

### **FAMILY PRAYER**

*Lord, in your love you gave us your Son  
Jesus,  
In your wisdom, you gave him a loving  
family on earth.  
Help us to be devoted fathers,  
compassionate mothers;  
Considerate sons;  
Magnanimous daughters;  
We thank you for the enduring love we  
find in our families,  
Let us be husbands who are thoughtful,  
Sisters who are doting,  
Brothers who are sentimental,  
And wives who are patient.  
Our hearts rest in you Lord,  
Yet we are reliant upon our families daily.  
May we recognise your love for us,  
through the love of our families.*



Maristas Liceo (Marist School), San Paulo El Salvador.

**Shane Reid**

The college was saddened to hear the news of the death of Michelle Atkins. Our deepest sympathies are extended to her husband Brian and children Paige (Yr 12) and Harry (Grade 6) and may she rest in peace.

### **Dear Parents, students and staff,**

You might be feeling overwhelmed by all the election promises coming our way over these last few weeks. If you are anything like me it is hard to keep track of who is saying what but I am paying particular attention to promises made regarding Education. I have written previously about the Catholic sector's concern regarding the lack of funding commitment made by the political parties. However, this week we have heard from the Director of Catholic Education Commission of Victoria, Mr Steven Elder, that there has been some positive news in this regard. An excerpt from his communication is posted below:

#### *Dear Colleagues*

*After much effort by Parish Priests, Principals, staff and parents on the issue of funding certainty and sustainability we have now achieved bi-partisan consensus from the Liberal/National and Labor parties until 2013. The election continues to be an important time to build relationships with current and future political leaders in our area. Together we will need to be vigilant through the Review of School Funding and contribute positively to discussions on the future of government funding for Catholic schools after 2013.*

*"The Prime Minister's decision to continue funding to 2013 is a clear endorsement of the great work in Catholic schools by parish priests, principals, teachers and parents," said Mr Elder. Catholic school communities know this commitment delivers funding certainty through to 2013.*

*"Labor's decision to continue the current funding arrangements, however, will not bridge the 37% government funding gap between needy Catholic schools and better resourced government schools. "Catholic schools will be pleased there is now bi-partisan support from the Liberal/National parties and the ALP for Catholic school funding through to 2013."*

*Mr Elder said the Prime Minister should disregard the Australian Education Union's (AEU) position on this issue as the union has repeatedly misrepresented Catholic school funding. "The reality is that Catholic schools operate on 93% of the funding of government schools, even when school fees are included," Mr Elder said. "Australia needs a government that provides sufficient resources to all students whatever school they attend, not one designed to satisfy the AEU's ideological agenda."*

**Steve Elder**  
**Director CECV**

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## VET News

Lavalla Catholic College strives to deliver quality educational outcomes to its students. One of the essential components of this process is to help students establish a viable pathway, which provides an exit strategy from secondary schooling as well as entry into the workplace or into an institution of further training. Some students follow an academic pathway, whilst others follow an applied one. Regardless of the pathway, Vocational Education and Training, or VET as it is known, can form an important brick within any schooling pathway.

VET is a national system designed to skill workers to work in particular industries such as hospitality, plumbing and retail. VET works on a nationwide level, covering four levels of Certificate which in turn can lead to a Diploma level of qualification and beyond.

Students at Lavalla Catholic College have a wide range of VET courses from which to select. Whilst the majority of courses are delivered by an off campus provider such as GippsTAFE, Lavalla have carefully selected a number of courses which are offered on the Kildare Campus. Lavalla has strategically selected courses such as Engineering, Building & Construction and Interactive Digital Media where there is either a national skill shortage or high employability chances.

For those students looking to complete a VCAL qualification, VET is an essential part of their applied learning program. Not only does it address several certificate outcomes, it



Jake Suter and Mitchell Caulfield with their Building & Construction teacher Mr Jason Szkwarek working on the Kildare Campus boardwalk.

also provides a great opportunity to access additional training and enhance apprenticeship opportunities beyond secondary schooling.

