

Lavalla Catholic College



ISSUE 1
February 08
2013

this issue

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Prayer

Lord,
Let everything I do this day and in
this season of Lent
come from you, be inspired by
you.
I long to be closer to you;
Help me to remember that nothing
is important in my life
unless it glorifies you in some way.
It's so easy to get caught up in the
day to day busyness
of my life and keep saying,
"Tomorrow, I will spend more time
in prayer,"
Help me to rely on you for help.
The prayer asks you that I reach
perfection.
Please, Lord, remind me that
"perfection"
isn't the crazy, "successful" way I
try to live my life,
but a perfection of my most
authentic, real self.
My "perfection" might be holding
my many flaws in my open hands,
asking you to help me accept
them.
Heal me, Lord, and help me to
find you in the darkness of my
life.
Let me reach out in this darkness
and feel your hand and love
there to guide me.
Amen

From the Principal

Welcome back to our students, families and staff for the start of the 2013 school year. We ended last year with our principal, Erica Pegorer on sick leave. I am delighted to inform you that she is making a full recovery and expects to be back with us at the beginning of March. Until her return I will continue as Acting Principal.

Theme for 2013

Faith and Learning, Change the World.

During 2013 we will be focusing on the faith life of our students, helping them to understand their faith and its importance in their lives. Along with this we will work to make learning explicit, so that students know how they learn best, when they are learning and why they are learning. A simple support that families can offer in this process is to change the usual questions of "how was your day?" or "what did you do at school today?" to a more focused "what did you learn today?" Encouraging your son or daughter to really reflect on this and give you a meaningful answer will help set them up for success at school.

We are delighted to welcome to our new staff members:

• Kim Birrell	Special Needs	SPC
• Mary Culas	Maths & RE	KC
• Doug Doherty	Campus Director	KC
• Candice Ford	MSP/Growth	SPC
• Jane Hall	Special Needs	SPC
• Pete Kelly	English, Humanities,	SPC
• Deborah Murrell	Maths	KC
• Kevin O'Rafferty	Design Tech Wood	SPC/KC
• Heather Thompson	PA to Campus Director	SPC
• Julie Pezzutto	Humanities & RE	SPC
• Leanne Young	Special Needs	KC

Welcome back to:

- Jeena Illiparampil from long service leave
- Nikki Schroeter from maternity leave
- Lisa Williams from maternity leave.

We congratulate:

- Olivia Barrett, currently on Maternity Leave who gave birth to son Case over the holidays
- Shane and Amanda Reid on the safe arrival of Clementine Alice
- Renee Gilmour on her recent engagement
- Michael McKenna on his recent engagement.

Holidays Works - St Paul's

Yr 7 Refurbishment

The Maintenance team have done a wonderful job on the refurbishment of the eastern end of the Year 7 area. We have moved to more open style classrooms which facilitate twenty-first century learning. These spaces allow for greater collaboration as well as providing spaces for individual work and group instruction. They are certainly more inviting spaces than most adults would have experienced during their schooling. I encourage you to visit the centre when next you visit the campus, I am sure the Year 7's will be delighted to show off these great spaces.

Later in the year, when half the Year 9 students move to Presentation campus for MSP, we will re-locate the Year 7 students in to the western end of the building so that the four classrooms there can also be upgraded.

Art Building

The long awaited Art Building is underway. While all that is visible currently is the concrete slab, much work has been done on services throughout the holidays. We expect to have use of this building during term two.

There has also been programmed painting of the campus and as always, the paint has freshened up the buildings.

The grounds too have had a great deal of work done and are looking beautiful. It is important that our students are educated in attractive surroundings, this helps develop a sense of pride in themselves and their school and makes them more open to learning.

Holiday Works - Kildare

Carpets

There have been new carpets laid through the "old Kildare" building corridors and this has proved to be quite a face lift.

There have been major changes in the Canteen, and the manager, Mrs Anna Di Savia is keen to experiment with the menu choices, while providing healthy and nutritious food.

Holiday Works - Presentation Campus

Security has been put in place to safe guard the campus while it is not in daily use this term. Time has been spent over the holidays maintaining the gardens and clearing the fence line. Year 9 MSP classes will commence there in term 2.

Uniform

My thanks to those parents and students who organised uniforms, shoes etc. over the holidays so that students could begin the year appropriately. The uniform has a number of functions

- It shows a sense of belonging to the College
- It removes the pressure to buy a large wardrobe
- Worn properly, it demonstrates respect, both of self and for others.

To avoid the inconvenience of having to collect your son or daughter from school or to bring in a uniform item, please work with them to ensure that they wear the uniform correctly. Please be aware that unbuckled shoes are an OHS issue, broken buckles will need to be repaired or replaced.

Sun smart

Although there is no College uniform hat, students are encouraged to wear a plain navy blue sun smart hat when outdoors. Likewise all students should wear sunscreen and sunglasses during recess, lunch or outdoor activities. This is a matter of personal responsibility.

