



From the Principal

John M Freeman

Welcome back to 2020 and to all our new families welcome to Lavalla Catholic College.

We commenced our year by joining with the staff of the Catholic Primary Schools in the area for a Mass con-celebrated by Bishop Patrick O'Regan with the Parish Priests of Traralgon, Morwell and Churchill, and Moe and Newborough at St Michael's Parish, Traralgon. This is the fifth year we have commenced the year by celebrating the Eucharist together.

Whilst I have been able to speak to a large number of students in either year level or class groups I will have the opportunity next week to speak to each campus. There will be three core messages I will convey. The first is that we all need to work with the intent that everything we do today contributes to how we will be in the future, therefore make the most of the opportunities presented that help you improve. Second, as a Catholic school in the Marist tradition we see ourselves as family, accordingly we should encounter and work with each other in a caring and supportive way. Third, our expectation is that students endeavour to "do the right thing", whether that be with behaviour, completing work, wearing uniform, being punctual and so on. We don't expect perfection, that is not reasonable or fair, but we do hope that if mistakes happen we, not just the students, acknowledge that we have not done our best, apologise and do better as we move forward.

Congratulations to

- Jasmine Santamaria and Alex Rathbone on their marriage over the break.
- Peter Kelly and his wife Annder on the birth of their son, James Llewellyn Kelly, who was born on the 23rd of December.
- Shane Lebbe on attaining a Master of Education (Gifted Education)

Student News

During the break we received information from VTAC that 93% of the students who applied for tertiary positions have received first and second round offers. We already know that a number have successfully attained positions directly into courses or have gained employment or apprenticeships.

Bushfire Season

We are now in bushfire season so you will find included in this newsletter the notice to all families regarding our Bushfire Procedures. This summer season has already proved 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.

This information can also be found on our website in the Community and Links section in the Important Procedures and Information tab- [HERE](#)

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Student Care Accident Insurance, Ambulance Cover Arrangements

Lavalla Catholic College provides Student Care to all students through Catholic Church Insurance. Student Care is a student accident policy specifically designed for secondary schools to provide benefits for a range of medical services, such as dental and physiotherapy, resulting from personal injuries. Lavalla Catholic College has taken out a 24 hour 365 days policy, for worldwide accidental cover, not just school related activities. **What this policy doesn't cover is emergency transport costs in the event of an illness such as asthma attack, fainting, allergic reaction, breathing difficulties**, this policy is only for injuries sustained as a result of an accident.

Therefore, we strongly encourage parents to have up-to-date ambulance cover and as parents are responsible for any medical expenses such as ambulance costs incurred if your child is injured or requires an ambulance at school, or whilst participating in a school activity. In the event of an emergency (accident or illness) the College will call an Ambulance before contacting parents/guardians. This is our part of our duty of care to the students.

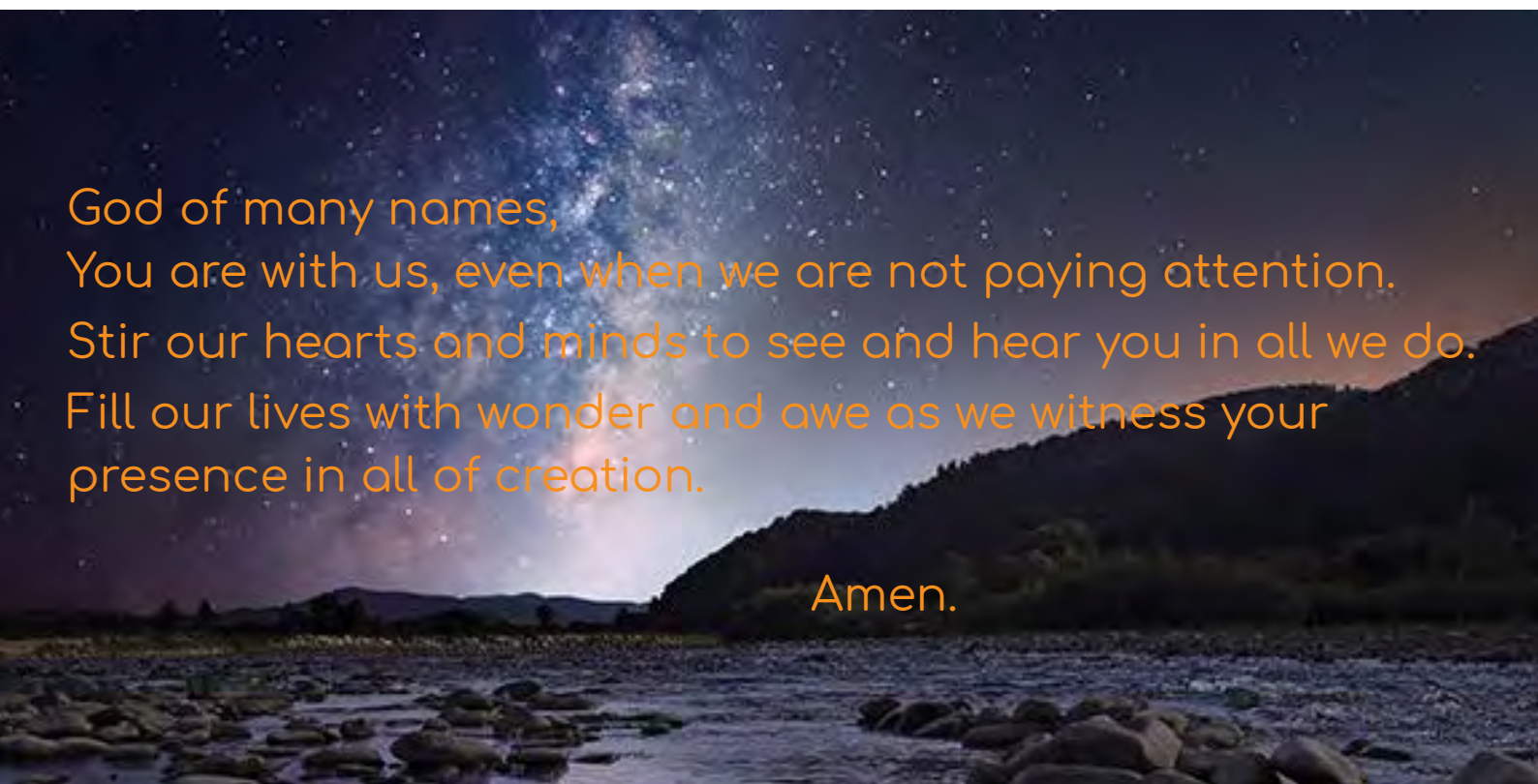
For more information regarding Student Care Insurance please click on the following link- [HERE](#)

