



NEWSLETTER

Lavalla Catholic College

4 June 2004

Dear Parents,

Winter is here. For some of our students, winter means being indoors more often, more TV, more internet time, more computer games and a greater limitation on outdoor activities. This can result in pent up energy and can sometimes cause behaviour problems for us. As well, students receive more messages from advertising and are exposed to more promises, whether through billboards, radio, television, newspapers, magazines, the Internet, or the fashion industry. Each one holds out the promise of something better and an invitation to pleasure, comfort and security. This can also lead to restlessness and dissatisfaction.

Here we are at school providing a different call. We don't reject beauty, romance, creativity, physical health, celebration or good humour. You can't live with young people for long without realizing that. These are, clearly, a part of God's wonderful invitation to lead life to the full. We acknowledge also the importance of self-sacrifice, self-renunciation and heroism. We tell our students that selfishness will make them unhappy; that we will only be ourselves when we are compassionate, strong-minded and put the needs of others before our own. Deep down, we all know the truth of that; it's Jesus' voice telling us that there is no greater love, nor meaning, than to lay down one's life for others.

So winter and its consequent behaviour patterns is a reminder to us of the need to promote a healthy life in all its dimensions, intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual, moral and social.

Br Julian Casey
Principal

Dates for Coming Week

Mon. 7	VCE Examination Period commences (VCE Unit 3 Exams) Parents & Friends Meeting – 7.30pm. St Paul's Campus
Thu. 10	Year 11 Examination Period commences (Unit 1)
Fri. 11	Report Writing Day – Student Free Day
Mon 14	Queen's Birthday Holiday

PRESENTATION CAMPUS

At the Campus Assembly last week Br. Michael Sexton spoke on the Marist Missions in East Timor. The focus of the Brothers is the training of teachers to re-establish the educational institutions vital to the reconstruction efforts in East Timor. The students were able to present Br Michael with a cheque for \$300. The money was raised with proceeds from the Casual Clothes Day, Bar-B-Que, Social and Mother's Day Raffle. I thank everyone involved in this fund-raising activity.

The next few weeks will focus on the writing of reports and the completion of all Assessment and Work Requirements by all students.

The social was a great success! Approximately 120 students attended from St Paul's and Presentation Campuses. My thanks to Maria Doganieri and Lee McKenzie who accompanied a group of St Paul's students to the social. My thanks also to the many staff and parents who attended and made the night such a success. And finally to acknowledge the enthusiastic and ever capable group of SRC students who organized the event. Well Done!

Could I ask all parents who pick their children up in the afternoon to recognize the right of way buses have on entering and leaving College grounds. Please give way and make room for all buses. The side gate is also for the use of students. If students enter and leave the College via this gate it will ease congestion and make the departure of vehicles from the grounds safer and less congested.

Uniforms are being worn correctly by the majority of students. This is great to see. However, there are a few students still coming to grips with the expectations that are clearly stated in the Planner regarding the wearing of uniform. If incorrect uniform is worn, parents may be asked to bring in the correct uniform that day or agree to an after-school detention for uniform infringement.

The Trivia Night is tomorrow, Saturday, 5 June. Please set time aside and support the Parents Support Group in their effort to fund raise for the Campus. It is in the Circulation Area from 7.30pm to conclusion.

Yours in the Spirit of Strong Minds and Compassionate Hearts.

Chris O'Brien
Head of Campus

ST PAUL'S CAMPUS

Social

Our thanks to the Presentation Campus for the invitation to join their Social last Thursday. Some twenty students went to Newborough to dance the night away. This is a great way to foster friendships with students who will be sharing the Kildare Campus in Yr 10.

During this and the coming week we have tried to keep the calendar clear of major excursions so that staff and students have

time to complete assessment requirements for the end of term.

Family Life

Thanks to Mrs Sue Collis for her work in this area. During the week Sue spoke to all Yr 7 classes. It would be terrific if parents, particularly those who were unable to attend the evening with Sue last Monday, asked their sons or daughters to discuss with them any issues that may have arisen from Sue's talk.

It is easy to assume that our children learn what they need to know about sex and relationships from friends, media etc; but we need to be careful to help them sort and evaluate this information so that they can make informed choices.

