



From the Principal

Mr John Freeman



Whilst we are only just over half way through the year we are already starting our planning for 2016. Work with students at Years 9, 10 and 11 regarding career choices have been in progress for a number of weeks. This work was undertaken to assist students to make wise choices in regard to subject selections. This great work meant that when students attended our annual Expo on Friday 31st July they could talk to staff about subject choices with purpose and direction.



Also present were a number of representatives from Universities, TAFEs and other post school education providers. Furthermore we had representatives from the Armed Forces and Police Force. Again the presence and advice provided by these groups enhanced the ability of students to make informed choices. The Expo was extremely well attended and talking to a number of people I know they found the information provided by staff to be very helpful. My thanks to Mr Doug Doherty and all the staff who worked so hard on preparing and presenting at the Expo. Whilst this was a team effort, I do feel that I need to pay particular praise to Brett Van Berkel for his hard work in ensuring the success of the Expo.

This week we are sending out offers of places to families for Year 7 next year. It is imperative that families return their acceptance forms as soon as possible as we are still receiving applications.

From the Principal cont.

Consequently, as a matter of justice I do not want to advise a family that they may have to be on a waiting list, if a place is actually available.

From Sunday, 26 July, to Tuesday, 28 July, members of the Leadership Team – Lee McKenzie, Doug Doherty, Chris Roga, Robert Tarraran and myself - attended the Marist Schools Australia's biennial conference, held in Melbourne. The theme of the presentations was 'The Wineskins are Empty', and the focus of the conference was centred on the Gospel of John. Sr Mary Coloe, an Australian theologian with expertise in John's Gospel lead the 160 plus participants from around Australia (as well Papua New Guinea), to consider how we might express Jesus' call to abundant life in ways which engage the young people in our care.

The weekend before last Lavalla Catholic College competed in the Victorian Volleyball Schools Cup. The Open Girls Team achieved the Gold Medal in Division 2 and the Open Boys finished 4th in their Division 2 grouping. I was able to watch both teams play on the Saturday and part of Sunday and what impressed me most was their endeavour, camaraderie and most all the way they conducted themselves in victory or defeat.



Thanks to all the families who supported their children at this event, but in particular Glenn Trembath who was assisted by Brian Scott in coaching the teams. I also want to thank Ross Sizeland (Friday and Sunday) and Claire Couling (Saturday) for their support of our students. Also well done to our Boys' Netball team who will playing in the SSV State Championships after winning the Regional Championships ;last week.

Our success and involvement of students in our co-curricular program is not restricted to just sport. You will read in this newsletter about our good work in Music, Community Service and the Mock Parliament experience. Thanks to all involved. Another highlight was the success of our students in GippsWebs for Business 2015 competition.

With around 40 teams entering, involving more than 130 students from nine schools, we had four out of the nine teams in the finals held on Tuesday, 4th August. Well done to all our students involved, but in particular the Momentum team, consisting of Daniel Henry, Benjamin Jones and Stephen Armatas who took 1st place in the completion and great work from the Webdevs team - Dylan Sibly, Frank Licciardi, Riley McCullagh and Nathan Uhe – who came third.

Credit must be given to their teacher, John Wilkie, who has achieved success over the last four or more years in this competition, for his work in supporting and preparing all his students throughout the competition.

Please remember in your prayers the family of Fr Father Frank Shortis who passed away last week at the age of 89. Frank was a Carmelite priest and founding principal of Whitefriars College, Donvale. He also went on to be founding principal at Geoghegan College, Broadmeadows (VIC), now known as Penola Catholic College. Fr Frank was also a founding member of the Catholic Secondary Principals' Association. He also was Prior Provincial for the Carmelites in Australia and at times a Parish Priest. His loss has been felt in many spheres.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



St Paul's Campus Update

Ms Lee McKenzie - Campus Director



Despite the cold weather and occasional icy blast of hail, the campus is definitely in work mode. Students are well settled to their tasks and teachers report that there is a tone of industrious achievement in classes.

