



From the Principal

Mr John Freeman

The following is an extract from "Advent Reflections" by Fr. Robert Baron.

"We all know that Lent is a penitential season, a time when Christians get in touch with their sins. But Advent has a penitential dimension, too. It is the season in which we prepare for the coming of a saviour, and we don't need a saviour unless we're deeply convinced there is something to be saved from."

The last part of this quote may upon first reading appear very bleak. However, for me, I see it as an opportunity to reflect upon my strengths and my weaknesses and on what I am blessed with and those things I need, but are lacking. Again, these may also seem dour thoughts, but in fact I find that through these reflections and prayer I can come to deeper understanding of what brings joy and satisfaction. These are not the material items that are presented to us by a consumerist world, but are things that are available to me if I truly work towards earning them – the love of family and friends; meaningful work; and the chance to make the world a better place once action at a time.

I hope for all of our community that the Christmas time is a time of joy, companionship, reflection and renewal.

I wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas holiday and every best wish for 2017.

As we come to the close of the year there is still much to report to the community.

On Monday evening this week we conducted our Awards Night. This is a significant event for the College because we get the opportunity to celebrate our students in Years 7 to 11 for their academic, cultural and sporting achievements. We recognised our Year 12s at the Graduation Dinner. There were well in excess of 850 people in attendance to witness 286 students be acknowledged. These nights only occur through hard work and organisation and I particularly wish to acknowledge the work of Annemarie Clarke and her team as well as Kellyann Armstrong, Maree Garratt, Claire Couling, Brett Van Berkel, Tamsin McCormack and Kelly Murray. Significant Award recipients are presented in this newsletter.

Last Wednesday, our musicians were involved in two activities. The first saw the Junior Choir attend Federation University to perform a Carol Service to the staff there. The second involved our vocal students from years 7-10 and also some of our woodwind students in Soiree evening. Well done to all involved.

Well done to the Year 9 Junior College Captains and Kelly Murray for their organisation of the Gratitude Assembly, on Thursday, 1 December. It was a fitting way for the Campus to celebrate all that they were grateful for this year.

On Thursday, 8 December, we held an assembly and liturgy to farewell our Years 7 and 8 students. This was a fitting way to end the year for the students to gather and celebrate what has been a very good year. During that time we presented a large number of very full baskets, full of toys and food to St Vincent de Paul. This has been a long-standing, generous and wonderful tradition at the St Paul's Campus since 2000. Well done to all involved.



I wish to congratulate Ms Adrianna Bianconi and Mr Max Harrup on being awarded a Marist Appreciation for Outstanding Contribution to Marist Education on Saturday, 3 December at the annual Marist Ministries Mass and Dinner.

You would all know Adriana through all the work she does as a teacher, Year Level Learning Leader, Choreographer for Musicals, Transition Co-ordinator and so much more. However, not everyone would be as familiar with Max. Max Harrup's recognition was for his 38 years of diligent service on the Tamboritha Committee, which conducts the operation and management of the Sambian Chalet at Tamboritha, a facility that has been part of Marist education for 50 years and used extensively by the College for much of that time.

Congratulations to Jenni Lovatt on her engagement to Steven Howard.

I wish the best of success to our Cricket team who is competing in the Marist Cricket Carnival held at Trinity Catholic College, Lismore. I have no doubt that the team being guided by Peter Flahavin and Brett Van Berkel will acquit themselves well in every way.

We thank our departing staff for their dedication and wish them all every success and happiness in their future ventures, specifically: Reg Gordon and Ross Sizeland. Both have made significant contributions to the College, each in their own way. However, I do want to particularly pay tribute to Ross – although a more significant recognition will be in the 2016 Yearbook.

Ross Sizeland has served the communities and students of St Paul's College, Catholic Regional College Traralgon and now Lavalla Catholic College for 41 years. This is a significant period of time and in itself that is an achievement. However, the greater achievement and most important one is the positive impact Ross has been on the students he has taught. I have only known Ross for three years, but have always been impressed with his ability to know all his students, not just their names, but their families, interests and achievements. When Marcellin Champagnat commenced the Little Brothers of Mary, he asked of his teachers that "to educate children first you must love them, and love them equally." My view is that Ross has well and truly achieved this request. Thank you Ross for your good and faithful service to this community.

Last Newsletter I brought to your attention information regarding the upcoming bushfire season. This is an important matter, so once again you will find included in this newsletter the notice to all families regarding our Bushfire Procedures. This summer season is predicted to be one where the threat of fire is high and I urge all families to consider both their own personal bushfire plans as well as related issues that might impact on your family if a fire threat occurs during school time.

Wishing you and your families
a safe and restive Festive





Congratulations to the following students who will join our Junior School Captains as leaders on the St Paul's Campus. Please note that there will still be some additions to this list with the new year 7s and also the SRC which will be drawn from every homeroom.