Coronavirus Outbreak – Information

The Department of Education and Training has prepared information on the coronavirus for parents, families and school communities. Advice on processes and support was provided last week by the school as well. Additionally, the Department of Health and Human Services has also developed a [WEBPAGE](#) on the coronavirus specifically for the education sector.

Fr Elio Capra

I was privilege to attend the first of three presentations from Fr Elio Capra on Lent that have been organised by St Michael's Parish, Traralgon. Those who attended were both educated and entertained by Elio's presentation. His next two presentation will be on Mondays February 10 and 17 at the St Paul's campus in the Lourdes Lecture Theatre. I encourage you to attend. (Please efer to attached flyer)



God of many names,
You are with us, even when we are not paying attention.
Stir our hearts and minds to see and hear you in all we do.
Fill our lives with wonder and awe as we witness your
presence in all of creation.

Amen.

STAFF NEWS

We welcome the following staff to the school:

Name	Subjects	Main Campus
New		
• Madeleine Arbuthnot	Maths, Science	St Paul's
• Debra Butler	Sci and Laboratory Technician	Kildare
• Emily Court	Technology Leader/Coach, Technology	Kildare
• Caitlyn Dinsdale	Maths, Science	St Paul's
• Jan Massaro-Chandler	Italian, Legal Studies	St Paul's
• Amy McCormack	English, Music, RE	Kildare
• Sophie Membrey	Health& PE, Maths	St Paul's
• Tara Morgan	English, RE	Kildare
• Sue Pickett	Religious Education Leader/Coach, RE, Humanities	St Paul's
• Robyn Rebbechi	Assistant Principal Catholic Identity and Mission	Kildare
• Brett Scholtes	Year 8 Wellbeing Leader, Health & PE, Humanities, Maths	St Paul's
• Nicole Summerfield	Technology	Kildare
• Jonathan Volosinas	English, Humanities, RE	St Paul's
• Carmen Weaver	Careers	Kildare
Returning/New Role		
• Jane Doherty	RE, Humanities, Careers	St Paul's
• Vanessa Scalia	Science	St Paul's
Replacement		
• Jayne Scott	Lisa Templeton	
• James Parsons	Technician- Part of replacement for Chris Denny	
• Donella Miller	Replacing Sue Birt for two weeks	

New Leadership Roles

As you are aware, we made a number of changes to the Leadership structure of the College for this year. These included both senior and middle leader roles. Following, you will find a list of all staff in Leadership Roles

• DP Student Wellbeing & Operations	Doug Doherty
• DP Learning & Teaching	Brett Van Berkel
• AP- Staff Wellbeing & Development	Claire Fabris
• AP- Catholic Identity and Mission	Robyn Rebecchi
• Director of Digital Technology	Chris Denny
• Director of College Operations	Jenny Sutton
• Faith Formator	Chris Roga
• Head of Library	Pam Goodall
• Learning Innovations Leader	Michael McKenna
• Wellbeing Programs and Systems Support Co-ordinator	Megan Stewart-North