For VCE students there are more than 25 profiled VCE VET programs comprising over 30 separate qualifications. Most of these VCE VET programs provide students with a Certificate II outcome. Scored assessment arrangements are available for 14 VCE VET programs, meaning they attract a study score that contributes directly towards their ATAR.

Regardless of which program students undertake during their final years of secondary schooling, VET is an outstanding option which should be considered by all students at Lavalla Catholic College. The College offers a wide range of VET programs ranging from hairdressing, fashion, sports & recreation, animal studies to automotive. In 2011 new courses such as allied health and community recreation will also be available to students from year 10 and above. All students are strongly encouraged to find out more about their VET options at the upcoming Careers and Courses EXPO.

**Mark Judd**  
**VET Coordinator**



Cert II Electrotechnology students Marc Koolen, Tom Holt, Michael Di Dio & Michael Armatas who have undertaken the VEET (Victorian Energy Education & Training) program.





News  
6 August 2010

# Lavalla Catholic College

Excellence In Everything We Do



Our VET  
students hard  
at work





## Presentation Campus

Congratulations to **Miss Adriana Bianconi** for being awarded a Champagnat Medal for staff recognising her selfless dedication to the Lavalla College community over the past seven years. In particular, in these past 2 years for her work as Student Contact Person on this Campus.

Congratulations as well to **Tyler Briggs** (Year 8) and **Cassandra Rek** (Year 9) for their being recognised for making a difference to those around them, for their honesty and friendliness with students and staff and for their dedication to doing good.

Following the recent success of the Year 7 Ancient Civilisations unit, **Mr Chris Rea's** Year 8 classes were challenged to take part in the Life in Medieval Times exhibition (Pictured). From the stretching rack and models of punishment; weaponry and castles and mock battles to the gentler aspects of food and feasting, students provided an informative and quite inspired depiction of times long past. The confidence and depth of information presenters were able to share at many exhibits certainly brought their learning to life.

Many Year 9 students and several students from the Dance and Drama elective attended the Melbourne Arts Centre production of *Burnt*. A production in which 3 actors role play 56 characters. It is centred in a country township battling difficult environmental conditions and explores the impact that it has on their wellbeing and their relationships.



The MSP Camp to Melbourne incorporating five of the program's seven goals, **Personal Growth, Physical Challenge, Environment, Indigenous Culture and Personal Evaluation** ensured that it was a busy but rich learning time. Their work in the unit continues now back in class representing their practical experience in graphic and ICT forms to consolidate their learning and further develop their skills.

The focus for all Year 9's now moves to exploring their future pathway into and through VCAL, VET and VCE as they attend their Course information sessions and attend the EXPO at Kildare. On that day they have the opportunity to discuss possible careers and their personal interests and skills and to make initial selections for their future studies.

**Leanne Mills**  
**Campus Director**



## Kildare Campus

As usual at this time of year our processes are firmly directed towards the future. Students at Yrs 10 and 11 are being encouraged to choose paths of study which will help them reach their future goals. While it is a time of uncertainty, with many of our young people not knowing exactly what they want to do when they leave school, it is also a time of exciting possibilities. Parents and students should take comfort from the fact that many jobs these young people will carry out are not even in existence yet! There will be many twists and changes in their career paths and they simply need to make a start- there is no telling where it will all end.

### Italian Visitors

During the last week we have welcomed the visitors from Italy. These students have attended classes with their hosts and have spent some time taking in the sights of the local area. We are most grateful to Maria Doganieri and Raffaella Cataldo for making the arrangements for our guests and to our families who have so generously hosted the students.

### Champagnat Mass

Last week's celebration to mark Champagnat Day, was a prayerful and uplifting Eucharist. It was a fortunate coincidence that our Italian visitors were able to attend the mass; they became aware of the size of the College student body and learnt something of our culture of celebrating in the Marist way. We are very proud of the medal recipients from this campus and delighted that so many family members were able to join us on the day. I would particularly like to thank the Kildare campus leaders who worked so diligently through the process of the staff medal nominations and in particular congratulate Mr Biju Varghese who was one of this year's staff recipients.