ICT

The ICT team were busy throughout the holidays upgrading the wireless system within the College. As with most projects of this nature there were some unforeseen problems and these have meant that the system was not functioning as we expected during the first days of school. The team have worked long hours to overcome these problems. It has been disappointing that students have not been able to reliably use technology to aid their learning. Work on obtaining this reliability is a number one priority for the team and the College.

Reminder:

With the launch of Project Compassion on Tuesday, 12th February, we ask that all students on the St Paul's Campus and Student Leaders come dressed in full summer uniform.

Bus issues

There has been overcrowding on the Moe/Newborough route and this has been of concern. In the short term the College has undertaken to provide an extra bus to support the Bus lines provided bus so that students will not be standing in the aisle. We will continue to work through this conveyancing issue and will continue to provide this service until a better solution can be found.

Project Compassion

With an early Easter this year, Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday are upon us and we will be hosting the Diocesan launch of Project Compassion at the St Paul's Campus next Tuesday. Bishop Christopher will join with student representatives from all primary and secondary schools within the Diocese to launch this year's appeal. As a Catholic school we strive to have students understand themselves as interdependent global citizens taking responsibility to make a difference in our world. During Lent, all students within the College will be encouraged to learn about the lives of people in developing country and to find creative ways to support these people. <http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion>.

Proposed Industrial Action

You may be aware that IEU members are planning to support the day of Protest to be held on 14th February. At this stage the support only takes the form of participation on the day and does not include the other actions currently being taken in state schools. We hope to have an indication of staff members intending to participate by Monday, 11th February and will then be able to formulate plans for the operation of the two campuses. Please be aware you may receive notification that one or more years levels will not be able to be accommodated on the 14th February due to lack of staff. Information regarding this will come via notices home to affected year levels and via the website.

During these last weeks of summer we pray for all those who are fighting fires, cleaning up from fires or living in dread of fires. Our prayers also go out to those affected by recent floods to the north. As Dorathea Mackellar so aptly put it in "My Country"

*I love a sunburnt country,
A land of sweeping plains,
Of ragged mountain ranges,
Of droughts and flooding rains.
I love her far horizons,
I love her jewel-sea,
Her beauty and her terror -
The wide brown land for me!*

May the Lord hold you tenderly in the palm of His hand,

Lee Mckenzie
Acting Principal

We are now at a point where we must educate our children in what no one knew yesterday, and prepare our schools for what no one knows yet.--Margaret Mead





St Paul's Campus Update

Andrew Martin - Campus Director

Welcome to all of our parents and students at the beginning of an exciting new school year. We are thrilled that so much student centred work has been completed over the Christmas break in support of providing a 21st Century education for your children.

Of particular interest and focus, the first phase of our redesigned Year 7 learning space is up and running. This facility is designed to allow for a wide range of collaborative learning experiences to be presented for student engagement. A feature of this construct, other than the internal spaces and furniture, is the provision of external 'break out' spaces which our students will be invited to take ownership of and to nurture through plantings and design features such as artwork. Year 7 parents will be invited to meet their homeroom teachers and view the space during the Year level segment of the Parent Information Evening on Tuesday, Feb 12th.

In addition to our year 7 space, you will notice that St Paul's has been completely repainted externally in a coordinated colour scheme and student amenity has been improved in terms of seating and by the re-erection of several shelters close to the oval for shade and more comfortable eating opportunities. Our gardens and grounds are in fantastic shape also and are a credit to our maintenance staff.

if you have been past the College over recent weeks you would have noted that the new Arts building is also progressing well and with the foundation work completed the steel framework is evolving rapidly into the skeleton of a building. The next few weeks should see a roof structure take shape as we head toward a completion date and commissioning in Term Two.

In terms of events, please note the Caritas Launch and Parent Information Evening to be held at St Paul's on 12th February , our Swimming Carnival on the 25th February and the College Commissioning Mass on March the 5th.

I hope, from your point of view, that the year has started well for your sons or daughters and that they feel connected and motivated at St Paul's this year.

Second Hand Uniform Shop

NEXT OPEN:

Thursday 21st February

3.30pm – 6.00pm

Thursday 7th March

3.30pm – 6.00pm

Shop located at:

