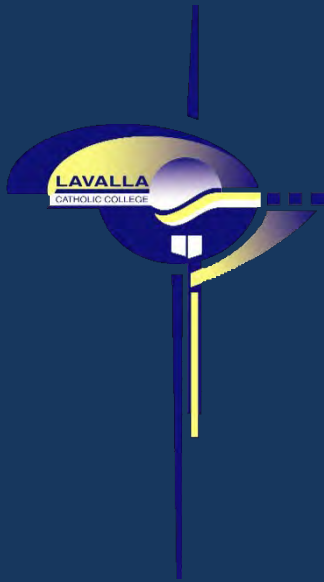


Lavalla Catholic College



Issue 8
MAY 31 2013

this issue

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From the Principal

Dear parents, students and teachers

Fame Junior provided two wonderful nights of entertainment this week. After many hours of rehearsals on Sunday afternoons, the musical came together in a superb spectacle!

The performance was entertaining and professional and our students seemed to enjoy the challenge that all the aspects of making a musical work can bring. Dedicated and talented themselves, our teachers Mrs Prue Scholtes, Ms Adriana Bianconi and Mrs Monica Justin (and their support team) gave generously of their time to ensure that our students benefitted from such an experience. They worked as a team to set a high standard and to provide a rich and engaging learning environment for our students; challenged them beyond their comfort zones and encouraged each actor to do his or her best. These are the components of an excellent class and when it comes together with such energy and passion as *Fame Junior* did, it becomes etched in our memories as a good school experience.

Congratulations to our talented actors and their mentors.

As a College we spend time to focus on our founder St Marcellin Champagnat on 6th June not because it is the anniversary of his death, though that is important and not even to celebrate ourselves as a fine Marist school which is also essential. We come together to be inspired by a man whose dream to make ***Jesus Known and Loved*** to young people is alive in the hearts of thousands of people who call themselves Marists. Marcellin's story inspires us to reach out to people in need and to show them that God is an intricate part of our lives. When we read Marcellin's letters to his Brothers we begin to understand how this deep faith in God transformed itself into a deep faith for his Brothers and the children in his community. It is hard not to be caught by that spirit and dedicate ourselves to making a difference to the lives of our young people.

Teachers at Lavalla try to emanate Marcellin's love for children because they know that without love it becomes impossible to capture the hearts of our students and if our hearts don't connect then the teaching becomes less effective. We are open to Jesus' work and presence in our lives and try to see the face of Jesus in the simplest of places. In this way we recognise the good that people do.



Holy Spirit, Giver of all good gifts, enter into my mind and heart. Give me the gift of knowledge and the grace to use it wisely.

Help me in all my endeavours. Give me perseverance and fortitude. Help my memory, that I may remember what I learn and recall it when necessary.

Guide me in the classroom. You who are the Way, the Truth, and the Life, let me not be deceived by false teaching.

Our Lady of Good Studies, pray for me.

Amen.

On Champagnat day, through the Champagnat medals we recognise students and teachers who strive to uphold Marcellin's values. Teachers nominate students who demonstrate the following qualities:-

- Actions and attitudes, which illustrate strong minds and compassionate hearts.
- Genuine, straightforward, say what they believe respectfully
- Simplicity – well-grounded and humble
- Honesty and friendliness with students and staff
- Doing good quietly
- Examples of making a difference for those around them
- Able to influence their fellow students for good

We are entering into our Champagnat celebrations next week. A number of visitors, including some Marist Brothers, will be joining us at the mass and other festivities. Our whole community has come to recognise the Champagnat medal as our most prestigious medal and students seem to wait in anticipation as the medal winners are announced. **We welcome families to join us in prayerful community on Thursday 6 June at the Champagnat centre at 9.30am.**

We are just past the half-way mark of the term and almost the mid-point of the year. It is important that students plan their study programme carefully ensuring that all assignments are completed well. It is also the time of year where fatigue starts to set in and students can begin to lose motivation or to make the wrong choices about their behaviour and their reaction to some situations that would not normally bother them. Being in the 'middle' is like being at the fork of the road. A time to make a choice between which way to continue the journey.