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STAFF NEWS

- Daily Organiser
 - Camps and Events Co-ordinator
 - Senior Learning Programs Co-ordinator
 - Years 7 to 9 Learning Programs Co-ordinator
 - Retreats & Faith Development Programs Co-ord
 - Youth Ministry and Social Justice Animator
 - St Paul's Campus Wellbeing Team Leader
 - Wellbeing Leader Year 7
 - Wellbeing Leader Year 8
 - Wellbeing Leader Year 9
 - House Leader Champaganat
 - House Leader Delany
 - House Leader Mackillop
 - House Leader Nagle
 - The Bridge
 - VCAL Leader
 - Religious Ed Leader/Coach
 - Mathematics Leader/Coach
 - English Leader/Coach
 - Science Leader/Coach
 - Language Leader/Coach
 - Health & Physical Education Leader/Coach
 - Humanities Leader/Coach
 - Arts (Incl Drama) Leader/Coach
 - Technology Leader/Coach
 - Director of Music & Liturgical Music
 - Career and Tertiary Advisor- Secondary
 - Inclusive Learning Leader- Pedagogy (St Paul's Campus)
 - Inclusive Learning Leader- Pedagogy (Kildare Campus)
 - Inclusive Learning Leader - Operations
 - Community Liaison
 - College Staff Mentor
 - Productions Manager
 - Cultural Co-ord
 - Sports Enrichment Co-ordinator
- Roma Valentine
Karina Taylor
Jeananne Brown
Leigh Winter
Monica Justin
To be filled
Tina Weston
Natalie MacPherson
Brett Scholtes
Jasmine Santamaria
Pierina Fenech
Vashon Weaver
Meaghan Ambrose
Alex Rathbone
Candice Ford
Alice Nelson
Sue Pickett
Deborah Murrell
Lisa Templeton
Lisa Williams
Raffaella Cataldo
Fiona Morrow
Kim Widrich
Lis Scott
Emily Court
Shane Lebbe
Carmen Weaver
Adrianna Bianconi
Angela McCann
Tamsin McCormack
John De Souza
Annemarie Clarke
Katie Lee
Katie Lee
Karen Joyce



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NEW STAFF – Bios



CLAIRE FABRIS
Assistant Principal
Learning & Teaching

We have been blessed with a number of new staff members who have joined our teaching team this year. Over the course of Term 1, I will include a short bio of each of our new staff members so that you can get to know them a little bit better. I know that you will join us in welcoming them to the Lavalla Catholic College Community.

Sophie Membrey:

Sophie joins the team as one of our new Year 7 Homeroom teachers. She brings with her some inside knowledge of the school as a recent graduate of the College. Sophie finished Year 12 with us in 2014 before commencing her studies at Monash University, Clayton, where she has earned a Bachelor of Education (Primary & Secondary). Sophie is based on the St Paul's campus and is currently teaching Year 7 Maths and Health & PE and Year 9 Humanities and Outdoor Education. Many of you will be familiar with Sophie via her connection with the Traralgon Football & Netball club as a player, coach, umpire and trainer. Sophie is a compassionate and enthusiastic teacher and is keen to pursue further study in the area of auditory processing and speech, some time in the future.



Brett Scholtes:

We welcome Brett as the new Year 8 Wellbeing Leader on the St Paul's campus. Brett is another of our past students and has recently returned to Traralgon with his partner Ebony and his 17 month old daughter, Audrey. After earning his Bachelor of Outdoor Education and his Graduate Diploma of Education from Latrobe University in Bendigo, Brett worked for 4 years at Sacred Heart College, Kyneton. Brett has also held a random assortment of other jobs all over Victoria and in Canada. Brett and his family are keen travellers and have recently returned from a trip to Africa. Brett is based on the St Paul's campus and in addition to his Wellbeing role, he is teaching Maths, Health & PE, Geography and Outdoor Education.

Sue Pickett:

Sue Pickett joins us as Religious Education Leader/Coach after 10 years at Catholic College Sale, as their REC and Social Justice Animator. Sue has spent many years in Western Australia, where she gained her teaching qualifications and then taught, mainly in the field of Physical Education. Sue is passionate about Social Justice and helping others, and has travelled the world several times working in England, France & Holland. When Sue isn't at school, she enjoys spending time with her children, Jack (24) and Kathryn (22), family and friends, volunteering, playing tennis, travelling, trekking and reading. Sue is based on the St Paul's campus, teaching Religious Education and Humanities and crosses to Kildare for a Year 11 Ministry class.