St Paul's Campus Captains

Luis D'Angelo
Jordan Ross
Alana Walker
Maliat Monir

Champagnat House

Captain - Lauryn King-Church
Captain - Harriet Williams
Ambassador 9 - Milly Murphy
Ambassador 9 - Hannah Vanderzalm
Ambassador 9 - Niamh Williams
Ambassador 8 - Tarra Nixon
Ambassador 8 - Christian D'Angelo
Ambassdaor 8 - Ryan Massaro

Delany House

Captain - Jordan Collison
Captain - Jade Melbourne
Ambassador 9 - Jack Beechey-Danvers
Ambassador 9 - Kiara Evans
Ambassador 9 - Damien Hough
Ambassador 9 - Paris Tracey
Ambassador 8 - Ben Gafa
Ambassador 8 - Balyh Turra

Mackillop House

Captain - Nieve Campbell
Captain - Chloe Bailey
Ambassador 9- Emerson Devenie
Ambassador 9 - Claudia Said
Ambassador 9 - Sarah DeMaria
Ambassador 8 - Benjamin K Fleming
Ambassador 8 - Thomas Tripodi
Ambassador 8 - James Wirken

Nagle House

Captain - Eliza Whitty
Captain - Amber Leyshan
Ambassador 9 - Elly Walker
Ambassador 9 - Molly McGrail
Ambassador 9 - Matt Scholtes
Ambassador 9 - Alyssa Holme
Ambassador 8 - Alannah Knowles
Ambassador 8 - Riley Tripodi

Special Events

Mobarrat Monir Yr 9
Natasha Bond Yr 9
Kade Petersen Yr 8
Daniel Falano Yr 8
Chelsea Wilson Yr 8
Kasidy Brown Yr 8
Courtney Howell Yr 8
Tyron Bramwell Yr 8

Ministry

Kate Robinson Yr 9
Zoe Marshall Yr 9
Nicole Formaran Yr 8
James Day Yr 8



2016 Year Level Dux:

Mubasshir Murshed Yr 9

Yue Ming Loi Yr 10

Tobias Duffy Yr 11

Campus Directors' Awards

Briah Broadbent Yr 9 - St Paul's Campus

Tom Trewin Yr 11 - Kildare Campus

Subject Awards:

Religious Education:	Madison Matters Yr 7
	Jordan Ross Yr 8
	Ava Mifsud Yr 9
	Jasmine Ludlow Yr 10
	Kasinda Dalton Yr 11
	James Berkelmans Yr 11
English:	Nathanael Duffy Yr 7
	Maliat Monir Yr 8
	Julien Alesi Yr 9
	Sarah Rogers Yr 10
Mathematics:	Nathanael Duffy Yr 7
	Vanshita Patel Yr 8
	Mubasshir Murshed Yr 9
	Kate Chilver Yr 10
Italian:	Angela Francolino Yr 7
	Jacob Pianta Yr 8
	Lily Bond Yr 9
	Kate Chilver Yr 10

Subject Awards VCE/VET:

Abbey Allgood	1 & 2 English Language
Brianna Allford	VCE VET Health: Unit 3 & 4 Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance
Kaylee Beecroft	VCE VET Health: Unit 1 & 2 Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance
Anias Bond	VCE VET Units 1 & 2 Certificate III in Sport and Recreation (Outdoor Rec)
Bailey Cameron	VCAL Personal Development and Work Related Skills
Bailey Cameron	VCAL Literacy
Joseph Darling	1 & 2 Business Management
Collette Dawson	1 & 2 Health & Human Development
	1 & 2 Legal Studies
	1 & 2 Media
Alexandra Delicato	Units 3 & 4 Studio Arts
Erin Dorrington	1 & 2 Psychology
Tobias Duffy	1 & 2 Music Performance
	1 & 2 Mathematical Methods
	1 & 2 Physics
Chantel Formaran	1 & 2 Accounting
Taylah Foster	1 & 2 Studio Arts
	1 & 2 Visual Communication and Design

Ally Hayes	1 & 2 LOTE (Italian)
	1 & 2 General Maths
Jessica Haylock	1 & 2 Drama
Laura Hodgskiss	Units 3 & 4 Health and Human Development
Justin Hough	1 & 2 Systems Engineering
Tayla Jackson	1 & 2 Chemistry
	1 & 2 Physical Education
Natalie Justin	1 & 2 Literature
	1 & 2 English
Brodie Logue	Units 3 & 4 Business Management
Lachlan Marshall	Units 3 & 4 Systems Engineering
Chelsea Stewart	1 & 2 Biology
Harrison Symons	Unit 1 & 2 History
Anton Tarraran	VCE VET Laboratory Skills: Unit 1 & 2 Certificate III in Laboratory Skills
Grace Walker	Unit 1 Religion and Society
	1 & 2 Geography

Community Building Awards

Nicole Formaran Yr 7
Natasha Bond Yr 8
Ewan Williams Yr 9
Ming Loi Yr 10
Matthew Pearce Yr 11

Sports Awards

Hugh Dunbar Yr 7
Luis D'Angelo Yr 8
Ewan Williams Yr 9
Joshua Galea Yr 10
Darcy Guttridge Yr 11