Thanks

Mr Kristiaan Vallak has taken on the role of Year 9 Learning leader in Ms Olivia Barrett's absence. He will have his last day in the role on the 14th August with Ms Barrett returning on the 17th. I know that Kristiaan has worked very well in this role and thank him for his efforts. We look forward to welcoming Olivia back.

Ms Claire Couling and Mr Brett Van Berkel have led the re-enrolment process across the College. This is a very important task to ensure that our young people have the educational opportunities and pathways that will enhance their lives beyond school.

Year 7 Enrolments for 2016

It has been a delight to meet the prospective Year 7 2016 students during our interviews. At this stage all letters of offer have been sent out to all families, there should be some excited Year 6 students planning their secondary education at Lavalla Catholic College.

Teams

Currently there are many students competing in SSV competitions for football, soccer etc. I know the hours of training and in some cases the early morning starts and/or late finishes that these young people and their teachers have to commit to. We appreciate their efforts in representing the College.

We have a number of students competing in Tournament of the minds assisted by Mrs Justin. We wish them well as they prepare for the competition.

Year 7

Jocelyn Glasson
Emily Liang
Jai Tactor
Tom Snell
Jane Dinnie

Year 8

Leah Richards
Anneke Ernst

Year 9

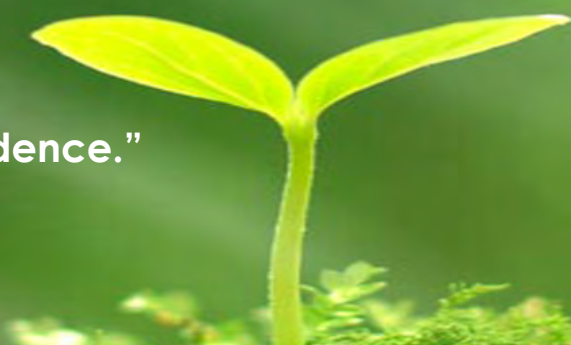
Holly Williamson
Anita Richardson
Joshua Bailey
William Snell
Jessica Haylock
Ben Scott
Jay Nichols

Parent-student-teacher interviews

We have taken note of parental concerns that a number of families were unable to secure a time to attend interviews. Please be assured we are looking at ways of opening up more time slots for the next round of interviews.

"A feeling of continuous growth is a wonderful source of motivation and self-confidence."

--Brian Tracey



Kildare Campus Update

Mr Doug Doherty - Campus Director



This famous book is a strong favourite of mine and it's messages are still very relevant today.

The book speaks of how, "when you want something, all the universe conspires in helping you to achieve it." These last few weeks have seen both these quotes successfully come alive at Kildare Campus.

On Friday 31st July we held our EXPO event. The focus on student pathways to success was exceptionally streamlined this year. All students attended with their Career Action Plans and draft Subject Selections. They then had the opportunity to meet with our experienced subject staff to further cement or revise their subject selections to achieve their pathways to success. The continued involvement of all our Universities to raise aspirations and provide excellent advice was much appreciated.

Also, the growing input from our vast array of outside providers with whom we have built excellent collaborative relationships; helped assist the pathways of those students seeking a more applied future career. These included universities, local TAFEs, local and national employers. Of course, I would also like to express my appreciation to our excellent dedicated staff from both campuses who spent the full day giving individual subject pathways advice. It is vitally important to recognise the EXPO Dream Team led by Mr Brett Van Berkel, for the construction and delivery of the whole process and event.

Finally, I would like to thank all parents and students who attended and re-enrolled so promptly. This supportive action allows more time and resources for us to plan for your young people's future pathways to success.

Subject and pathway selection continues until Friday 21st August. During the next two weeks we are undertaking a programme of Subject Selection interviews for all transition students. Year 11 students will have specific interviews with a designated team of staff during 6th August; whilst Year 10 students will have their interviews with their LAs and data will be entered 24th August.