Nicole Summerfield:

Nicole is based on our Kildare campus and is teaching both Food Technology and Textiles. She joins us having taught at Marist Sion in Warragul last year. Nicole has a Bachelor of Nutrition Science from Monash University and a Masters in Applied Learning from Deakin University. In her spare time Nicole likes to cook, read and bike ride (road and mountain bikes).

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CATHOLIC IDENTITY & MISSION



ROBYN REBECCHI

Assistant Principal

Catholic Identity & Mission


Every year provides an opportunity for us to be 'new people' and for many staff, students and new families this is particularly pertinent as we join the Lavalla community in 2020. I am very pleased to be one of the 'new people' at Lavalla and extremely grateful for the warm welcome shown to me by my colleagues. Each of the new staff and the new students have hopefully shared my experience of arriving in what is obviously a strong community with a great sense of outreach. St Marcellin Champagnat's dream of a school with a family spirit is also alive and well at Lavalla, and we look forward to getting to know all of the new families as the weeks unfold.

With all the newness of 2020 there are also some elements of life at the College which have changed shape but which still hold the knowledge of the community 'in their bones'. Chris Roga, who has been such a valuable part of the College, has begun his new role as Faith Formator, and will accompany staff and students in their faith journey, embodying the Marist characteristic of 'Presence'. Many other staff who have generously served the community in past years will also continue to do so, working to improve the lives of the students, and proving with their actions that school life is about human relationships, growth and considering God's place in our lives, as much as the gaining of academic skills and knowledge.

In these first weeks of term we have held in our thoughts and prayers the many people in our wider community who have been affected by the bushfires in Gippsland and across Australia. We will continue to remember these people and provide opportunities for our college community to show their solidarity in prayer and action.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the weeks to come and working with you and your family as we reimagine a 'new way of living' at Lavalla Catholic College.

If anyone is in *Christ*
he is a new creation; the old
has gone, the new has come
2 Corinthians 5:13



SCHOOL CALENDAR

The school Calendar can be viewed [HERE](#) to keep up to date with activities happening at the College.

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FAITH FORMATION



CHRIS ROGA
Faith Formator

Welcome to the academic year 2020. This year I have the privilege of undertaking a new role of FORMATION. Stated very simply, formation is about helping PEOPLE in the college grow in fullness. It is wonderful to be able to listen to people and assist them in their journey to live fully, joyfully and successfully.

I will explain in more detail about what I aim to do for the people in the college as time goes by. If you wish to know how I can be of assistance please email me at rogachr1@lavalla.vic.edu.au or call the college to speak to me, or visit.

I am lucky to have a dream role and I am looking forward to being of serve to staff, young people and families. I wish us all a very fruitful year.

One wild and precious life

The theme for Marist schools and ministries in Australia for 2020 is 'one wild and precious life'. It is taken from a poem by American poet Mary Jane Oliver (1935-2019). In the last line, the poem asks us the basic question.

The Summer Day

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?
This grasshopper, I mean-
the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-
who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.
Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.
Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,
which is what I have been doing all day.
Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?

—Mary Oliver



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STUDENT WELL-BEING & OPERATIONS



DOUG DOHERTY
Deputy Principal
Well-Being & Operations

School has started in earnest and the journey has begun for 2020 Year 7 students and over 30 new students within our College Community.

Positive Behaviour

To date we are very proud of the way our students have behaved and applied themselves to their studies and the College expectations.

It is imperative that we remind families that our College has high expectations regarding positive behaviour that ensures that all students and staff are safe, happy and have the opportunities to be successful.

If at any stage your child does not feel safe, happy or able to be successful, I would ask that you refer to the support flow-chart (*copies can be found at the end of this newsletter*), and can also be found on page 2 of the Student Planner.

If we know, we can help, so please work with us.

The Well-Being Team consists of two key sub teams on each campus.

St. Paul's Well-Being Team are:

- Mrs Tina Weston – Yrs 7-9
- Mrs Natalie Macpherson – Yr 7
- Mr Brett Scholtes – Yr 8
- Ms Jasmine Santamaria – Yr 9
- Ms Jo Slater – College Counsellor

Kildare Campus - Well-Being Team are:

- Mrs Pierina Fenech- Champagnat House
- Mr Vashon Weaver- Delany House
- Mrs Meghan Ambrose- McKillop House
- Mr Alex Rathbone- Nagle House
- Ms Megan Marks – College Counsellor
- Ms Belinda Gathercole – College Counsellor

Whole College Well-Being:

- Miss Karina Taylor – Camps, Events and Well-Being Programmes
- Mrs Meghan Stewart-North – Student Leadership
- Mr Doug Doherty – Deputy Principal Student Well-Being and Operations.

Habits of Excellence:

Next week both campuses will experience a Welcome and Expectations Assembly. In this assembly we will remind the students of the need to constantly strive to be the best they can possibly be by consistently trying to build habits of excellence in what they say and do. A fortnightly update of how parents/guardians can help promote this successful attitude and practice will be published in the newsletters.

