

Lavalla Catholic College

Issue 13
SEPTEMBER 6, 2013



Artwork by Melanie Renninson K11

this issue

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From the Principal

Dear parents, students and teachers

I am sure by now you have heard the news of my recent resignation. At the beginning of 2014 I will be taking up a role of Executive Officer with Kildare Ministries. Many of you may remember the Brigidine Sisters through their work in Traralgon from the 1960's to late '80's. At that time they were involved in the running of St Michael's, St Gabriel's and Kildare College. In more recent times they have become well known for their work with refugees and the rights of women. While this new work with the Brigidine sisters, helping establish structures to ensure their work continues in the future and supporting their current schools in Australia, promises to be an exciting phase of my career, it is with sadness that I will bid farewell to the Lavalla community. Most of my teaching life has been spent at the College as a novice teacher, and later in various roles; I have become deeply involved in this community and the wider Latrobe Valley. It has been a difficult decision for me to leave a community and a College I know and love.

There will be time for farewells and for me to express my deep appreciation to this community for its support of me, later in the year. At the moment it is 'business as usual' as I continue my work at the College. During the next few weeks Regional Director of Marist Schools Australia, Mr Paul Herrick will work with the College Council and staff to identify the needs of the College with regard the principal's role. He will then convene a panel to interview applicants for the position of Principal. Hopefully, he will be in a position to give us details of the Principal appointment early in term 4.

During last year a study tour, organised by the CEO Warragul, was organised for principals in the Diocese to visit Finland this year to gain insight into the Finnish educational system. As you might be aware, Finland is well known for its quality education finishing near the top of international scales for the last 3-5 years. It will be a marvellous opportunity to research a high performing system like Finland and I will be participating in that tour when it leaves this weekend. I am grateful to Ms McKenzie once again for accepting the role of acting principal until my return at the end of the first week of term four.

Congratulations

- Mr Michael McKenna on his marriage to Miss Jolene Thompson
- Miss Nicole Sizeland on her engagement to Mr John Fenech
- Ms Colleen Earl and Mr Michael Archer on their impending marriage



Living God,

Faith is your gift to us.

We thank you for the faith that we have, and pray you to enlarge it,

so that, by faith,

Our hope in you will be more radiant, and our love purer, stronger and more courageous:

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Syria

You will see elsewhere in this newsletter that the Pope has called for an international day of fasting and prayer to support the citizens of Syria. Our Superior General, Br Emil Turu earlier this week reminded us that the three Marist Brothers in Aleppo are housing 300 refugees; whom have escaped for now the violence and uncertainty of their city. Impeding war is so close and it is baffling to think that once again innocent people's lives are at risk as a result of a situation for which they have no control. There must be a better way to secure peace.

ICT

During the week I met with our ICT staff to thank them for their work. I understand that we still have technical issues which cause both staff and students irritation. However, I am aware of the commitment and work of the team as they strive to trouble shoot these problems and wanted to express my personal thanks and support to them in what have been trying times.

Literacy Conference

Last week the seven secondary schools of the Diocese of Sale came together for the Literacy Action Conference, held at Presentation Campus. Our focus was to determine a co-ordinated approach to improve the literacy outcomes for all students in our schools. We listened to our local experts about specific programmes and approaches and came away with a shared vision and a number of goals we aim to achieve by the end of 2014. It is probably the first time that secondary Colleges in the Diocese have come together in this way and we left energised and committed to our action plan. Thanks and appreciation are extended to the Catholic Education Office in Warragul for their support and expertise.

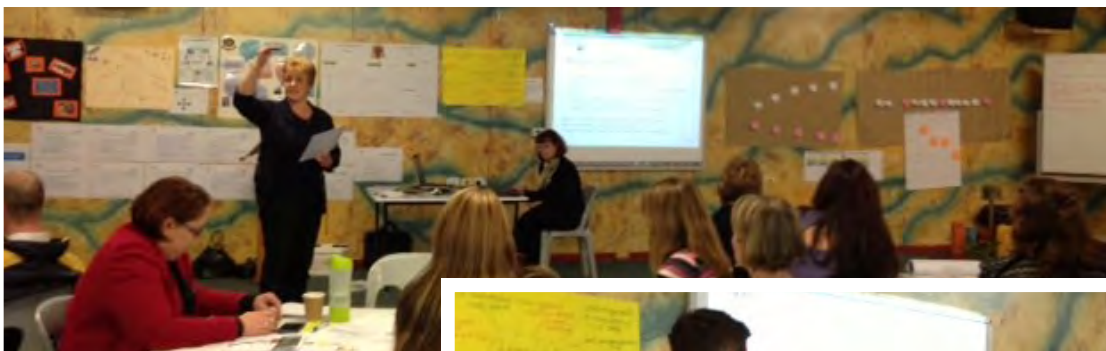
I look forward to sharing my perceptions and experiences of the education system in Finland.