Therefore, I encourage all students and parents to talk about their subject selection and ensure that they are aware of their pathways before attending their interviews.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the large number of new applicants to Lavalla Catholic College, Kildare Campus since our EXPO. It is refreshing to hear that the local community recognise and appreciate the wonderful and aspirational school community that we have.

A gentle reminder to the small number of current families that have yet to re-enrol; the **closing date is August 21st**. Success is the foundation of any of my newsletter reports and I am very happy to say that I have some amazing examples for this edition. I will simply list these amazing successes as I have had either staff or students create a report on them.

Success has been evident with my growing waist size, a result of the current Year 12 Food Technology group who have

Kildare Campus Update cont.

been working on their Food SAT for the last two days. Not only does this food look amazing, but it tastes as good as it looks. It is no wonder that Lavalla Catholic College has produced some of Latrobe Valley's best chefs. I would like to congratulate Mrs Tamsin McCormack for her leadership and facilitation of this group.

Success is not only focused on our educational and sporting achievements. Our spiritual achievements have been recognised with the resumption of our 'Porridge and Prayer', led by Mr Paul Skippen. This is an opportunity on a Tuesday morning to come to the chapel at Kildare to share a breakfast and a short prayer to start the day well. All are welcome, please come along.

In conclusion, it is true that the universe does conspire to help people achieve their dreams – but it is also true that Lavalla Catholic College is supporting the universe in achieving this goal!

EXPO 2015



Faith & Ministry Matters

Mr Chris Roga - Director of Faith & Ministry



Pope Francis has declared the Holy Year of Mercy to begin on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8, and to close on Nov. 20, 2016, the Feast of Christ the King. The central message is compassion and pardon. "We are all called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time," said Francis. "Let us not forget that God pardons and God pardons always," the pope continued. "Let us never tire of asking for forgiveness."

Coincidentally, the Marist theme for 2015 is "#justLove, Hearts Without Borders" this year. This matches the Pope's call to focus on mercy and our college motto 'Strong Minds, Compassionate Hearts.' Compassionate Hearts know no limits. Mercy a driver of justice, peace and dignity for everyone.



Kildare Campus EXPO

The EXPO was held on Friday, 31 July. The RE stand provided not only the RE curriculum choices for 2016, but also a collection of social justice and liturgy actions that are part of RE. In addition, parents, students and staff enjoyed selfies with 'Pope Francis' and 'Mary MacKillop'. Amid the fun and energy of the day, Remar and CSYMA students welcomed people and helped them select the right Re stream for them.

Official Blessing and Opening of the Trades Skills Centre, Kildare Campus

The brand new Trades Skills Centre, Kildare Campus was official Blessed and Opened by Bishop Patrick O'Regan DD, Bishop of Sale, the Honourable Darren Chester MP, (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence and Federal Member for Gippsland), Mr Paul Herrick (Southern Region Director, Marist Schools Australia), Mrs Maria Kirkwood (Director of Catholic Education, Diocese of Sale), Mrs Kathleen Roberts (Chair of the Advisory Council), architects, builders other guests from sister schools and the local community. A simple, yet fitting ceremony marked the occasion.



Staff Retreat - 26th June, 2015

All staff attended a retreat on **#justLove**, conducted by Brother Hubert Williams and Mr Paul Harris of the Marist Life Formation Team. The sessions were enlightening and all of us responded with energy and creativity. We explored the meaning of what it means to love justly in our daily lives and work.



Kildare Chapel

The Kildare chapel has been refurbished over the Term 2 holidays. While many people have contributed, our Maintenance Team of Mr Wendell Symons and Mr Mick Townsend led by Mr Rob Tarraran were most active in the refreshing of the chapel. We plan to celebrate with a Mass on 14 August.

Homeless Sleep Out

On the 6th of August, Hiroshima Day, 20 Lavalla Students from years 10-12 accompanied Mrs Monica Justin and Mr Paul Skippen to Catholic College, Sale to take part in the Homeless Sleep Out. The group left Lavalla at 3.30 pm and returned by 7.30am on 7th. They slept in cardboard boxes, under cover, to experience what homeless people experience. It has proved to be a great experience in the past, and this year was no different.