Assemblies will be a regular part of our College life to ensure that we promote and develop our Christian Marist culture, encouraging us to strive for excellence for all.

Well-Being Strategic Goals for 2020:

1. Create a Pastoral Programme for Lavalla by Lavalla Catholic College
2. Work closely with Curriculum and Faith and Mission to ensure the holistic education of all students
3. Develop student leadership and voice, as well as creating a Student Leadership Formation Program
4. Investigate and begin to develop a Culture of Affirmation.

I look forward to working closely with our community throughout our individual and collective journeys in 2020.



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LIFELONG HABITS OF EXCELLENCE

Habits of Excellence is Lifelong:

I have included an email from a wonderful student who left in 2018 but emailed me last week to tell me about how her journey of excellence continues still:

God Bless, Mr Doug Doherty

Good evening,

I'm Holly Williamson and I am a former student of the college and I graduated in 2018. I remember you saying at one assembly that you like to hear what your past students are doing; so here's what I'm up to.

Like I mentioned earlier I graduated in 2018 with the ATAR I needed to get into my dream course at Swinburne University - studying media and communications. When deciding on whether to stay at home or move to the city- I decided to stay home and to save money for 2020 as I had a big year planned.

University life is quite boring so I'll skip over that but just know I enjoyed every second of it.

In April 2019 I saw an advertisement at university to go work at Walt Disney World for 5 months and my heart nearly skipped a beat! That night without telling my family I applied for the position. A chance to go to Disneyworld everyday and get paid? Sounds like a dream come true!

I didn't hear back until July, and I was told I was one of the lucky few from Australia and New Zealand to be offered an interview. I had my interview in September and believe it or not I did mention habits of excellence when my recruiter Joe asked about the life lessons learnt from school. In late September I found out I was officially a Cast Member for the Walt Disney Company and that I was moving to Florida.

I am currently sitting in my apartment on the other side of the world. I didn't tell anyone but I was so scared to leave everyone and everything I knew to go to another country and (hopefully) start a lifelong career with the Disney brand. I currently work in Main Street, Magic Kingdom where I get to wave at all our characters as they walk past in the parade, sell lots of Mickey Ears, and listen to the fireworks every night. I am so glad I pushed myself to try something new as I've loved it since I got here- I've made so many friends and memories that will last a lifetime.

I would like to formally thank not only you, but all faculty of Lavalla Catholic College for helping shape me into the woman I am. I never believed I'd say this but 'habits of excellence' is something I strive for at work, and in everything I do. The lessons I learnt outside of the classroom have proven to be just as important as the ones inside of it.

Kind Regards

Holly Williamson



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LEARNING & TEACHING



BRETT VAN BERKEL
Deputy Principal
Learning & Teaching

A warm welcome to all students and parents to the 2019 year. A particularly warm welcome to our new Year 7 students and parents who are starting at Lavalla Catholic

College this year.

**"Never stop learning;
when we stop learning,
we stop **growing**."**

-Loyal "Jack" Lewman

Our Year 7 team is excited about the year ahead and the chance to work with your child.

There are a number of exciting things occurring across the year in the Learning and Teaching area that we will keep you informed of.

There have been presentations across the week to students from Years 7-12 welcoming them and setting a number of challenges.

For the students going into Years 10-12, the challenge put to them was 'Be more than average'. What strategies will they put in place to be the best they can be? One was making students mindful of the time and resources made available to them. The ability to create a study plan for home so as to maximise their learning opportunities. They were also made aware of the time provided at school and how they should use this time effectively.

Students need to consider how they will use:

- Student Choice time on Thursday 1 (8.50 – 9.28am)
- 9 LA sessions each morning (8.50 – 9.08am)
- Kildare ISC is open after school until 5.30pm Monday – Thursday.

Students could use the time to meet with teachers, complete set work, create study notes, analyse past exams or complete essay drafts. These are just some of the options open to them.

Use of the time and resources provided in school will assist students in meeting Lavalla Catholic College recommended study times of;

- Year 10 = 14 x 30 min sessions/week(min)
- Year 11 = 16 x 40 mins sessions/week(min)
- Year 12 = 21 x 45 min sessions/week(min)

SIMON 2020

We know that engaged parents help improve learning outcomes for students. In a busy world, SIMON provides you with real-time updates on your child's attendance and learning progress as well as detailed reporting to keep you informed.

You can access this information through the Parent Access Module (PAM). Please ensure your PAM account is active and the medical details have been completed.

Key Advantages:

- Keep up to date with your children's progress in real-time.
- Download official school reports.
- Access school documents, calendars and messages.

If you require any assistance with SIMON please contact simonhelp@lavalla.vic.edu.au or College reception.