St Paul's Campus

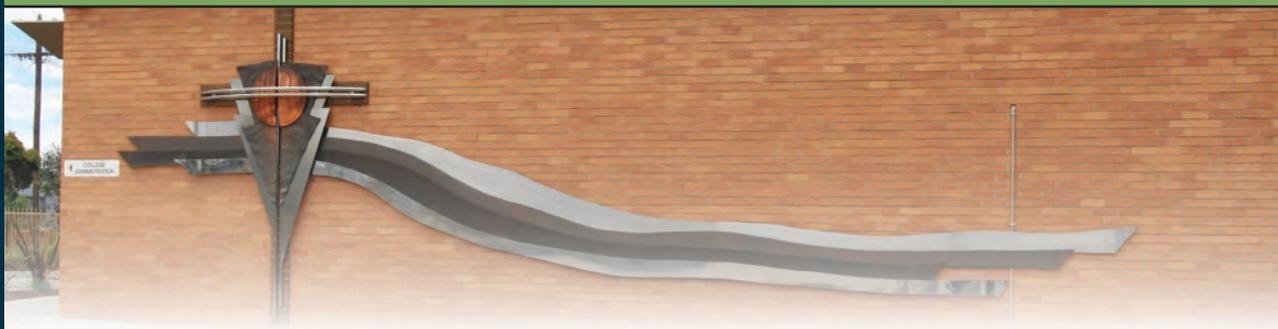
Payment options:

Cash, Cheque or EFTPOS

(Please note Kilts/Skirts

must be tried on. They

are not sized)



Kildare Update **Doug Doherty** - Campus Director

2013 will be known to me as the year when one can 'Dare to Dream'. My family and I have fulfilled our dream of emigrating to this great country and state and now it is my turn to ensure our students have the opportunity to strive to achieve their life-long dreams in regards to their careers and education.

"Raising Aspirations and Delivering Excellence For ALL" is the mantra by which I have strived throughout my teaching career and this will also be the catalyst for driving our Principal's Vision and that of Lavalla Catholic College.

There will be a major focus on developing an outstanding 21st Century 'Daily Diet' of what a student will experience during each lesson within Kildare Campus. This will then be supported and evaluated with the use of a range of data analysis.

What does this mean for our students? This development will ensure that our excellent and dedicated staff, are given the opportunity to ensure that every child matters within our school community during every lesson. The end result will be evident in the higher percentage achievement of outcomes for each year. Every child's progress will be monitored and appropriate pathways will be created to ensure that every child not only reaches but has the opportunity to exceed their potential.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have made my family and I feel so welcome and at home here in Traralgon. I would also like to thank the staff of Lavalla Catholic College, their welcome and support truly reflects the Catholic ethos for which many schools can only hope for. It is the staff and students who will make the real difference at Kildare Campus and I have every confidence that they will achieve the goals they are set.

The students I have met so far have been courteous, friendly, curious, interesting, career driven and humorous. These qualities are the perfect ingredients for success. I look forward to working with our young people and to each newsletter when I can highlight the continuous development of success.

Congratulations to the following Year 12 students from 2012 who recieved an ATAR result of above 90.00:

Sam Stoddart - Engineering at Monash Clayton - 91.70

Ryan Ward -Science Melb Uni - 91.90

Shaun Sammut - Mechatronic Engineering - Robotics - Monash Clayton - 95.40

Elle Bowtell - Bachelor of Arts Melbourne Uni - 96.50

Erin Lawn - Bachelor of Arts Melbourne Uni - 96.55

Dyan Glasson -Engineering- 96.60

Leigh Jones (Dux) - 98.30 - Engineering (Swinburne University)



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, February 12

Shrove Tuesday
Launch of Project Compassion
Yr 7-9 Information Night

Wednesday, February 13

Ash Wednesday

Thursday, February 14

Music Information Day
Saint Valentine's Day

Monday, February 18

Kildare swimming Carnival

Monday, February 25

VCE Help Sessions
St Paul's Swimming Carnival
Yr 11 & 12 Parent Information Night



Music News

Four of our students, Matilda Lappin, Connor Jenkinson, Carmel Jenkinson and Stephanie Schena, were involved in the Melbourne Youth Music Summer School over the break.

It is an intensive program that offers orchestral, wind and jazz ensemble experiences to our state's higher level secondary music students.

It is a prestigious program that offers a significantly higher level of musical experience than can be offered by any secondary school. In my memory, this is the largest number of representatives we have had.

The program is largely the domain of the selective entry music colleges and independent schools.

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UNIFORM SHOP

CHANGE OF DATE

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The previously advertised Second Hand Uniform Shop late session open days for 2013 have changed. An updated list of our open days can be obtained from Reception or the Student Services Centre. Alternatively please see the Uniform and Textbook section of the College website www.lavalla.vic.edu.au and download the "Quantities and Open Days" file.

The Uniform Shop is open fortnightly on Thursdays except during school holidays. We run from 3.30pm to 6.00pm with some later sessions during the year for the changeover of uniform. We accept Cash, Cheque or EFTPOS.

The Uniform Shop is currently very well stocked on most clothing items but smaller sizes are limited. Guidelines and labels for selling your items are available on the website.

If you have never been to the Uniform Shop before we encourage you to come in and have a browse. Changing rooms are provided and we recommend bringing your child with you to try clothing on, this is especially necessary with Kilts and Blazers.

The Lavalla Catholic College Second Hand Uniform Shop is located on the St Paul's Campus. Any changes to our open days are advertised via the College Newsletter and website.