Year 11 leaders Day at Drouin

A select team of year 11 students will travel to Drouin on 5th August, to learn leadership skills and practice them before leading the year 9 students.

Saint Mary MacKillop Feast Day – 8 August – An Aussie Saint

On January 15, 1842 Mary MacKillop was born of Scottish parents, Alexander MacKillop and Flora MacDonald in Fitzroy, Victoria. This was less than seven years after Fawcner sailed up the Yarra, when Elizabeth Street was a deep gully and Lonsdale Street was still virgin bush. A plaque in the footpath now marks the place of her birth in Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.



From the age of sixteen, Mary earned her living and greatly supported her family, as a governess, as a clerk, and as a teacher at the Portland school in Western Victoria. While acting as a governess to her uncle's children at Penola, Mary met Father Julian Tenison Woods who needed help teaching religious education to the children of the outback. At the time Mary's family depended on her income so she was not free to follow her dream. However, in 1866, greatly inspired and encouraged by Father Woods, Mary opened the first Saint Joseph's School in a disused stable in Penola.

Young women can join Mary, and so the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph was begun. In 1867, Mary was asked by Bishop Shiel to come to Adelaide and start a school. From there, the Sisters spread, in groups to small outback settlements and large cities around Australia, New Zealand, and now in Peru, Brazil and refugee camps of Uganda and Thailand. Mary and these early Sisters, together with other Religious Orders and lay teachers of the time, had a profound influence on the forming of Catholic Education as we have come to know and experience it today. She also opened orphanages, providences to care for the homeless and destitute both young and old, and refuges for ex-prisoners who wished to make a fresh start in life.

Throughout her life Mary suffered ill health. She died on August 8, 1909 in the convent in Mount Street, North Sydney where her tomb is now enshrined. Since then the Congregation has grown and now numbers about 900, working mainly in Australia and New Zealand but also scattered singly or in small groups around the world. The "Brown Joeys" may be seen in big city schools, on dusty bush tracks, in modern hospitals, in caravans, working with the "little ones" of God – the homeless, the new migrant, the Aboriginal, the lonely and the unwanted, in direct care and in advocacy, in standing with and in speaking with. In their endeavours to reverence the human dignity of others and to change unjust structures, the Sisters and those many others who also share the Mary MacKillop spirit continue the work which she began.

This great Australian woman inspired great dedication to God's work in the then new colonies. In today's world, she stands as an example of great courage and trust in her living out of God's loving and compassionate care of those in need.

Mr Paul Skippen - College Minister.

Music

Mr Shane Reid - Director of Music



Our Junior Jazz Ensemble were recently welcomed by the students of grade 1/2 A at St. Michael's Primary School for a combined performance and a series of interactive musical activities. The goal was to find ways to make our jazz repertoire engaging and exciting for very young students and to include them in our music making.

The primary school students helped us out by making drum kit sounds, clapping in time, singing along and helping us find the beat as we played through a number of pieces. It was an energised and enjoyable morning for the students from both schools.

I thank the members of our Junior Jazz Ensemble – Leah Richards (alto saxophone), Brodie Goodwin (tenor saxophone), Madeleine Whiting (trumpet), Keiran Hanlon (trombone) and Lachlan Mayer (bass) as well as our hosts Mrs. Pearson and the wonderful students of 1/2 A for making this initiative such a success.





School Life

Atlas9 Community Service

The Moe Yallourn Rail Trail are fortunate to have twice yearly visits from Year 9 students who provide our aging "Friends of" committee with a wonderful enthusiastic and energetic work force. They give us hundreds of volunteer hours a year that we are extremely grateful for.

Our trail would not look nearly so good without their ongoing efforts.



We recently called on them for an extra task - to help us with our first ever grant plantings.

We had been granted two Community for Nature Grants that had to be completed to a time line.

Who better to call on but our most willing and reliable work force!! 16 students in all attended our two days.