The Learning and Teaching Team wish all students and families the very best for the year ahead.

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MUSIC



SHANE LEBBE

Dir. Music & Liturgical Music

Our music department has hit the ground running with the commencement of all of our intermediate and senior ensembles and instrumental lessons. This year we are privileged to welcome back to our instrumental teaching team: Alison Teychenne and Aimee Bridgman who will be facilitating our woodwind lessons; Mary Mirtschin who will be providing vocal lessons; and David Mirtschin who will be facilitating lessons for brass. We are also excited to welcome Joseph Bonnici to our brass teaching team and John Di Sisto who will be tutoring Drums and Percussion.

With the dawn of a new year and the commencement of new year 7 students to our College we have been met with some enthusiastic new instrumental enrolments. Now is a wonderful time to take up instrumental music lessons and become part of our vibrant Music Department. The music rooms at the St Paul's Campus will be open during lunchtimes for students to trial instruments and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to speak with any of our music teachers or email music@lavalla.vic.edu.au. Further information about our program and enrolment information can be found on the College website [HERE](#).

Year 7's Introduction to Musical Instruments



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SCIENCE

Year 7 Science

A warm welcome to all our year 7 students who have started their secondary schooling at Lavalla this year. Ms Scalia, Ms Walker, Ms Dinsdale and myself, Mrs Williams make up the year 7 science teaching team, and we are very excited to see the enthusiasm that these young students have entered the science laboratory with each lesson over the past week.

Students have spent this first week 'working like a scientist' by measuring, observing, using new equipment, following procedures and learning how to work safely in the lab. The Measurement Colour Challenge had many groups working hard to show us that their teamwork, measuring skills and careful focus could complete the task successfully- and there was certainly some great learning happening!

We have an exciting year of special visitors, workshops, experiments and projects ahead for all our students so watch this space for more science news.

LISA WILLIAMS - Science Leader/Coach



TOP SCREEN

At the end of last year, Josh Wong received the exciting news that his Year 12 Media film 'Three in the Night', had been selected for Top Screen 2020. Presented as part of the VCE Season of Excellence 2020, Top Screen provides the unique opportunity to view the creative work and processes of Victoria's young emerging filmmakers.

Josh is one of 15 students from across the State to have his work selected for Top Screen, and the first Media student from Lavalla to ever be selected. Josh began planning ideas for his film during Transition, and spent over seven months researching, developing, constructing and editing his final film. Criteria for films selected must:

- achieve an A+ or A in the School-assessed Task
- meet all assessment criteria at a very high standard
- address the assessment criteria in innovative, individual ways
- be accompanied by an exemplary Production Design
- demonstrate individual and distinctive qualities
- demonstrate technical excellence relative to their concepts and intentions.

His film will screen in Melbourne for other Media students to view, and he'll also be part of a discussion panel, where he will discuss the successes and challenges involved in making his film. You can view his film now, here: www.youtube.com/c/thewongjosh