For our students it's a time to think about performing well in their exams and completing all work that's due. For the teachers it is a time of review and ensuring that students are meeting their academic targets and behaving well for the good of the community. At this time of year, teachers are also weary trying their utmost to engage and motivate students until the end and students themselves can feel unmotivated and aimless because being in the 'middle' can sometimes feel that the end is too far out of reach.

As Lona Fowler says, "we have begun many things... and see but few completed". So as we prepare to move on from the half-way mark, let's focus on the things we have begun and help provide direction and focus for our students. Our senior students can sometimes lose sight of the need to care for oneself, especially if they are becoming anxious about the exam period. As parents the best you can do is to be supportive, to listen and to help your student set small reachable goals because it gives them a sense of achievement and it encourages them to keep going; ample rest and recreational time is also important and of course eating a healthy diet will provide the necessary nourishment. The College offers many avenues of support should you need to discuss your child's progress beginning with your child's LA or homeroom teacher, the campus counsellors and our welfare and wellbeing teams.

Have a good fortnight

God Bless

Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal



This cross stands tall in the cemetery at La Valla. This photo is looking towards the Hermitage; the first Brothers house built in France



Kildare Campus Update

Mr Doug Doherty, Campus Director

As it fast approaches the feast of St. Marcellin Champagnat, I have nearly come to an end of a period of reflection on how the Kildare Campus actually promotes the Marist Charism on a daily basis. The final 'Pillar' of Marism is probably the most suitable for any community – "Family Spirit".

It is imperative that all members of Lavalla Catholic College see each other as a member of one family that encourages a spirit of partnership in Learning and Teaching.

At the Kildare Campus we are currently promoting this partnership through the implementation of a 21st Century learning pedagogy, to encourage independent learners ready for university or career. This is clearly evident with the successful use of cross-age tutors during student choice time.

If any student would like to benefit from this wonderful opportunity for 1-2-1 peer support, please let Mrs Annemarie Clarke know and she will forward this request to Con Kavadias (Senior Student Leader for Academic Mentoring).

The Charism of 'Family Spirit' also focuses on the importance of welcoming people of all backgrounds, cultures and accepting people and providing a sense of belonging. This is clearly evident with the successful integration of new students and staff to our faith and learning community. This consistent approach of welcoming new members to our school community was illustrated by the excellent Pentecost Celebration held last week. The students examined the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the importance of the birth of the Church and it's example of welcoming new members from all walks of life. Special messages of celebration were then released by helium balloons (see picture above); where they land we hope they bring our message of family spirit. Thank you to Year 10 photo media students – Ainsley Karleusa, Sinea McCullagh and Georgia Robinson for the photos

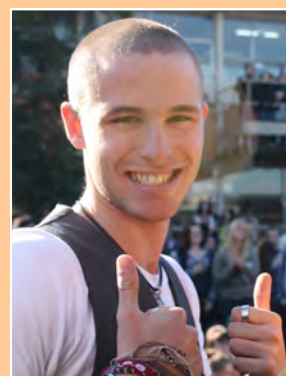
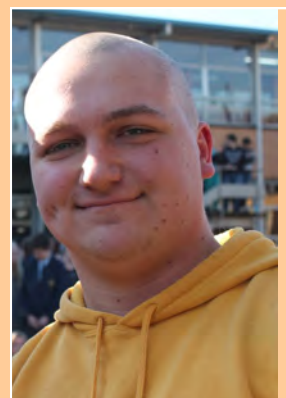
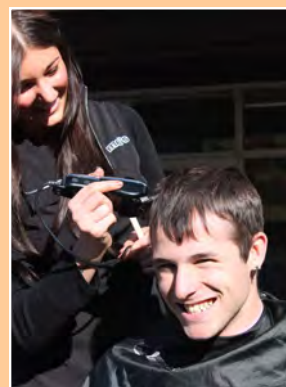
The concept of shared responsibility and accountability was clearly evident with the great success of our annual 'Causeworth Week'. A whole range of events from LA trivia, a Walkathon to actual head shaving during the House Colour Clothes Day; has led the staff and students to raise over \$6,000 in one week!

This is an amazing achievement and a great thanks goes to all involved, especially Mrs Annemarie Clarke, for being the driving force. I would also like to thank those brave people who had their head shaved - Matilda Lappin (who raised \$3000 herself!), Sebastian Korsack, Corey Cook, Jayden Byrne, Damon Bednarski and Mr Chris Rea.