Citizenship Awards

Christian D'Angelo Yr 7
Matthew Pearce Yr 11

Cultural Awards – Performing Arts

Erica Lang Yr 9
Tobias Duffy Yr 11

Cultural Awards – Performing Arts

Erica Lang Yr 9
Tobias Duffy Yr 11

Cultural Awards – Visual Arts

Chelsea Hinton Yr 8
Taylah Foster Yr 11

Musicianship Awards

Leah Richards Yr 9



ATLAS 9 Awards

Shelby Wilson Yr 9
Baylee Patterson Yr 9

Nano Nagle Awards

Kaijah Noda Yr 9
Sophia Richmond Yr 9

Humanitarian Awards

Archie Grant Yr 9

Student Peer Awards

Nathanael Duffy	Yr 7
Tommy Campbell	Yr 8
Sophia Richmond	Yr 9
Sarah Rogers	Yr 10
Liam Patterson	Yr 11

All Round Achievement Award

Nathanael Duffy Yr 7
Luis D'Angelo Yr 8
Madison Rohde Yr 9
Emily Beecroft Yr 10
Grace Walker Yr 11

Principals Award for Academic Excellence

Year 7

Angela Francolino
Nathanael Duffy
Nicole Formaran

Year 8

Jordan Ross
Kate Robinson
Maliat Monir
Mobarrat Monir
Riley Watts

Year 9

Joshua Wong
Mubasshir Murshed

Year 10

Ming Loi
Chelsea Stewart

Year 11

Alexandra Delicato
Tobias Duffy
Collette Dawson

Ally Hayes
Taylah Foster
Tayla Jackson
Natalie Justin
Brianna Allford

Principals Award for Academic Diligence

Year 7

Alana Cameron
Amelia Cassar
Annalise Gafa
Ben Gafa
Brittney Paulet
Christian D'Angelo
Claudia Lear
Connor Saunders
Destiny Mackrell
Ella Blackford
Ella Brent
Ella Fothergill
Emma Walker
Emma White
Isabella Bettridge
James Day
James Wirken

Yr 10 Encouragement Award

Andrew Tops Yr 10

Kwong Lee Dow Award

Chantel Formaran	Yr 10
Luke Dal Pra	Yr 10

Monash Scholarship

Emma Grunwald Yr 10
Justin Hough Yr 10

Aust. Defence Force Award

Taylor Dennison-Young Yr 10

Yr 11 Encouragement Award

Alexandra Delicato Yr 11

Yr 10 Business Award - Fed Uni

Jackson Raeburn Yr 10

Yr 11 Achievement Award - Fed Uni

Tobias Duffy Yr 11

Kade Petersen
Kaitlyn Thompson
Kate Lavery
Lachlan Bennett
Lara Bamford
Liam Byrne
Lily Campbell
Loren Quail
Madison Matters
Meg Morris
Pheobe Miller
Rylee McNamara
Tahlee Sawers

Year 8

Abbey Jeffs
Alana Walker
Ayva Van Der Velden
Elyana Pistrin
Hannah Cheetham
Harriet Williams
Hollie Gooding
Jack Beechey-Danvers
Jacob Pianta
James Chilver
Jasmine Mackrell
Jaysen Sharman

Jessica Chuong
Jordan Collison
Kayla Sibly
Kiera Johnson
Lachlan Mayer
Lachlan McGrail
Lauren Grimes
Milan Maaka
Sarah Little
Stephanie Szabo
Vanshita Patel

Year 9

Audrey Lee
Caitlin Macfarlane
Eliza Jeffs
Grace Thain
Isabella Tatchell
Lauren Thatcher
Leah Richards
Liliana Armatas
Lorimer Marshall
Alexandra Cardillo
Alysha Somerville
Ava Misfud
Benjamin Grumley
Lily Bond



Lincoln Ingravalle
Mackenzie Blair
Madison Rohde
Sophia Richmond

Year 10

Justin Hough
Joseph Darling
Ella Darling
Anton Tarraran
Jasmine Ludlow
Britney Monacella
Chantel Formaran
Kate Chilver
Luke Dal Pra
Emma Clark
Tessa Watson
Claire Humphrey
Kirsten Piening
Emma Grunwald
Emily Nelson
Sarah Rogers
Ainslie Cruickshank
Michael Gaudiano
Kaylee Beecroft
Jessica Haylock
Caleb McRae
Minnasoda D'Amico
Alice Peddle

Year 11

Erin Dorrington
Bronte Scott
Alice Shaw
Anais Bond
Meg Ruyters
Judd Neilson
Taylah Ferguson
Georgia Blewett
Laura Hodgskiss
Brodie Logue
Caitlin Van Dyke
Lloyd King
Poppy Schembri
Keilee Arnold
Keeghan Schweighofer
Brayden De Lazzer
Lachlan Marshall
Sophie Du Rose
Grace Walker

Principals Award for Academic Merit

Year 7

Alana Knowles
Alyssa Anderson
Darion Duncan
Emily Fourlze
Emily McLure
Eva Tatchell
Jacob Wall
Kelsey Petersen
Lara Norman
Leah Wilbraham
Maya Davey
Mitchell Pullar
Olivia Fraser-Hanley
Ryan Massaro
Sienna Bordonaro
Teagan Burns