Day 1: 10 students and Terry learnt how to lay jute mat - think we all came home feeling we could now lay carpet!! Great too have Russell Northe and the Moe News and Michael McKenna attend - they, like us, enjoyed the experience of seeing it all happen. We all had a good day and our knees did not take too long to recover!!.

Day 2: 6 students and Candice came to plant trees. What a full on day we all had, in excess of 500 plants and trees were planted and we all discovered just how difficult it is to dig a hole through a slit in the jute mat that mostly seemed to be full of railway ballast - Crystal escaped the ballast but spent hours in my gumboots bending over planting in the water while the rest of us used fingers to move the dreaded rocks to make way for the plants.

What a long and hard day's work put in by all - A superhuman effort!!.



Year 11 Legal Studies - Mock Parliament

Last week the Yr 11 Legal Studies class participated in a Mock Parliamentary debate. It was made possible through the office of Darren Chester and it was held at the senior campus of Traralgon Secondary College.



Lavalla, along with St Paul's Anglican Grammar and TSC debated the proposed bill that would make it compulsory for all Australian Government departments to use only Australian made paper. Its purpose being to enhance job growth.

The Honourable Bronwyn Bishop was the Speaker of the House. Jack Law, Conor Williams, Georgia Pearce, Jada Maaka and I took the stand to give our passionate speeches, doing our best to oppose the bill. We defiantly had the loudest side with everyone shouting "Hear Hear" and getting involved during

our 2 minutes of fame. We didn't stand a chance against the government going down 41 to 23 votes and as a result, the bill was passed.

Madam Speaker congratulated us all for a very impressive presentation and she was very complimentary of the nature of our arguments and how much thought and preparation had gone into our speeches. She spoke to us all about her role in Public life and the responsibilities that came with it. She encouraged us to become more involved and active in the Parliamentary system both as citizens and as a potential career option. She spoke about her role as one of 'service' and that she was ultimately there to serve the Australian people.

After Parliament was dismissed, we all came together to have photos taken and it gave us time to ask Madam Bishop any question we had.

The experience was really fun for all involved and it gave us a great insight into how Parliament works, the Democratic process and all its formalities and traditions.

Lexi Savage (Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development)

Jack Law (Leader of the Opposition)

Conor Williams (Shadow Minister for Finance)

Georgia Pearce (Shadow Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water)

Jada Maaka (Shadow Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations)

Harrison Symons (Opposition whip)

Sport Report

Mr Dwayne Tibballs - Sports Co-Ordinator



Boys Netball Teams Off To State Championships

Lavalla Catholic College boy's netball has enjoyed some more success in the LSSV Championships by having the senior boys and junior boys teams win through to the State Championships.

For the first time the Regional Championships were held indoors at the comfort of the Traralgon Sports Stadium on Thursday, July 30th and Friday, July 31st.

The senior boys and intermediate boys competed on the Thursday and it was the senior boys who prevailed over Korumburra SC 43-6 in a full four quarter match.

The intermediate boys found Wonthaggi SC to be a strong opponent and fell behind early and never recovered. Earlier in the day they defeated Nagle SC, Bairnsdale with a comprehensive victory.

The year 7 girls' team won their opening two games of the day against Drouin SC and Nagle SC but also ran into the roadblock that was Wonthaggi SC. Slowly but gradually Wonthaggi were able to increase their margin to a comfortable cushion and eventually took care of business with a solid win.

The junior boys ended up with just one match for the day after Bairnsdale SC failed to show and they were scheduled a fully-timed four quarter game against Wonthaggi SC. It was a slow start to the match and Wonthaggi skipped away to lead by four at quarter time before Lavalla managed to find some rhythm and surged to a three goal lead at the half time break.

Some key positional changes allowed Lavalla to maintain a firm hold on the lead throughout the second half despite some tough challenges from Wonthaggi.

It was another good result for the junior boys who are through to their fifth straight State Championships and looking to better their runner-up performance from last year.





