration. I look forward to meeting some new parents on the night and encourage you to introduce or re-introduce yourselves again to your child/children's teachers. It is an opportune moment to bring closure to a successful year.

Campus Leaders 2009

Campus Leaders for 2009 have now been determined and we offer our congratulations to:

College Captains: Christine Scholtes and Sky Hammer
St Paul's Campus Leaders: Erin Lawn and Ryan Ward
Presentation Campus Leaders: Katelyn Somerville and Simon Noy

Changes to the Canteen Offering

You have no doubt been aware of the aggressive campaign against childhood and adolescent obesity. In favour of healthy eating habits, governments have introduced strict guidelines for school canteen operations. Lavalla Catholic College will also introduce healthy canteens in 2009 offering healthy alternatives instead of snacks and food high in sugars and fats. Students will be made more aware of their choices in 2009. We will follow the "Go for your Life" Healthy Canteen Campaign and further information can be found at www.education.vic.gov.au/goforyourlife

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Staff Farewells

A number of staff will leave us at the end of the year to begin employment in other schools next year or follow a different path altogether. We say ***farewell, thank you and good luck*** to:

- ***Chris O'Brien*** after 31 years of service has taken up a position with St Paul's Grammar in Warragul
- ***MaryAnne Needham*** after 25 years at various campuses will retire
- ***Janet Winfield*** (9 years) will begin a new journey in spiritual direction
- ***Melanie Williams*** (8 years) has accepted a position at St Paul's Grammar in Traralgon
- ***Eva Amezquita*** (6 Years) will take a break from teaching to pursue other interests
- ***Janice Stiglich*** (2 years) has accepted a position at St Joseph's Ferntree Gully
- ***Nicole Bond*** (1 year) will move with her family to another State
- ***Stacey Rosentreter*** (1 year) has accepted a position at Marist-Sion College in Warragul
- ***Adriana Morland*** (1 year) completes a finance/administration replacement contract

Farewell for Chris O'Brien

In honour of ***Chris O'Brien's*** 31 years of dedicated service to the College in his many capacities but especially as Head of the Presentation Campus an afternoon tea in his honour will be held at the **St Paul's Campus on Friday 5th December from 4.00pm onwards**. This is an open invitation to families who might like to come and celebrate Chris' contribution to the development of Catholic Education at the College. You are most welcome.

Christmas Wishes

On behalf of all of us here at Lavalla Catholic College we extend to you our warmest wishes for this Christmas season. We thank you for your support of us this year and wish you a safe and restful holiday, pleasant gatherings with your families and ample opportunities to catch up with friends. May you also take the time to remember that the true meaning of Christmas is more about giving than receiving and really appreciating that the greatest gift we can ever receive is God's love through his son Jesus. It is also a time to remember all the blessings that fill our lives, beginning with the great blessing that came on a holy night in Bethlehem. For Christians around the world, the birth of Jesus is a central religious event; an example of God's profound love for humanity and the pathway to hope and to new life.

May you have a happy and holy Christmas.

***Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal***

St Paul's Campus

"Strong Minds, Compassionate Hearts" is our motto. Indisputably, most of our students have grown, matured and learned over the year. Our Year 9 students are about to leave us, some to go on to Kildare Campus, others to seek new pastures. They have been an interesting group, always energetic, with a wide spectrum of ability and character. In them we see the real magic of St. Paul's; transformation from callow Year 7s to poised Year 9s. It is quite amazing to see how much they have matured in their three years. We wish them the very best as they step into the next phase of their lives.

Christmas is a special time for children of all ages. With the focus on the Christ Child, it is right that families celebrate the uniqueness of each child and make a fuss over them. Children are seeds of the future. Like arrows they are shot from our bows. We cannot hold them; we can only support them in their journey. They bring us joy and hope, and lighten our lives as did Christ for the world. As the students and staff look forward to the holidays, it is time to wish all our families and the wider Lavalla Community a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and a safe holiday.

ANSA

The inaugural ANSA (Additional Needs Students Awards) ceremony was held last Thursday in the St Paul's Lecture Theatre. After a light lunch, 68 students, parents and family members celebrated the successes of each student who received a certificate which acknowledged the academic and personal achievements over the course of the year.