Year 8

Alana Moon
Alvin John
Amber Leyshan
Audrey Lambert
Eliza Whitty
Elly Walker
Gemma McCormack
Georgia Williams
Jane Dinnie
Katelen Fleming
Lauryn King-Church
Lily Kilmartin
Madalin Lighthart
Mason Loprese
Meg Hutchinson
Molly McGrail
Renee Lehrner
Sienna Nobile
Tiannah Goodwin
Wiktorja Kurowski
Zoe Marshall

Year 9

Cassandra Van Zuylen
Briah Broadbent
Chloe Balcombe
Deklan Saunders
Ewan Williams
Kien Laurins
Laura Crilly
Madison Burns

Nyamal Dieng
Shelby Watson
Shelby Wilson

Year 10

Georgia Barlow
Matipaishe Ruzive-Makura
Kirra Troughton
Serena Answerth
Luke Merton
Lori Dunn
Tahlia McCormack
Jacob Van Iwaarden
Lily Zee-Vernier
Emma Spiteri
Selby Fisher
Holly Williamson
Tess Brooker
Lachlan McFarlane
Brodie Stewart
Lena Marks
Justin Darcy
Stephanie McGregor
Chloe Wilson
Chloe Byrne
Georgia Gooding
Yakub Ogunsina
Emily Beecroft
Innika Hodgson
Molly McCulloch
Zali Harrison
Maddison Scott

Year 11

Hayden Bell
Kaitlin Vacca
Abbey Allgood
Zara-Louise Ernst
Jay Murphy
Thomas Fleming
Liam Antonelli
Olivia Owen
Jessica Rankcom
William Georgeson
Abbey Murray
Jason Prekop
Zali Vacca
Nicholas Miller
Annaliese Vitale
Maddison Tactor
Chelsea D'Angelo
Joshua Lissa
Dylan Sibly
Kristen Antonopoulos

Joshua Charlton
Taylor Nicola
Abbey Fletcher
Natalie Schoolderman
Nathan Catherwood
Nicholas Calla
Taylah Daly
Alexandra Russell
Sarah Mulqueen
Kylie Dean
Montanna Langmaid
Bridie O'Keefe
Harrison Symons
Grant McShane
Megan Lucas
Aimee Vacca
Haylee Paterson
Joshua Anderson
Sienna Kirstine





My idea of Christmas, whether old-fashioned or modern, is very simple: loving others. Come to think of it, why do we have to wait for Christmas to do that?

— Bob Hope —

AZ QUOTES

During the Christmas period we hope as a Catholic Community that we undertake a 'Transition' programme of love just as we undertook one for academic success for each year group at Kildare.

The Transition experience has been extremely successful for all students, whether they hail from Lavalla Catholic College or as a transitional student from another local school. I met with many of our new students to Kildare and I was very pleased to hear the culture of Kildare described as very mature and future focused. The development of positive rapport with our staff was highlighted as one of the greatest attributes to the experience, which is key to the delivery of successful education. The movement of students from Year 10 to 11

and Year 11 to 12, has also had a general impact of realisation of the demands of VCE. Therefore, there will be plenty of preparatory work for 2017, to be completed over the coming summer holidays.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate some of most recent successes. Firstly, the large number of students who received academic and community awards at our Awards evening on Monday night and the amazing turnout parents, guardians and families to support these prestigious achievements.

Monday afternoon also seen Emily Beecroft being honoured by the Latrobe Council. The Mayor, Cr Kellie O'Callaghan, presented Emily with a trophy and certificate of appreciation for her amazing representation of Australia and the Latrobe Valley at the recent Paralympic Games in Rio. Miss Fiona Morrow and I were very honoured to be invited and be part of the celebration.

A former student of Lavalla Catholic College was also honoured at this event. Shannon McCurley also received recognition for her Olympic contribution whilst cycling for Ireland at Rio.

Joshua Szabo (Class of 2016) has illustrated the quality and integrity of the expectations of the Lavalla VCAL team led by Mr Jason Szkwarek, as he has been nominated for the VCAL State PDS Award for his community Link CEO (Careers Employment Opportunities) project; by the Latrobe City Council.

Also, Peter Sung on Monday night received the Moe Rotary Pride of Workmanship award. The award presentation was at Old Gipps town. The criteria was: The student should be an individual who is not necessarily a high achiever, but one who is persistent and task driven, enthusiastic and participates well, irrespective of scholastic outcome. Well done Peter.





Augmented Reality – this was a significant achievement for Mr Wilkie and his students who undertook the Augmented Reality earlier in the year. A recent meeting included the collection of feedback from students, the presentation of their Certificates and the planning for the program in 2017.

LLEN, Fed Uni and a number of other schools participated. The scope was expanding the program from 2 schools to 5, while keeping the integrity of the program, teacher training and management of resources. It's a very big program – with the Victorian Minister for Small Business, Innovation & Trade, Hon Philip Dalidakis MP wanting to be a presence as well. Mr Wilkie will include a report in this newsletter, which I encourage you to read.

Monday 12th December, will witness both Mrs Kim Widrich and myself graduating from the University of Melbourne, being awarded a Masters Level degree in different fields of education. Thank-you to all our families and colleagues who had to put up with two years of our dedication to this academic achievement. This again, illustrates the importance we at Lavalla Catholic College place on life-long learning.