Calendar

Monday 10th August

- Basketball Year 8-12 Girls
- Senior Band Camp

Tuesday 11th August

- Unit 4 Outdoor Rec Ski Camp
- Senior Band Camp
- Food & Tech SAT - Cooking
- ICAS - Mathematics

Wednesday 12th August

- SSV Gippsland Soccer (11-12)
- SSV AFL 1/4 Finals Year 8 Boys
- Unit 4 Outdoor Rec Ski Camp
- Senior Band Camp

Thursday 13th August

- VALU/VCAL Interviews
- Long LA - Subject Selections
- Year 12 2016 Final Sub Selection
- Unit 4 Outdoor Rec Ski Camp

Friday 14th August

- Soup Van
- Years 8-9 Subject Selections
- Year 10 2016 Web Preferences
- HTAV Spirit of ANZAC Excursion

Monday 17th August

- LA Interviews
- VET B & C Industry Tour - Grocon
- SSV Gippsland Basketball
- Year 10 2016 Final Subject Select



Calendar

Tuesday 18th August

- AFL 1/4 Final - Year 10-12 Girls

Wednesday 19th August

- Year 10 History - Shrine of Remembrance

Thursday 20th August

- REC Conference
- SSV Gippsland Soccer - Year 7-10 Girls)
- ATLAS 9 Inquiry Trip
- Italian Language Immersion Camp
- Multicultural Evening

Friday 21st August

- SSV Netball Boys
- Year 7 & 8 Debating
- Year 11 2016 Web Preferences

Click the link below to go to the Calendar on our website for any updates:

<http://www.lavalla.vic.edu.au/News/Lavalla-Calendar/?viewmode=monthgrid&markDate=05-14-2015>

LAVALLA PARENTS & FRIENDS DEBUTANTE BALL COMMITTEE



email address: pflavalladebball@gmail.com

2016 DEBUTANTE BALL

The Lavalla Parents and Friends Debutante Ball Committee will be hosting an **information evening** at the St. Paul's lecture theatre on **Wednesday 12th August** beginning at 7pm. It is important that all students who will be attending Lavalla in 2016 in Yr 11 and who wish to make their Deb attend this meeting together with their parents.

Please note that we need at least 4-6 new volunteers to help support the running of the balls. If we do not get new parent volunteers' there will be NO 2016 DEBUTANTE BALLS. **Attached is a nomination form for the deb committee. Any year level may apply.**

The 2016 Debutante Balls will be held on

Thursday March 31st
Friday April 1st
Saturday April 2nd

The Debutante Committee are hoping to run three balls on the above dates in 2016, however this will depend on the number of debutantes that enrol. Each ball is capped per evening. **Please note that there needs to be minimum of 15 couples per ball for it to be able to be hosted.**

Please be advised that all debutante balls ran by the Parents and Friends committee will always be held in the 1st term holidays.

The Debutante Balls are now run entirely by the Committee. **Under no circumstances should Lavalla be contacted with any Deb Ball issues.** Any questions or concerns must be emailed to the committee on the above email address.

Our registration evening will be held on October 14th at the Kildare hall, doors open at 7pm. At this meeting all the paper work and the registration fee will be due. Please note that registration is non refundable.

The registration evening is where you will be registered once your paper work and fee is collected. You will also find out at this meeting as to whether you have received your 1st choice for your ball preference

Please note that attendance at both meetings is necessary.

Yours sincerely

2015 deb ball committee

LAVALLA PARENTS & FRIENDS DEBUTANTE BALL COMMITTEE



email address: pflavalladebball@gmail.com

Nomination form

Please email to pflavalladebball@gmail.com

Name.....

Contact phone number.....

Contactable email

Name of eldest child.....

Year level

I understand that I am making myself available for support of the Lavalla Parents and Friends Debutante Ball Committee for the next 2 years, 2016 and 2017.

I have a current WWCC. (Working With Childrens Check)
(please supply a scanned copy with this nomination form)

Signed

Nominations close 5pm , 24th August 2015.