### Monday 9th August

Due to bus arrangements outside our control, there will be no transport available next Monday. Consequently there will be no classes for Yr 10 and 11 students. However, in light of the fact that Monday 16th is a Student Free day, a decision has been taken to **continue with VCE 3-4 classes on Monday 9th** so that students will not miss out on class time. I appreciate that this raises some difficulties but

ask that you work to arrange transport or alternative accommodation so that as many students as possible are able to attend their time tabled classes that day. The campus leaders will be using the day as a fund- raising opportunity for the Graduation at the end of the year and students will be asked to wear casual clothes and make a donation

### Yr 11 2011 Information Night

Current Yr 10 students and parents are invited to an information night on Monday 9th August, 7:30 in the Kildare Hall. The evening will cover information on the re-enrolment process and subject information. LA reports will be distributed on the evening- there will be no individual interviews for this LA reporting period.

### 11th August

Yr 10 2011 Information Night, will commence at 7:30 in the Kildare Hall and provide information on the re-enrolment process and subject information.

### 13th August - Expo 11:00 am – 4:00 pm Kildare

I am sure by now you are all aware of the time and effort that goes into arranging Expo. It provides parents and students an opportunity to explore various pathways to the future and talk to experts in the areas of employment, study, VCE, VCAL and VET. We look forward to seeing you on Friday as you assist your child through this complex and exciting part of their life journey. Facilities will be available for you to complete your son or daughter's enrolment on the day if you choose.

### Yr 11 Retreats

Please be aware that arrangements for the Yr 11 Retreats have changed and this year they will be a single day event with no overnight component. Letters explaining details will be sent to families soon. As always we anticipate that students and families will fully support what is an important part of life in a Catholic College.

**"Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step."--Martin Luther King Jr**

**Lee McKenzie**  
Acting Campus Director



## Music Department

Nothing is more strenuous than performing in six Catholic Primary schools over two days; yet nothing is so richly rewarding. On Monday 26th July the College **Intermediate Concert Band** travelled to St Kieran's Moe, St Mary's Newborough and Lumen Christi in Churchill to perform to students in an assortment of age groups. This was followed up on Wednesday 28th July with a visit to St Michael's Traralgon, St Gabriel's Traralgon and Sacred Heart Morwell, again to a wide variety of Primary students.

We performed a diverse program of music, from English folk tunes like 'Shepherd's Hey', Concert pieces like 'The Headless Horseman' and popular music like the 'Soundtrack from Shrek' & Coldplay's 'Viva la Vida'. It was fantastic to see student's eyes bulging from their faces upon seeing **Con Kavadias** (pictured below) playing his Tuba. Students were in awe of **Alex Kanara** and **Lily Nash** going so low on their Bassoons, along with loud interjections of admiration at the size and volume of **Taeson Cleator's** Baritone Saxophone.



Whether it was the Trombone glissandos of **Lachlan Morland** and **Morgan Williams**, or a Grade three student conducting our band -demanding them to play louder and softer- howls of delight resonated across the schoolyards. Our students promptly attained proficiency in packing and



unpacking the Music trailer. It must be mentioned how well our students conducted themselves and I congratulate them for their dedication to excellence in their performances.

As you heard in the last Newsletter, our busy performance schedule opened with a moving performance of 'Gunnai Dreaming' at the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre on Wednesday 21st July by our **Senior Choir**. (Pictured above)

Term three bristles with excitement in the Music department; it is reserved for all our major performances. Looking ahead in Mid-August, the Senior Jazz Ensemble head off to the Melbourne Band's Festival at Robert Blackwood Hall, Monash University. Later, in August and early September, our Choirs and Bands will be performing in the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod. At the Kildare Hall on Thursday September 9th is the College Music concert. It is a showcase of the hard work accomplished this year, from all of the ensembles, including an impassioned performance of 'Gunnai Dreaming'.