Our greatest power is the power of choice; our greatest freedom lies in the exercise of our power of choice.--William Curtis

*Lee McKenzie
Head of St Paul's Campus*

KILDARE CAMPUS

The Mid-Year Examinations and GAT

All students studying Unit 3 subjects will be involved in either VCAA Exams or School Assessed Coursework (SAC) tasks during the week from **Monday, June 7 to Thursday, June 10**. Consequently all Year 12 (Unit 3) classes have been suspended for the week. Students were issued with their personal timetables and GAT pamphlet on Thursday, May 27 during the Mentoring Period. ***All scheduled exams or assessments are compulsory.*** Students will need to be at school *at least* 15 minutes before the exam or the assessment task is to commence.

Full school uniform is to be worn on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for presentation at the Exams; however, the uniform will not be required to be worn on Thursday for the English LOTE Oral SAC's. **Friday is a pupil free day for Report Writing.**

Year 12 Students, who do not have an exam on a particular day during the week, are not required at school. Years 10 and 11 students are required at school as usual. The VCE Study Centre will be open and available for Year 12 students throughout the week. Students will need to check with their teachers concerning their availability during this time.

General Achievement Test

All students doing any VCE Units 3 & 4 are required to sit the General Achievement Test (GAT), unless their school principal exempts them.

The GAT is a test of general knowledge in the areas of written communication, mathematics, science and technology, and humanities, the arts and social sciences. It is an essential part of the VCE assessment procedures. Although the GAT result does not count directly towards a student's VCE results, it does play an important role in checking that the school assessments and exams have been accurately assessed.

It is important that students do as well as they can on the whole test

to ensure that they receive full advantage of the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority's additional checks on VCE student assessment. The Authority uses GAT scores as a basis for reviewing school assessments in SAC's and SAT's, requesting authentication checks by schools for particular students' SAC's or SAT's, checking the accuracy of exam marking and contributing to the statistical moderation of SAC's.

The GAT will take place in a single three-hour session. There will be two writing tasks, each of about half an hour, and a multiple-choice task that will take about two hours. Whilst the tasks may be completed in any order, it is suggested that the writing tasks be completed first, followed by the multiple-choice questions. Students can go back to any part of the test at any time, because the script books will not be collected until the end of the testing time. I would like to wish all students doing their mid-year exams every success.

*Peter Schneider
Head of Kildare Campus*

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The **next meeting** of Parents and Friends will be held on **Monday 7th June** at the Resource Centre (Library) at St Paul's Campus starting at 7.30pm.

Term 4

11 October
29 November (Christmas function)

Meeting nights for the remainder of 2004

Term 3

2 August (Guest speaker VCE co-ordinator Mark Judd)
6 September (Guest speaker on VCAL)

If you are unable to attend the meetings but would like a copy of the minutes or any further details please do not hesitate to contact either Jenny or Felicetta.

Jenny Hansch 51221684
Felicetta Kile 51661480

CANTEEN ROSTER

	St Paul's	Kildare	Presentation
Mon. 7 June	M Crawford, B McNulty	M Grass, C Dougan	A Maunder
Tue. 8 June	W Heiser, H VanBerkel	S Prosser, M Whitty	J Dickason
Wed. 9 June	R Crowle, P Brown	A Fletcher, M Fievez	J Iacavou
Thu. 10 June	P Brown, V Sammut	B Whittaker, M Wojciechowski	L Guatta

EXCITING NEWS!
YOUTH ALPHA



After much preparation and planning an ALPHA course has been designed especially for secondary aged youth. The course will run on Sunday evenings in Traralgon during Term 3. The Catholic parishes of the Latrobe Valley are working together to make this excellent course available to our youth. The ALPHA course has been attended by over 5 million people worldwide, many of them young people.

An introductory night will be held on Sunday 27 June commencing at 7.00pm in the St Michael's Hall, Traralgon. All welcome to the St Michael's Parish Youth Mass at 6.00pm prior to the ALPHA gathering at 7.00pm. All teenagers are extended a warm invitation to come and see what ALPHA is all about!!

Postal address PO Box 1080 Traralgon 3844	MarcellinHouse Admin Coster Circle Traralgon Ph 5174 5272	Kildare Campus Kosciuszko St Traralgon Ph 5174 8111	Presentation Campus John Field Drive Newborough Ph 5127 1311	St Paul's Campus Grey St Traralgon Ph 5174 7355
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