Sharing successes as a family is vital to the promotion of well-being and the Marist Charism amongst our community. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank those parents who have complemented individual staff members and would like to let you know that I announce this praise every Monday and Wednesday morning during staff briefing. So please keep it coming.

Shave for a Cure

Staff and students recently participated in the Leukaemia Foundation's Shave for a Cure



We have also celebrated great success with the amazing production of Fame Junior led by Ms Prue Scholtes, Mrs Monica Justin, Ms Adriana Bianconi and a whole array of other staff and students. The production illustrated the amazing talent and community support that exists within our school. It truly is something we can all be proud of.

Again, the time dedicated to our students by our staff and by our students to our community has been evident in other extra-curricular events such as the excellent Year 12 Music Soiree that took place on Monday 27th May. A write-up of the evening can be found in this newsletter. Also, events such as the clay shooting is underway to create a competitive team to represent Lavalla Catholic College, more information on this event will appear in the next newsletter.

As a community supporting each other through 'family spirit', it is imperative for me to remind parents and students that the next three weeks are examination weeks. These examinations are vital for the tracking of individual progress and their opportunities to gain success in their pathways of choice – SO BE PREPARED!!

Therefore, after a number of weeks of reflection on the 5 Pillars of the Marist Charism in relation to Kildare Campus, it is clear that we are a thriving Catholic Marist Community and that this is only achieved through much effort and dedication from all members of our faith and learning community. Therefore as future world changers, we must always strive to ensure that we consistently aim for excellence under the guidance of our Catholic Marist Charism.



Kimberley Catholic Volunteer Service

WANTED: Youth Workers

The Diocese of Broome, WA, requires volunteers to assist with the work of the local Church on Aboriginal Missions. In particular, at the moment we are seeking 1 pastoral and 1 youth worker to work with Aboriginal people at Kalumburu Mission in the far North of WA.

Married couple ideal, but singles considered. Position requires 1 male and 1 female. Accommodation, transport and food provided. Remuneration offered, by negotiation with Bishop Saunders of Broome.

Duration, one or two years.

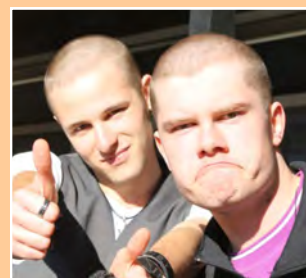
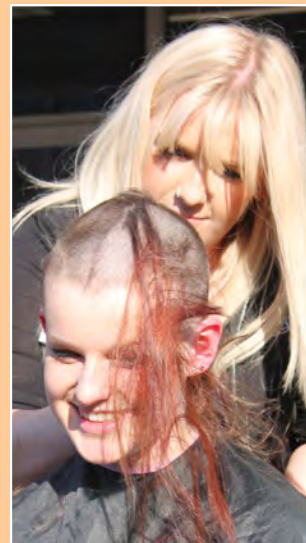
For further details, and an application form, please contact:

Volunteer Coordinator: Anneliese Rohr

Phone: 08 9192 1060

Email: volunteers@broomedioocese.org

Shave for a Cure continued..



Thank you to our student photographers on the day, year 10 students: Grace Becker, Adrian Uhe and Brad Buckley



St Paul's Campus Update

Mr Andy Martin, Campus Director

Our busy term of engaged learning is progressing at pace with myriad activities filling the College and St Paul's calendar. At present we have our Master Survivor Program students on their city and bush Ccmps, our year 7 students just returned from their Phillip Island 'Challenge' Camp and our Drama students are delivering, collectively, an outstanding performance of 'Fame Junior' at Kernot Hall in Morwell.

Concurrently, many of our junior students are working their way through the winter sports program with great success. A great blessing of contemporary schooling is that it embraces the breadth of learning, giving each student an opportunity to shine and discover or demonstrate their particular learning gifts.

We honour our student's achievements where ever possible and to this end, our St Paul's student assemblies are a vehicle to make note of student success.

Last week, we were able to highlight the contribution that our students have made in the areas of community service, student assistance at school functions such as the Twilight evening and their Athletics success.

We were also able to share the experience that students had in supporting the work of Marist missions in Fiji and to encourage our cohort to contribute to this cause on June 6th during our Champagnat Day celebrations when we will ask them to donate \$2.00 (or more as they feel they can afford) each to support the continued work of the Marists in Fiji. A BBQ Lunch, music performance and House Games should make this day a community affair of note.