Finally, on **August 14th** come along to **Bunnings at Mid-Valley** and buy a sausage in bread (onions too) and support the fund-raising efforts of our Music support group. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming performances and at Bunnings for a snag.

**Matthew Harris - Acting Director of Music**

## A Note from Our Students



### **Around St Paul's Campus**

Term 3 has been going well so far for all the students and staff. Term 2 MSP group are

back and they are getting themselves back to the normal routine of school. The new MSP group have had a few weeks and have gone to the Melbourne Camp where they had much fun.

Year 8's in PE this term have been doing basketball. Here we have Mr Sizelands grade 8.1 who have been playing for a while and have had a good experience of the game. The students all enjoy the game and have had tremendous fun while playing basketball.



On the 23rd of July, the newly inducted Year 7 SRC members were given a leadership training session which was run by the SLC. They participated in activities which helped them improve in public speaking, listening skills and their very own confidence. Most of them would like to become Campus Leaders when it is their turn in a couple of years and this session is a start in their training as their time at Lavalla goes by. All of the SRC loved the chance to communicate their ideas and opinions to the SLC without having year 8 SRC around. It helped in their confidence greatly.

MSP term 3 have just come back from their Melbourne camp where they all had a wonderful time and experienced the city twice in two years as a camp. This time they got to go to the Eureka Sky Deck, where they witnessed the box, go on a graffiti tour which took them to many iconic areas of Melbourne. (Pictured left: Lori Thompson, Laura Dye, Lauren Wain)

On the 5th of August there is a Kildare tour for the Year 9's to familiarise ourselves with the new surroundings of the Kildare Campus. The students got a quick tour of the campus and some very useful information about the differences of our two campuses from our College Captains and a few year 10 helpers who are part of the SRC. This tour is also a lead up to EXPO which is on the 13th of this Month. The EXPO also provides year 8s the chance to select their subjects for year 9.

**St Paul's SLC**

### **St Paul's Campus**

### **After School Homework Program**

**Mondays and Wednesdays  
3.30pm - 4.30pm**

**In the STARS Room**

**These sessions provide an opportunity for students to catch up with their class work and gain assistance with completing their homework.**

**Thank you to Carolyn McCabe, Sam Worley and Rhonda Waanders who co-ordinate this program.**



## Careers

### Work Experience

210 Year 10 students took part in the Lavalla Work Experience Program recently. They were welcomed into a wide range of workplaces, from Power Stations to Florists, Aged Care homes and Primary schools, and had a glimpse of what life may hold for them once they have left school.

Some were excited by the opportunities that are there for them and others have been encouraged to think further about what they would like to do. Many have received down to earth advice about how to start their career pathways and most are now a little wiser about what they need to do in their final years at school. They have returned to school and have shared their stories of challenges as well as the highs and lows of being in the workplace on a full time basis.

The teachers who visited the students in the workplace were often deeply touched by the way the employers worked with our students. Without them, the Work Experience program would be impossible. If anyone would like to host work experience students please contact Anne English at the Kildare Campus.

**Anne English**  
**Careers Coordinator**

Pictured top right, Lauren O'Hea, and bottom, Josh Anderson at their work experience workshops.



## Acknowledgement

For the past five years Brother Bill Dillon has supported the learning of Lavalla students across our three campuses. Many students have benefited by his presence, predominantly in maths classes and working outdoors establishing a herb garden, veggie patch and general garden maintenance. He also helped with the restoration of a trailer which went on to be used by the VCAL group.

The Additional Needs staff greatly appreciated his voluntary input towards supporting our programs. His assured, gentle manner and ability to work productively with students and staff alike will be greatly missed.

With the recent closure of Marist House in Hourigan Drive, Traralgon, Brother Bill has relocated to Coburg. We wish him the very best and know that it won't be long before he is once again giving freely of his time to his new community.