This was one of those magical moments when parents, staff and students gathered together to observe collaboration in helping these students. The wider Lavalla Community was able to gather to celebrate their accomplishments and growth. It was a truly moving experience for all.

Debating

A selected group of Year 7 and 8 students travelled to Gippsland Grammar to complete a Debating Training Course facilitated by the Debating Association of Victoria. The next day two groups of Year 7 and 8 students competed with several other teams from Gippsland Grammar and Lakes Entrance Secondary College. The Year 8 team reached the grand final and the Year 7s learned a lot from their encounters. The students came back quite enthusiastic and ready to start debating in a big way in school.

Year 9 Fashion Parade

On Friday 14 November the Year 9 Project Fashion classes organised a fashion parade titled 'A Passion For Fashion'. We would like to thank our supporters: Jay Jays, Casual Guy, Runway 59, Michelle's, Moda8, Target and Try Angles. The following categories were presented- pyjamas, beach wear, street/casual wear, after 5, formal and clubbing/party wear. We would like to thank Miss Frou Frou, Shoeroom, Planet Surf, Ultratune in Morwell, Skin Sense, K-Mart, Regals for all their generous donations. Money raised on the night will be donated to Breast Cancer Research.

***Mr Chris Roga
Campus Director***

Kildare Campus

"Anyone can look up and down a street. A leader is someone who can see around the corner"

Leadership isn't always about the charismatic personality or economic rationalism. We have seen many news items of late about our world leaders and what they have, should have or could have done to improve things. At Lavalla Catholic College our 2008 College leaders have tried to "see around the corner". They have made changes to the Kildare Student Leadership structure and have attempted to predict our future needs as a strong and vibrant College. I commend Phoebe, Lynton, Jessica and Sky on their work.

Part of the changes made to our Student Leadership Structure for 2009 is the wider choice for leadership roles that are available for students to enhance their skills. Our incoming College Leaders have spent the last few weeks of their school year in negotiations with students from the campus. As a staff we have been impressed with their actions. They will be speaking to our incoming Year 10's next week. Once positions have been finalised lists will be published early in 2009.

Year 10 and 11 Exams

This fortnight has seen the conclusion of our Year 10 and Year 11 Exams for 2008.

Teachers were impressed with the serious attitude in which the students entered the exam period which bodes well for a productive year in 2009. Hopefully most will be satisfied with their results.

My Thanks

As this is the last newsletter for the year, I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank the Kildare Community for their support throughout the year. There are always many people who work at making our Campus what it is - parents, students, teachers and support staff included. I would particularly like to thank our staff for their hard work. We have and have had staff travelling with students overseas, staff investigating new initiatives, staff being trained as VCAA exam markers and staff completing all those tasks that make up their daily work. These can sometimes be taken for granted. The end of the year brings the efforts of everyone to the forefront. May we all have a restful break and through our actions keep the true message of Christmas alive.

Mr Marco Di Cesare
Campus Director

Presentation Campus

A highlight of these most recent days was our Campus Mass which focussed on the Environment and acknowledged the foresight of those who planned the setting and worked to develop this beautiful location. We paid tribute to the Presentation Sisters for their role in this and thank Sr Joy Hanrahan for joining us on the day.

Thanks also to Fr Mark Godridge who celebrated the liturgy with us and who with Katrina Barrett and Torben Jones brought the Gospel story alive.

Special recognition was given to the Year 9's and a message of thanks for their contribution to the Campus community.

A number of leadership positions were announced at the end of Mass. Simon Noy and Katelyn Somerville will have the honour of serving the College as our Campus Captains in 2009.

We pass on our thanks to Fr Bernie O'Brien who has been a loyal supporter and faithful pastor throughout the year, also to Fr Dunlea who assisted in recent Reconciliation services.

Our thanks also go to Br Bill for his dedicated service to the Campus, its staff and students. His generosity in helping with the appearance of the grounds, the small building projects and the tutoring support he gives in Maths classes all make him a valued member of our community.

In recent days, we have had visits from several staff from our Kildare Campus and this helps to form more purposeful links within our College community.