Hopefully, success will continue this week with the achievements of our cricketers at the Marist Cricket Carnival in Lismore, Queensland.

I would like to thank Mr Brett Van Berkell and Mr Peter Flahavin for their dedication in training and accompaniment of the boys.

2016 was a very successful year. We now await the results of the exams. I would like to welcome all Year 12 students to attend a morning tea on Wednesday 14th December from 10:30 to 11:30am. This is an opportunity to meet with staff, discuss future pathways or simply to celebrate success.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all parents, students and staff of the college for their support this year and I look forward to working with you next year.

As we complete the academic year of 2016 we progress from our direction of Faith and Learning: Mercy; and adopt Faith and Learning: Awaken for 2017.

Have a safe, happy and holy Christmas. Please make an effort to visit a Christmas celebration at Church during this festive season.

God Bless
Mr Doug Doherty



Students have all transitioned well into their new Homerooms and are in a position to make a very positive start for 2017. My thanks go to the Year level Learning leaders and the rest of the staff who have made a huge effort to ensure that students are well prepared for next year.



We ended the year with a final Christmas prayer in the Champagnat Centre. 2017 Years 8 & 9 students presented their hampers to Mr Kevin Jones from Vinnies who spoke of the gratitude of the group for all the support the College has provided over the last 15 years. Nearly 200 families Christmases are a little brighter because of these hampers this year. The final assembly was a great event, with students participating in a dance off in their new Homerooms. Thanks to Mr Dominic der van der Schueren for his facilitation. To close the assembly students formed a guard of honour for Mr Ross Sizeland who is retiring from teaching after 41 years of service to the College and to generations of our young people. Thank you also to the students for their willing, joyous participation in the day's events.



I would like to thank all the staff on the campus, cleaners, maintenance, canteen, office, classroom assistance and teaching staff who have worked so well together to support our young people this year.

To all the family, friends, students and staff of the College, may your Christmas be filled with the Joy and light that only the birth of Jesus can bring. May your days be filled with family and friends and may 2017 bring you exciting new challenges to fill your days.



Christmas is most truly Christmas
when we celebrate it by giving the
light of love to those who need it
most.

— Ruth Carter Stapleton —



Christmas 2016



Brennan Manning, in his book, *The Relentless Tenderness of Jesus*, tells of an experience he had at an airport. It was just before Christmas and he was in the Chicago airport waiting to get a flight to Texas for a week-end retreat. But because of a severe storm, he and thousands of others were not going anywhere. The flights were all delayed. Public address systems were blaring, people were at the ticket counter demanding a projected departure time, children were crying, some people were just sitting and staring.

Then he noticed a middle-aged black woman cradling a child in her arms and laughing. Manning asked her, "Would you mind telling me why you're so happy?"

"Sho," she said. "Christmas is coming and dat baby Jesus---He make me laugh."

How about you? During the Christmas season, our already busy life become more busy doing the extra special good things for Christmas: shopping for gifts for others, putting up Christmas decorations, writing cards, playing Christmas carols, cooking the Christmas meals. Chadstone will remain open all night for shoppers. These are wonderful things, joyful things.

But if you want an even better Christmas, go to church with your family, think a bit of the birth of Jesus, who is the reason for Christmas. He will make you laugh!



Marist Bicentenary

On January 2nd 1817, Marcellin Champagnat, a twenty-six year old assistant priest in the tiny village of La Valla, accepted two young men to teach young people in the first school at La Valla. The school still exists. And we are directly connected with that event and that place through our name. We celebrate the Marist Bicentenary with gratitude to Saint Marcellin Champagnat and the early Marists. We remember all Marists, our teachers, and God who has guided us.

This Christmas I wish you a truly safe and joyous one, where that Jesus makes you laugh.



Chess Tournament



We are very proud to report that for the second year running, St Paul's Campus, Middle School Chess Team of just 8 selected players, successfully made it through a number of regional rounds, held at both Drouin and Pakenham Highs, and duly qualified for the State Finals.

Last year in this tournament we finished 9th, one spot out of the best 8 schools selected to compete at the National Finals; however, this year we made it through to the National Tournament – held over 2 days, November 28th and 29th, 2016, in Melbourne.

This is a wonderful effort, considering the team has been playing chess for an average of a little less than 2 years... with seven boys and one girl, including our Team Captain, Mub

Murshed, along with Samuel Pugliese, Daniel Hegarty, Liam Rohde-Otter, Nathanael Duffy, Michael Connolly, Troy Brennan and Nicole Formaran, accompanied by myself and Anoesjka Connolly, Michael's mum.

Each day, we eagerly boarded our mini bus before 6.00am, in an attempt get to Queen's College, Carlton, in the Melbourne University precinct, before 9.30 am. We thought we might get there by 9.15am, but actually arrived before 8.30am on both days. No matter though, the team got to relax a bit and play some leisurely 'warm-up games' both days.

Of course, on both days, it was on to Maccas for a late after-noon meal... and home again by around 7.30pm. Two long, tiring days, indeed!