Have a good fortnight

God Bless

Ms Erica Pegorer
Principal

LAVALLA
CATHOLIC COLLEGE



Staff from Catholic Schools across the Diocese of Sale at the Literacy in Action Conference on 29 and 30 August at Presentation Campus Moe



Music Report

Mr Shane Reid - Director of Music

Our involvement in the Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod has now finished after an enjoyable series of performances yesterday during the day and evening sessions.

Our Senior Jazz Ensemble (pictured above) performed in two sections the Open Stage Band and Secondary School Stage Band sections. They won both, receiving some outstanding feedback.

Our Intermediate Concert Band finished 3rd in the Secondary School Concert Band section, a really credible effort for a group made up of primarily Year 8 students who were competing against the Senior Concert Bands of other schools.

It was disappointing that some sections had limited enrolments; this included the Novice Band section which our mighty Training Band won with their first public performance. Despite being the only competitor, the adjudicator went to great lengths to stress that a prize was not a given – it was a well earned victory.

Our Senior Concert Band performed to close the evening and although they did not officially compete, they received an adjudicator's report and some wonderful feedback for a very stirring performance.

Our Senior Concert Band and Senior Jazz Ensemble deserve special recognition for their work this year. The Platinum shield received by the Concert Band and the 3rd placing at the National Stage Band championships by our Jazz Ensemble are genuinely laudable results that have been years in the making and will be a high water mark that will prove challenging for us to ever replicate.

Invitation to the Lavalla Community

Annual Music Concert

*Tuesday 10 September
7pm in the Kildare Hall*

Future Options Expo GETT Centre

Current and former Lavalla students share their experiences at the Future Options EXPO at GETT.





Past Student Profile

Matthias Wood, Class of 2012

At the College we are always keen to hear of the accomplishments of past students, and delight in their successes. Whether it is walking the Kokoda track, writing books, producing art or building kitchens, we know that Lavalla Catholic College former students make a difference in the world.

We have been delighted to welcome back Mathias Wood (class of 2012) as a volunteer Strategic learning Mentor. Although currently employed and working nights, Mathias comes to the College to work beside students, offering them support and encouragement as they face the challenges of the school day. Mathias's recent experience of the being a student, love of the College and newly gained perspective of the work place are really enhancing the support that the College can offer students. He really is continuing to live out the College motto: Strong minds and compassionate hearts

If you know of another former Lavalla Catholic College student who should be recognised in the newsletter, please contact Ms Lee McKenzie who would love to hear from you.

Community Light The Night

Wednesday 25 September, 5.00pm

Victory Park Traralgon

More than 50,000 Australian families face the challenges of blood cancer everyday. Support the Leukaemia foundation by shining a lantern of hope with family and friends at Light the Night, you will help to raise vital funds for research, giving new hope to people with blood cancer.

What colour will your lantern be?

- Gold to remember a loved one
- White to reflect on their life with blood cancer
- Blue to support others

Sponsor Jordan Bourke

The Ride to Conquer Cancer 2013

Ex student Jordan Bourke is competing in the Ride to Conquer Cancer, which is a 200km bike ride which raises money for the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. He needs to reach \$2500 to participate in the ride and needs your support.

Peter Mac is helping to improve our understanding of how cancers work and why they develop, to find better ways to target them and treat patients. By sponsoring Jordan in The Ride to Conquer Cancer you will help to ensure the sustainability of this groundbreaking work

[Click here to donate online](#)



Mary Immaculate is 100

St Mary's Parish Bairnsdale

19 October 1913 – 19 October 2013

St Mary's Parish Bairnsdale / Omeo invites parishioners present and past, and friends of Bairnsdale to the Mass of Thanksgiving, Celebrating the Centenary of the iconic Mary Immaculate Church. We will attempt to take a group photo on the day.

Principal Celebrant – Bishop Christopher Prowse
10:30 am, 20th October 2013.

Mass will be followed by refreshments and the cutting of the Centenary cake in St Mary's Parish Centre.

For catering purposes please phone Pattie at the Parish Office 5152 2942 or Fr. Peter 0408 517 073.



Peace for Syria

Call for Fasting and Prayer

The Pope has called on all people to make a special effort for peace in Syria on the 7th September. He has called for a day of fasting and prayer. This seems to be the most effective means we ordinary people have at our disposal.

Br. Emili Turu, the Superior General of the Marist Brothers has called for our support of the Blue Marists in Aleppo. They are ministering to people in a war torn, desperate city.

Reflections from the Blue Marists

<https://www.facebook.com/MaristesAlep/>

April 2013 – rebels capture East Aleppo.

2 July 2013 – rebels blockade Aleppo.

July 26 2013 - In the quarter of Jabal el Saydeh, a quarter where we have been working for more than 25 years among the most poor, we found people still poorer... The displaced. So to them we hurried, to the children, the women, the men... the young people responded generously. And it was there we spent our first day.