A special part of our assembly with St Paul's students last week was the presentation of 'Childrens Perseverance Medals' and certificates to James and Andrew Mulry, whose father has been on active service in the Middle East as a member of the Australian Armed Services. These medals honour the sacrifices that families and children face as a consequence of their parents work in difficult and often dangerous circumstances on behalf of their country.

On the theme of contribution, I would also like to thank all of the students and staff who donated food and money to make the 'World's Biggest Morning Tea', held in support of cancer research, a success last Friday. At last count, students and staff had raised around \$380.00 between them during recess. The money will be much appreciated by the fund.

Our gifted and talented program has been enhanced by an involvement with Coastal Ambassadors 2013. I include a report by three of our students who attended a recent camp organised to extend the thinking and action of interested parties.

Finally, I would like to remind all parents that St Paul's Homework club operates every Wednesday afternoon from 3.30pm in our ISC Centre. All students are welcome to this opportunity to clarify and complete tasks with teacher assistance.

*"Give a damn, Give a can"
winners with their
Certificates*



*James and Andrew Mulry
receiving their Children's
Perseverance Medals from
Campus Director Mr Andy
Martin*

Coastal Ambassadors 2013

By Georgia Pearce, Bridgette Doepel & Saskia Webster



On the 21st to the 24th of April, we went on a Coastal Ambassadors camp at Phillip Island Nature Park. On this camp, we participated in many beachside activities and learnt about what is happening in our environment. We stayed in the Volunteer House at the Nature Park and spent a lot of time with the rangers, mainly Jacqui and Sarah. During these four days, we made new friendships, were inspired to change issues in our local environment and told repeatedly “we can make a change”.

We completed various activities such as the Penguin Parade, Seal Boat Cruise, Surf Lessons, Bike Riding, several workshops on nature and environment, leadership and teamwork skills and how to conduct our Action Plan in our local community.

From this experience we learnt a whole lot of new things especially to help us with our Action Plans. As a part of this experience we are to come up with ideas to help in our local area with how to improve an environmental issue. As a group we have come up with a plan to reduce the amount of litter in our school community and local towns.

Now we are preparing to put our ‘action plan’ into place, hoping to have made some progress by October which is when we all meet up again. None of this would have been possible with the support from our family, friends, Nature Park workers Jacqui and Sarah; Our teachers and especially Ms Zahra. It was the most unique yet amazing experience that I recommend to everyone. The things you learn and the friends you make will stay with you forever, it has a positive impact on all of us.

We’re going to make a change.
Thank you to everyone for giving us the opportunity.



Seasons for Growth® is an innovative education program for children and young people in Primary and Secondary schools which explores the effects of change, loss and grief.

Facilitated by trained Companions within a small ‘peer’ group, the participants explore feelings, memories, loss and grief in a safe and creative way.

Seasons for Growth® is an education program. It does not provide counselling or therapy.

Companion Training for the Young People’s Program
Primary & Secondary Levels

Thursday 13 & Friday 14 June 2013

Catholic Education Office
6 Witton Street
Warragul VIC 3820

Trainers: Sharon Anderson 0428 850 019 & Jo Quinn 0438 356 679
For more information and to apply online go to www.goodgrief.org.au



Year Twelve Music Soiree

Mr Shane Reid

Last night (Monday 27 May) we held a relaxed yet formal performance evening featuring our year twelve Music Performance students.

Each presented two contrasting solo pieces from their wider repertoire to an enthusiastic and supportive audience. Our students really appreciated the support of staff members who came along.

Our music students are preparing for a twenty five minute solo performance exam in October which contributes 50% of their study score.



(Pictured left to right: Laura Dye, Lori Thompson, Liam Charleston, Jess Elliott, Cassie Forester, Steph Schena, Connor Jenkinson, Matilda Lappin and Corey Cook)

The formative importance of last night in preparation for this cannot be understated. It was a very enjoyable night. Please feel free to approach any of our senior music students; I'm sure they will be happy to regale you with their experiences. It would be a fantastic thing for them to reflect on their performances in conversation.



Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Friday 24 May

Students and staff participated in Australia's Biggest Morning Tea to raise money for the Cancer Council, Victoria.