But it was wonderful.

Held in the magnificent almost Harry Potter-style castle, that is Queen's College, there were over 170 chess boards set up in 3 huge halls - catering to over 300 players from all round Australia. All matches were of 50 minutes duration and teams played 4 rounds/games on the Monday, and 3 rounds on the Tuesday. One point was allocated for a win; a half-point for a drawn game; and no points for a loss. Team scores were tallied to decide placings in the tournament.

It was a gruelling, challenging and confronting format indeed; and our team managed to finish 13th- in Australia. A fair effort we all believe!

I'd like to thank the College for their on-going moral and financial support; and in particular, Ms Gloria Zahra for her boundless enthusiasm and invaluable assistance with administrative matters and the myriad communications with Chess Kids, Victoria... also for her wonderful encouragement and feedback all along the way these last 2 years.

And I take my hat off to the team: for adopting a most powerful and positive 'growth mindset' as they developed and improved their chess play. Because there was barely a day when most of the team were not in the library at both 'snack' and lunch-time, studying and playing. Then at night they inevitably got on to the (free) chess.com- which offers every assistance possible to improve chess skills, and you get to play individuals of your own standard around the world at any time, night or day.

Check it out. Embrace the game of chess... just as this great group of junior school players has done.

Mr Dominic de van der Schueren



Augmented Reality Program

During five days of August a number of students applied to participate in an exciting and revolutionary pilot program. Fifteen students from Lavalla were selected to take part in an experimental Augmented Reality program that showed them how to use sophisticated game development software to create augmented reality apps for mobile devices. You may have heard of the Pokémon Go app that stormed through the media and the streets only a few months ago. This is an example of an augmented reality app.

Including two days of training, a day at the location collecting information, and finally two days of production, the students developed an app in conjunction with Old Gippstown. The Victorian Minister for Small Business, Innovation & Trade, Hon Philip Dalidakis MP officially opened the program and you may have seen it on the local news during this time.

There was much for the students to be proud of and a lot of information for them to take away with them. The LLEN's participation in the program really pushed the development of work skills and was supported with the resources of Federation University. The program will be expanding its targets next year to involve more schools and students and from the initial planning stage meetings, all involved are excited about its prospects.

Thank you to the students who participated this year. I'm sure you have each walked away with something that'll help you later in life.

A big thankyou to LLEN and Federation University for giving the school this opportunity and I look forward to the development of this program for our young people.

Mr John Wilkie

Year 7 & Busking

Wednesday the 9th December was a glorious day. Sun was shining, birds tweeting and all of the year 7 & 8 (2016) Music students went down Franklin Street, Traralgon to do some Christmas Carol. Thirty-nine students positioned themselves in groups of four or five along the main street from the Post Office up to Hotham Street. We serenaded whatever audience we could find with a mixture of Christmas music:

- Come all ye Faithful
- Good King Wenceslas
- Good rest ye merry gentlemen
- Jingle Bells
- Silent Night
- We wish you a merry Christmas



Initially we performed in a large group of Band and choir at the Post Office, most of those in attendance were parents and friends of the students. Then in small groups of 4 and 5 students performed throughout the main street. We busked for about two hours all up. Latrobe City issued us a busking permit and allowed us to busk for free on the understanding that all monies raised would go to the Vinnies Christmas appeal. I am glad to announce that the Music Department raised \$144.95 for Vinnie's in that two hour period; and Natasha Bond and Noah Georgeson proudly made the presentation of the money to the Vinnies representative who attended our assembly on Thursday 9th December.

The street was full of smiles and we had positive comments from many of the general public who greatly enjoyed seeing our students performing.

Matt Harris, Shane Lebbe & Sarah Duncan



Sports Enrichment Day

On Wednesday November 30th the Level 1 Sports Enrichment students had a workshop day with sessions on Nutrition, Sports Psychology, Goal Setting, Team Work and Public Speaking.



The day started with an 8 am Fitness/Pilates session with Andrew Crozier. Students worked in pairs on fitness training drills then completed a session on Pilates showcasing the positions they had mastered including stretching activities.

This was followed by a talk with ex-Lavalla student and dual WNBL championship captain Desiree Glaubitz. Desi played with 3 WNBL teams and played overseas in Italy and Spain. She explained her basketball story to the students and talked about what the athletes need to be doing to help achieve their goals.

Sam Fenton (our Strength and Conditioning coach) then ran an extended session on the importance of a strong body and a strong mind. He discussed the 6 things you need to help improve your sporting success- your story, your standards, your current fitness level, your 10 year plan, your environmental plan and your people plan. The athletes set themselves some goals to achieve over the holidays and developed a picture of their 10 year plan to go on their wall at home.



After lunch Karen Joyce reminded the students of the nutritional information we have been discussing during the year and Gloria Zahra worked with the athletes on their Public Speaking skills.

It was a wonderful conclusion to the inaugural year of the

Sports Enrichment Program.

The Sports Enrichment staff and students would like to wish Sarah O'Brien all the best as she accepts a Ballet Scholarship to the Jane Moore Academy of Ballet. We are incredibly proud of her achievements.