All of our staff have in turn been to visit classrooms and had the opportunity to share professional dialogue with staff at St Kieran's and St Mary's as part of the initiative we undertook to foster better working relationships with them in 2008. Thanks go to the staff and their Principals Ms Johnson and Ms Greenhough for the warm welcome they have given us.

The Year 9 "Getting to know You" which is part of the Transition program offered an opportunity for all students entering Year 10 at the College, to be introduced to the House System. At Kildare, this structure is used to benefit them as an integral part of their Pastoral Care. Our speaker, Ms Kylie Downey used film portraits of courageous people to inspire the development and use of their individual talents and to meet the challenges of their life.

Many students took the opportunity to try a new activity or participate in a favourite pastime during the activities sessions. The day concluded successfully with a concert which gave evidence of the diverse talents within the group.

Finally, a word of thanks to the students from the Campus who have worked co-operatively throughout the year to ensure much learning and personal growth has taken place. To the parents who have supported us in the changes which have been made and for entrusting your precious young people to our care we say a most earnest thank you.

We look forward to your continuing relationship with us in 2009.

Mrs Leanne Mills
Campus Director

Forthcoming Events

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DECEMBER

1 Dec	Curriculum Day - Student Free Day
	Awards Ceremony
2-3 Dec	Year 11 2009 Classes
3 Dec	Graduation Mass and Supper [Presentation]
4 Dec	Graduation Mass and Supper [St Paul's]
	Last Day for Year 9 and Year 10
5 Dec	Last Day for Year 7 and Year 8
9 Dec	Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN (12noon-2.30pm St Paul's)
	Night Time Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN (6.30-8pm)
2009	2009 Year 7 Orientation Day
10 Dec	Second Hand Book Collect Orders
	Distribution of Reports

2009

FEBRUARY

2 Feb	Years 7, 10 and 12 return
3 Feb	All students Return
5 Feb	Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN (<i>St Paul's Campus</i>) at 3.30pm - 4.30pm and 6.30pm - 8.00pm
19 Feb	Secondhand Uniform Shop OPEN (<i>St Paul's</i> 3.30-4.30pm) Parents collect any Secondhand textbooks not sold on their behalf.

Ecumenical Evening Prayer for Advent

Hosted by the Christian Churches of Newborough

Thursday 4th December at St Aidan's Anglican Church, Torres St Newborough at 7.00pm.

Thursday 11th December at Newborough Uniting Church, Old Sale Road Newborough at 7.00pm.

Thursday 18th December at St Mary's Church, Monash Road Newborough at 7.00pm.

Supper following Prayer. All welcome

Carols by Candlelight Newborough Churches

Sunday 14th December
Family Life Ministries,
39 Monash Road Newborough

6.00–7.00pm Free sausage sizzle

7.00–8.00pm Carols inside, with local schools, kinders and church groups, Salvation Army band.
All welcome.

LOURDES COLLEGE 30 YEAR REUNION

For students who graduated from Lourdes College Year 12 in 1978 or any students who commenced Year 7 at St Paul's or Kildare College in 1973 or joined year levels between 1973 and 1978 are invited.

The reunion will be held on **Saturday 13 December** from **1.30pm to 5.00pm**.

If you are interested phone Bernard Woodland on (w) 03 9510 2355 or (m) 0418 328 656, or email lourdes1973_1978@bwoodlandandassociates.com

Year 7 2009 ORIENTATION DAY

to be held on
Tuesday 9 December 2008

ONE DAY ONLY SALE

**10% OFF
UNIFORMS
at RIGGALL'S STORES**

held on
Tuesday 9 December 2008

(Year 7 2009 Orientation Day)

Riggall's are slashing **10% OFF all Lavalla Catholic College Uniforms** for a **ONE DAY ONLY SALE** coinciding with the Year 7 2009 Orientation Day held on Tuesday 9 December 2008.

Some other College uniform stock has been slashed to **50% off**. (Traralgon Store only)

Riggall's Stores
135 Franklin Street, Traralgon
Ph: 5174 2549
and
230 Commercial Street, Morwell
Ph: 5134 3492

Night Time Secondhand Uniform Shop

OPEN

Tuesday 9 December 2008
from **6:30pm-8:00pm**
St Paul's Campus