Delicious treats were brought to school share and a total of \$379.75 was raised by St Paul's Campus.

Students raised: \$173.80

Staff donated: \$205.95



VCAL Achievement Awards 2012

Lavalla receives sixth state award

At last week's 2012 VCAL awards, Lavalla's VCAL team received their sixth VCAL VCAA state award in the team teaching / team program development categories since 2008.

Mr Todd Proud was awarded VCAL Teacher of the Year award (2012). This award has previously been won by Mr Brett Van Berkel in 2010.

In addition to this, student Emily Garrett received a VCAL Foundation award for Personal Development Skills. Emily thrived in Lavalla's virtual business program, through which she established, and now manages *Harmony Candles*. Congratulations Emily.



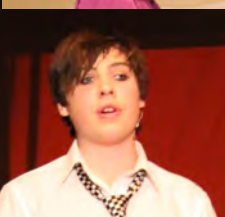
Above: Congratulations to VCAL award winners: Mr Brett Van Berkel, Mr Peter Flahavin, Ms Cheryl Hunter, Ms Monica Justin, Mr Todd Proud, Ms Lis Scott, Ms Rhonda Waanders and Mr Mark Warnock.





*Fame Junior was performed by
Lavalla College students at
Kernot Hall on 28 and 29 May.
Audiences enjoyed an all-
singing all-dancing spectacular
full of energy and fun.*

*Dress rehearsals were enjoyed
by local primary school children.
Congratulations to all staff and
students on the successful
performances of Fame Junior.
Well done.*



Upcoming Events

Thursday May 30

VCAL Food Hygiene Course

Friday May 31

Year 11 Assembly - Kildare

Monday June 3

Year 10 exam week commences

Year 12 Assembly - Kildare

Year 11 Solo soiree performances

Tuesday June 4

Clay Shooting - Years 7 - 12

Drama Performance Night - Years 10 - 11

Wednesday June 5

SSV Australian Football Regional Championships:

Junior Girls - Years 7 - 9

Intermediate Boys - Years 9 - 10

Thursday June 6

Feast of Marcellin Champagnat

Champangat Mass - All students and staff

Friday June 7

SSV Cross Country, Yarram

Melbourne Symphony Orchestra excursion

Dante Aligheri Competition excursion

Monday June 10

Queens Birthday Public Holiday - No school

Tuesday June 11

VCAL Year 12 work experience

Wednesday June 12

VCE GAT - No Year 12 classes

Allied Health RMIT excursion

Clay Shooting - Years 7 - 12

Thursday June 13

SSV Australian Football Wellington Division - Years 11 - 12

Friday June 14

Report Writing Day—Student free day

Meet

Andy Griffiths

Andy Griffiths is Australia's most popular children's writer. He is the author of over 20 books and has sold over 5 million copies worldwide.

Andy will be presenting a free writing master class and talk in Traralgon.

Details as follows:

Saturday June 15
Latrobe Performing Arts
Centre Traralgon

For bookings please phone
Latrobe
Performing Arts Box
Office on 5176 3559

Prayer for the feast of St Marcellin

Faithful and ever-present God,

You want to be with us in all parts of our lives - the ordinary events of our days, the dark and lonely times and the amazing moments that inspire us
Like St Marcellin, may we daily deepen our experience of your loving presence.

Your constant and abiding love is revealed to us through the people you place on the path of our life's journey.

May our faith always mirror for others the reality that you love us more than we can imagine.

We believe that our faith in you makes us strong. May we be like Jesus who confront the injustices of the world and act with courage and commitment to transform it so the abundance of your love can be shared by all.

And like Mary, may we try always, to live with an open and trusting faith.

Mary, our Good Mother - *Pray for us*

St Marcellin Champagnat - *Pray for us*

St Mary of the Cross - *Pray for us*

And let us always remember *to pray for one another*

MARCELLIN HOUSE
(ADMINISTRATION)

Coster Circle TRARALGON
Ph. (03) 5174 5272
Fax. (03) 5174 9235

KILDARE CAMPUS
Kosciuszko Street
TRARALGON

Ph. (03) 5174 8111
Fax. (03) 5174 0783

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS
Grey Street TRARALGON
Ph. (03) 5174 7355
Fax. (03) 5174 1827

Next edition

Friday June 14