SSV Basketball State Champions

The year 8 girls' basketball team displayed some outstanding play to overcome the quality metropolitan schools and capture the first ever basketball SSV State Championships for the College.

Pitted in the tough section of the draw, Lavalla encountered Templestowe College coached by Ian Stacker (former NBL and National team coach) to record a 28-12 victory. This was after the team encountered heavy delay's with the Melbourne traffic and arrived five minutes late!

Nevertheless, the girls carried on with their task to record a tough 33-29 victory against Mentone Girls Secondary College in what turned out to be their closest contest of the day.

If ever the girls were going to put themselves in the picture of a State Championship they needed to produce an all-out effort against Maribyrnong Sports Academy ... and this they did!

In fact, they bolted from the opening tip to lead 20-3 and were never in any danger to post a 34-22 triumph. The final was tight for much of the first half but Lavalla Catholic College showed some superior skill to outclass Catholic College Bendigo to capture the State Championship with a 42-23 win.



Coach Karen Joyce was ecstatic that Lavalla were able to finally overcome the metropolitan sporting schools for a deserved victory.

The year 7 girls were also in attendance on the day at the State Championships and managed to finish seventh overall.

The year 7's encountered a narrow loss to Rowville first up in a 14-25 loss before falling to Albert Park College 23-30 in another close defeat. Both games showed our girls had the ability to match it with them but were unable to capitalise at the offensive end.

The final game against Maribyrnong Sports Academy was a one-sided affair with our girls suffering their biggest loss of the day, losing 17-51.

A fantastic achievement by both teams to get where they got to.

The year 7 and year 8 boys also ventured to MSAC to participate in the State Championships.

The year 7 boys lost to Rowville by seven points, 22-29, and that was all that kept them from advancing through to the final. The boys captured a 43-32 win against Elisabeth Murdoch College, Langwarrin and a 50-37 victory over Maribyrnong Sports Academy to finish the day in a tie with Rowville at two wins and one loss. As Rowville won the head-to-head clash early, they were able to proceed through to the final.

The year 8 boys found it tough to crack a win despite being in each of the games they played. The boys lost to Vermont Secondary College by five points (45-50) and then endured a 28-46 loss to Berwick Secondary College. In their final match the boys went down to the eventual State Champions by nine points ... losing to Maribyrnong Sports Academy 32-41.

Cricketer's Finish 2nd in the State

The year 8 girl's cricket team finished runners-up in the Cricket Victoria T20 Blast School Cup with a 31 run loss to Clonard College, Geelong played at the MCG on Wednesday, November 30th.



The girls batted first and lost some early wickets before eventually establishing a good run tally with some big hitting from Chloe Bailey steering their tally to around 80 runs.

Their bowling efforts didn't necessarily produced wickets but they were managing to restrict Clonard's run chase before some big hitting enable Clonard to secure a 137 to 106 victory.





BUS DRIVER

A casual part-time position has become available at our College for an enthusiastic person to operate and supervise our bus services.

The applicants should have a comprehensive understanding of the Bus Safety Act 2009, Bus Safety Regulations 2010 (Vic) and Transport (Safety Schemes Compliance and Enforcement) Act 2014 (Vic) and have the necessary license to operate a 30 seater bus.

Under the Working with Children Act 2005 the successful applicant must hold a Working with Children Card.

The applicant should be prepared and available to commence duties within a week after interviews are concluded if successful.

Successful applicant should be prepared to support the ethos of the College.

Applications, including full curriculum vitae and names and phone numbers of two referees are to be directed to the Principal's PA by email **pa@lavalla.vic.edu.au** for attention of the Principal, Mr John M Freeman by no later than **4pm Monday, 9 January 2017**.

Further information please contact Mr Rob Tarraran Business Manager on 51754572 or email: tarrobb1@lavalla.vic.edu.au

The Lavalla Catholic College community promotes the safety, well-being and inclusion of all children.

School Bus Program

As most parents will be aware, the new School Bus Management System has been launched in your school bus network. From the commencement of Term 4 2016, families can now apply for school bus travel for the 2017 school year.

What is the timeline for 2017 applications—Travel applications for 2017 **must** be submitted prior to 27 November 2016. Applications received after this date will be processed after the initial round of travel offers have been made. Travel offers will be made to families early December 2016. Families will then have two weeks to manage their travel offer.

Existing Bus Travellers—Families will have already received user account information from Public Transport Victoria, as your children are currently approved for school bus travel. Your user account information includes: username and password to access the School Bus Management System. Please follow the steps below to renew your child's application for the 2017 school year.

- Go to schoolbusapplication.ptv.vic.gov.au
- Login
- Select **Renew Application** for each child [see example, circled in red below]
- Tick **Confirm Residential Address** – where there is no change
- Change the Term/Year to **Term 1 - 2017**
- Change the student's year level for 2017
- Tick **Confirm Traveller's Details**
- Tick **Agree to the Terms and Conditions**
- Click **Submit Renewal**

Traveller	Application Number	Application For	Status	Payment Status	Fare (\$)	Bus Stop	Valid until	Action
Fx Test	2787	2016	offer made		\$0.00	Bus Stop: SCH: St Patrick's School Bus Service: MINCHA - PYRAMID HILL Arrival time: 8:42am		View Renew Application View Offer Letter Manage Offer

If you have changed *home address* or your child is changing *school* in 2017, please create a new application against your child's name [see example, circled in red below]. You do not need to register a new account.