## Kokoda Leadership Day



Kokoda, a bloody but heroic battleground of the Second World War, where Australian soldiers displayed the Anzac spirit our country had become famous for: courage, mateship, leadership and compassion.

On August 4th interested students from St Paul's campus travelled to the hallowed ground of the Victorian Shrine of Remembrance to hear inspirational speaker The Honourable Charlie Lynn MLC. Charlie Lynn served for 21 years in the Australian Army and since the 1980s has been running treks along the Kokoda Track. Students learnt of the history of this infamous Track and its place in Australian history and its importance to all Australians past and present.

Our students were moved by Charlie Lynn's words. *"He really could put a picture in your mind of the emotional and physically challenging time the soldiers experienced,*

*I had never really looked at Kokoda or any other war like that."* (**Emily Molinari**).

*"His first hand experiences on the Kokoda Track and with the Fuzzy Wuzzy Angels were amazing to hear, the generosity these people showed to our soldiers was extraordinary."* (**Con Kavadias**)

Our students toured part of the Shrine and viewed historical footage on its creation. They discovered the origins of the Shrine and how struggling Victorians queued for hours to donate generously to build a sacred place to remember those who had sacrificed so much in order to preserve our freedom.

Students participated in a solemn remembrance service in the Shrine Sanctuary. Chloe Bransgrove and Con Kavadias laid a wreath, decorated using the school colours, at the Stone of Remembrance. This was followed by a reading of The Ode and the playing of the Last Post.

### **Reflection on the Kokoda Leadership Day**

*"Today's lecture on Kokoda was incredibly touching. What we were shown were images that were real, and at times horrible to watch. It was very enlightening as to what the Australian troops went through and an experience to never be forgotten. Their courage was most inspiring, and we all gained a greater knowledge of what they went through. Truly an emotional roller coaster for everyone who fought to ensure we could have all the rights we do, and all the privileges we possess."* (**Lauren Birt**)

The focus for the day was teamwork and leadership, two qualities that were exuded by soldiers as the physical and mental demands of the Kokoda Track were continually forced upon them. This resilience shown by our young soldiers in the face of such adversity is what we hope our students take from this presentation.

**Roma Valentine**  
**7-8 Curriculum Team Member**

# **AN INVITATION!**

An invitation is extended to prospective 2011 students and their parents to attend an OPEN DAY for Years 10 - 12 students, in conjunction with the annual Careers and Courses EXPO

**Kildare Campus**  
**Years 10 - 12**

**Kosciuszko Street, Traralgon**  
**Friday 13 August, 11am to 4pm**

Enrolment enquiries are to be made to Mrs Jean Jennings on 5174 7355 or email [registrar@lavalla.vic.edu.au](mailto:registrar@lavalla.vic.edu.au)



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

### **Celebration of our Founder: St Marcellin Champagnat**

Recently we came together as a College to remember the legacy left to us by St Marcellin Champagnat. Acting Director of Faith and Ministry, **Mr Shane Reid** opened the College mass with a moving narration of his pilgrimage to Guatemala City and San Salvador. Students were very taken by Mr Reid's ability to bring to our reality shocking stories of children struggling to survive. It was a poignant backdrop to our celebration. The Champagnat medal recipients this year were:

**Nicholas Oldis**  
**Sam Clavarino**  
**Cassie Rek**  
**Tyler Briggs**  
**Erin Lawn**  
**Katrina Barrett**  
**Andrew Ware**  
**Biju Varghese**

**Tanatswa Ruzive-Makura**  
**Lily Nash**  
**Mubtasim Murshed**  
**Meghan Keast**  
**Dylan Glasson**  
**Gurdeep Bhatti**  
**Isabella Nocera**  
**Adriana Bianconi**

### **Mr Luis Geraldès wins National Prize**

**Mr Geraldès** was acclaimed in Portugal recently with a **National Art Prize "Talento 09"** for his significant contribution to Art. This is a very great honour for Mr Geraldès who depicts in his painting the devastation caused by natural disasters such as influenza, AIDS, floods, fires, the Black Plague, and Influenza. Mr Geraldès' work is displayed in a number of international Museums of Modern Art. He has various public art works, among them a 3x30 meters ceramic mural in Sydney, Audley St in Petersham and a 4 metre high sculpture at Vila Sol Portugal. We are most fortunate to have as one of our teachers, an internationally acclaimed artist and we congratulate Mr Geraldès on his latest award.