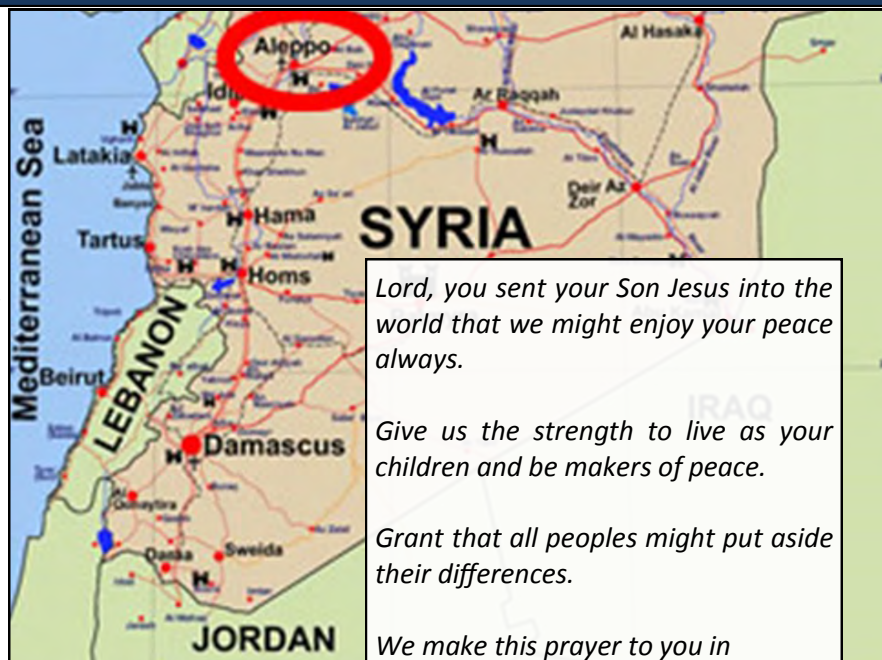
They welcomed us, the children came out of the holes where they had hidden. A crowd, a mass. A balloon excited them.

They played, sang, dance, each of them is a history, a sacred history which is revealed to us.

A little girl who shares her sadness at being an orphan.

A boy who offers at the very first a pencil to an animator, "Habaytak" he says to him, I like you.

A girl is quite sweetly transformed thanks to a hand which does not let her go. She dares to take her hands down from blocking her ears. She skips, she smiles.



Lord, you sent your Son Jesus into the world that we might enjoy your peace always.

Give us the strength to live as your children and be makers of peace.

Grant that all peoples might put aside their differences.

We make this prayer to you in Jesus' name.

Amen



The Sheikh, comes to thank us. Someone asks, "You are Christians?" An old man comes up to me to embrace me and say to me "Choukran". I do not know him, I do not know his name, I do not know why he has thanked me, but even so, the gesture is made, a pact of love and trust is signed.

The women listen to the women. What dignity! There is no complaining. One thanks Allah.

But what a living Gospel we are- we are in train of living! Yes, we risk our lives. Certain young people do not have the support of their parents.

Certain benefactors have organised their home to dare a gesture!

All of us know the great risk of working when the weapons keep on firing.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 10 September

Annual Music Concert, 7pm Kildare Hall
State Schools Victoria Basketball, Boys Year 9 & 10

Wednesday 11 September

Year 7 On Show - St Paul's Campus, 5.00pm - 7.00pm
State Schools Victoria Athletics, Years 7-12

Thursday 12 September

Overnight Bushwalk Baw Baw National Park - VCE 1&2 students
State Schools Victoria Basketball, Years 7 & 8
Music Student Photos

Monday 16 September

Unit 4 VCE Physics Excursion - Synchrotron
Year 12 Drama Solo Performance night

Tuesday 17 September

Year 12 Legal Studies Excursion

Wednesday 18 September

Year 8 Scienceworks Excursion

Thursday 19 September

Parent/Teacher Interviews - Term 3 4.00pm - 7.30pm

Friday 20 September

Last day Term 3 - School ends 2.30pm
Adidas Fun Run - Year 7 & 8

Monday 7 October

First day of Term 4

School Uniform Shop

Open 3.30pm - 6.00pm

Thursday 19 September

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



Junior Girls Football - State Championship Winners

Four months of training and planning came to a euphoric climax on Monday, August 26th after the Lavalla Catholic College junior girl's football team won the SSV State Championship of Aust. Football.

Congratulations

SSV State Final (26/08/2013), Victoria Park

Lavalla Catholic College	2.0	6.3	6.5	8.10 (58)
Bendigo South East Secondary College	2.1	2.2	4.3	4.4 (28)

Best - Lavalla: Kasey Guttridge, Monica Harasimiuk, Emily Haeusler, Darcy Guttridge, Casey Sherriff, Rachel Dekleva.

Goals - Lavalla: Rachel Dekleva 3, Taylah Ferguson 1, Sarah Mulqueen 1, Maleah Travers 1, Casey Sherriff 1, Kasey Guttridge 1.

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