First Name	Surname	Date of Birth	Operations
Fx	Test	12/04/2010	Edit New Application
In	Test	03/08/2010	Edit New Application

New bus travellers who have siblings currently travelling

Where a family currently has children using a school bus service, but another child now needs school bus access, login in to the School Bus Management System and add the new traveller to your account [see example, circled in red below]. Once complete, create a new application for this child.

My Travellers

+ Add traveller

New Bus Travellers

Families accessing School Bus Program services for the first time, will need to register a new School Bus Management System account.

- Go to schoolbusapplication.ptv.vic.gov.au
- Click **Register**
- Complete all information in the registration process. It is recommended that you enter as much information as required (such as emergency contacts).
- Add Traveller/s using the '+Add traveller' button (see above picture).
- Create a New Application for each child applying to access a school bus
- Submit Application

A School Bus Management System user guide is available at schoolbusapplication.ptv.vic.gov.au

School Responsibilities

Schools responsibilities remain unchanged, particularly with regards to emergency management and student behaviour, and will continue to provide PTV with on the ground information.

If you have any questions, please contact your school in the first instance. Alternatively contact Public Transport Victoria's School Bus Reform team at email SBMS-admin@ptv.vic.gov.au.



Bushfire Season

Procedures

Fire danger ratings and warnings in Victoria aim to provide clear direction on the safest options for preserving life. Schools and children's services identified as being at high fire risk will be closed on days declared by fire authorities to be Code Red.

Lavalla Catholic College has not been identified as being at high fire risk, so we will **not** be closed on a Code Red day. In reality, the school is a safer place than many of our families' homes, some of which are located in fire-prone areas.

While our school has not been identified as being at high fire risk, offsite activities such as excursions, camps and field trips, are planned to occur during the fire season. If such activities are considered to be at risk from fire, they will be rescheduled or cancelled.

Our school is well positioned to respond to emergencies, including an unpredicted breakout of a fire or a known fire unexpectedly changing course. If this occurs, our school's emergency management plan will ensure that we respond to the threat in a timely and appropriate manner.

As part of preparing for the fire season, we have completed the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria's (CECV) self-assessment of our emergency preparedness. We have also reviewed our emergency management plan and conducted maintenance works aimed at helping reduce the threat of fire.

In the unlikely event that fire threatens the school, the staff and students will be evacuated from classrooms to a safe refuge, consistent with our emergency management plan. The College's SMS messaging service will be the primary media used to inform families of critical incidents such as fire threats should they occur. We will also send emails and place information on the main page of our website, but this will only be done after sending an SMS. Accordingly, if you have changed your mobile number and have not updated the College you are asked to do so by sending an email to registrar@lavalla.vic.edu.au.

If, at the end of a school day, fire activity prevents parents/guardians from being available for their children, parents/guardians should make alternative arrangements for the supervision of their children, e.g. to go stay with a family member or friend. In the event that such alternatives cannot be arranged, volunteer staff will supervise students for a time at school in the St Paul's Campus ISC. Students at Kildare campus will be transported by the College to the St Paul's Campus by 4.30pm. By evening, if it appears that the children will need to be accommodated overnight, they will be taken to an emergency relief centre by the school staff, as directed by the **Latrobe Council Management Response Team**. The Incident Controller and Municipal Emergency Response Co-ordinator (Victoria Police) are the only **authorised personnel** that can authorise an evacuation. They will advise of an emergency relief centre when it is deemed safe to do so. Details of the centre will be notified via SMS, email and placed on the website when it is released. These centres are normally setup in either Traralgon, Morwell or Moe depending on circumstances ***as part of the Latrobe City's emergency management processes***. These will be staffed by people with responsibility for supervision and care of children without parents or guardians.



Parents are reminded that if students are to be collected prior to the normal end of day time that the children are to be signed out in the usual manner. If another person is required to pick up your son(s) and daughter(s) we require that they be registered with us as an emergency contact person or if an alternative person is required we be contacted by telephone or preferably email of this arrangement.

What can parents do?

Make sure the College has your current contact details, including your mobile phone numbers. These should be sent to the College Registrar by email - registrar@lavalla.vic.edu.au .

Keep in touch with us by reading *our Newsletter*, by checking our website: www.lavalla.vic.edu.au and by talking to your child's Learning Adviser or other members of the staff.

We suggest that you talk with your children about bushfires and your family's bushfire survival plan, particularly if you live in or are planning trips to fire-prone areas.

On days of high fire risk, children should never be left at home unattended or in the care of older children.

You can access more information about bushfires and schools on the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria's (CECV) website www.cecv.catholic.edu.au .

For up-to-date information on this year's fire season, visit the Victorian Government Emergency website at emergency.vic.gov.au or call the 24-hour Victorian Bushfires Information Line on **1800 240 667**.

John M Freeman
Principal