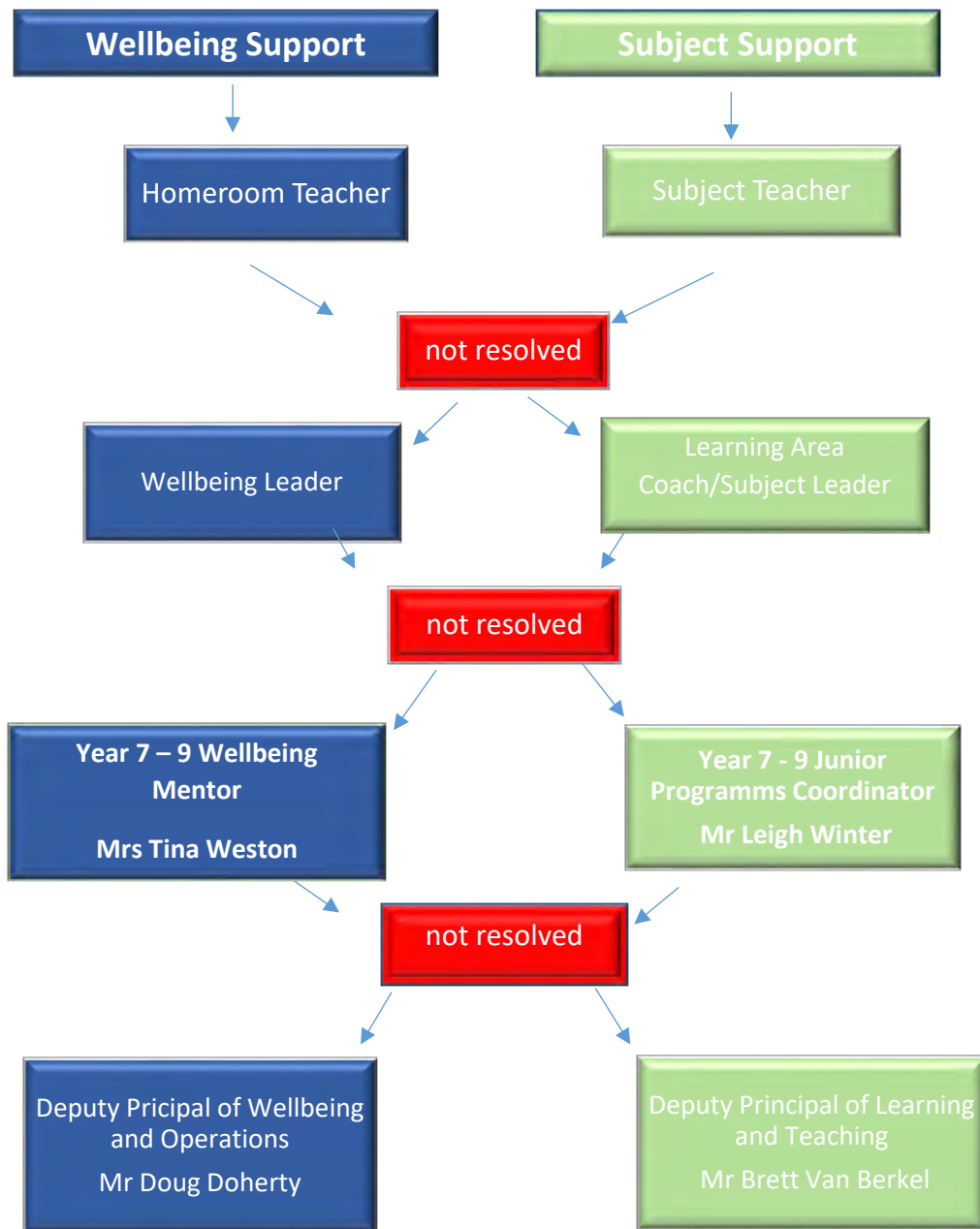
KATIE LEE



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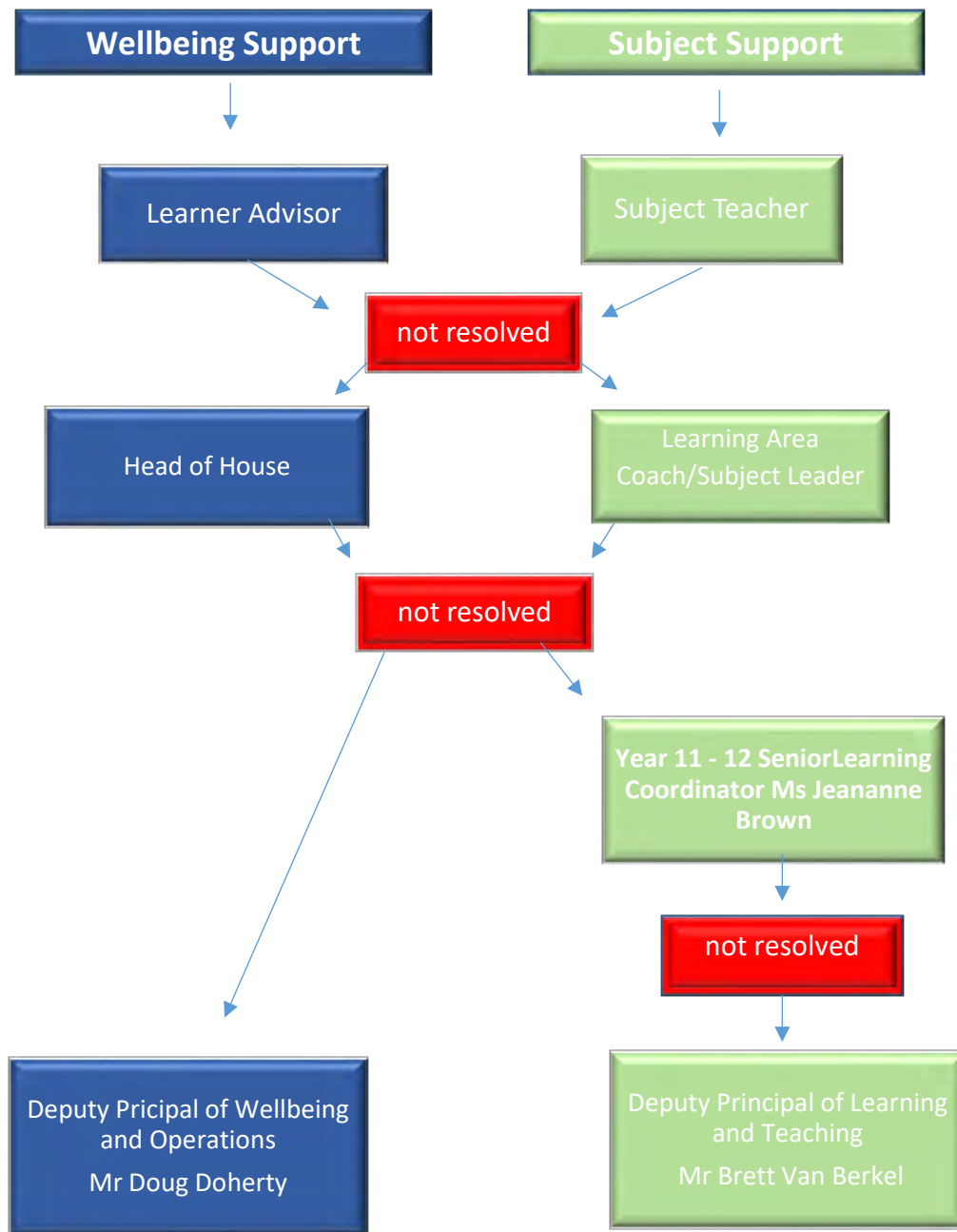
Where to go to for assistance on the St Paul's Campus