### **Students from Liceo Enrico Fermi**

This year as last, we welcomed 15 students from Pavoda Italy as guests of the College over these last two weeks. At the Kildare Campus, there was a fitting dinner to farewell the students and their teacher **Mrs Laura Cellini**. Parents who opened their homes to welcome our visitors and to host them for the two weeks were gratefully thanked for their efforts and generosity. **Ms Maria Doganieri** is

to be applauded for her excellent organisation and attention to detail and a special mention of Ms Doganieri's mother who cooked all day to ensure there was plenty of food for all. Mrs Doganieri is often a silent contributor on these occasions and we value her remarkable ability to not only cook good food but to be present to ensure that all are readily satisfied. Our own group of year 9 and 10 students will travel to Italy for their immersion experience in September.

### **Progress Report from the Laptop Committee**

At a meeting last week, the laptop committee (which consists of members from the College Council, parents and friends and teachers) agreed that the College should continue to investigate the implementation of Netbooks for year 7 in 2011. The Project Team is currently investigating the best options for parents in terms of preferred models, maintenance, storage and insurance. Before a final announcement can be made, the College is also waiting for the election result as this will help determine the final outcomes for us locally. If you would like further conversation about this issue, I would appreciate you making contact with myself or the Director of Educational Resources, Mr Ben Verghese. We welcome your inquiry despite all the uncertainties at this stage.

### **EXPO is coming!**

Throughout this newsletter you will have information regarding information nights regarding subject choices particularly focusing on students in years 9-12. The week will culminate with our Career and Tertiary EXPO which will be held next Friday 13th August.

### **Raffle**

The College raffle will be drawn during EXPO at 3pm in the Kildare Hall. Please, Please, Please ensure that your tickets are returned sold as soon as possible, as this will assist your Parents and Friends committees immensely. Remember if you have lost your tickets you will need to provide a Statutory Declaration - a template of which can be found on our webpage.

**Erica Pegorer, Principal**

## Information Evenings

Year 8 going into Year 9	10th August 7.30pm - 8.30pm	St. Paul's Lecture Theatre
Year 9 going into Year 10	11th August 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Kildare Hall
Year 10 going into 11	9th August 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Kildare Hall
Year 8 and Year 9	13th August 11.00am – 4.00pm	EXPO Kildare

### Second Hand Book and Uniform Shop

NEXT OPEN

Thursday 19th August

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)

## Reminder

Raffle ticket books are due back today.

If you haven't returned your sold ticket book please do so as soon as possible.

The Parents and Friends association appreciates your support of the College.

(All unsold tickets must also be returned)

**We're looking for volunteers to help cook the BBQ at the Champagnat Centre on Election Day. Please email Mr Rob Tarraran at [tarrrob1@lavalla.vic.edu.au](mailto:tarrrob1@lavalla.vic.edu.au) if you can help out.**

### Forthcoming Events... Term 3

5 – 9 Aug	CAS Netball
9 August	Student Free Day – Yr 12 VCE/VCAL classes only
9 August	Yr 10 2011 Information Evening
9-13 Aug	Yr 10 LA Parent/Teacher Interviews
13 August	EXPO Kildare Campus
<b>16 August</b>	<b>Student Free Day</b>
18-23 August	CAS Soccer
24-27 August	Yr 11 Retreats
24-27 August	Yr 8 LA Parent/Teacher Interviews