Campus Counsellor can be accessed at any stage



Where to go to for assistance on the Kildare Campus



Campus Counsellor can be accessed at any stage

Wellbeing Support

Every member of the school should feel safe, happy and have opportunities to be successful.

The goal of the Wellbeing Team is to assist young people to engage with the following examples of support;

- Child Safety e.g. Helping to submit a report of safety concern
- Reporting of any concern
- Mental Health e.g. Manage stress and anxiety
- Protection against bullying – cyber, physical and mental
- Dealing with negative relationships
- Promoting physical health
- Improve communications and strengthen relationships
- Improve and maintain attendance
- Establish and/or improve routines
- Strengthen coping mechanisms and resilience
- Resolve conflict
- Social and economic disadvantages
- Substance abuse
- Disability

The Wellbeing Team can also be contacted regarding school events: e.g. Whole College/Campus Events

Subject Support

Students have opportunities to discuss the following issues/queries following the procedure outlined.

- Subject Choice
- Academic performance, e.g. Academic Review and Redemption
- Subject content
- Teaching style
- Communication with subject teachers
- Subject Award queries
- Homework
- Assessment queries
 - SACs, SATs, Exams and Assessments
- Reporting and Feedback
- Subject Excursions

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Every Victorian child should have access to the world of learning opportunities that exist beyond the classroom. The Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund helps ensure that no student will miss out on the opportunity to join their classmates for important, educational and fun activities. It is part of making Victoria the Education State and the Government's commitment to breaking the link between a student's background and their outcomes.

CAMPS, SPORTS & EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF)

School camps provide children with inspiring experiences in the great outdoors, excursions encourage a deeper understanding of how the world works and sports teach teamwork, discipline and leadership. All are part of a healthy curriculum.

CSEF is provided by the Victorian Government to assist eligible families to cover the costs of school trips, camps and sporting activities.

If you hold a valid means-tested concession card or are a temporary foster parent, you may be eligible for CSEF. A special consideration category also exists for asylum seeker and refugee families. The allowance is paid to the school to use towards expenses relating to camps, excursions or sporting activities for the benefit of your child.

The annual CSEF amount per student is:

- \$125 for primary school students
- \$225 for secondary school students

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the CSEF visit www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

HOW TO APPLY

New applicants should contact the school office to obtain a CSEF application form or download from www.education.vic.gov.au/csef

If you applied for the CSEF at your child's school in 2019, you do not need to complete an application form in 2020 unless there has been a change in your family circumstances.

You only need to complete an application form if any of the following changes have occurred:

- **new student enrolments;** your child has started or changed schools in 2020 or you did not apply in 2019.
- **changed family circumstances;** such as a change of custody, change of name, concession card number, or new siblings commencing at the school in 2020.

Check with the school office if you are unsure.



CAMPS, SPORTS AND EXCURSIONS FUND (CSEF) APPLICATION FORM

School Name

School REF ID

Parent/legal guardian details

Surname _____

First name _____

Address _____

Town/suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Contact number _____

Centrelink pensioner concession **OR** Health care card number (CRN)

- - - **OR**

☐ Foster parent* **OR** ☐ Veterans affairs pensioner (Gold Card)**

*Foster Parents must provide a copy of the temporary care order letter from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

**Applicants must provide a copy of the Veteran Affairs Gold card

Student details

Child's surname	Child's first name	Student ID	Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)	Year level

I authorise the Department of Education and Training (DET) to use Centrelink Confirmation eServices to perform an enquiry of my Centrelink customer details and concession card status in order to enable the business to determine if I qualify for a concession, rebate or service. I also authorise the Australian Government Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide the results of that enquiry to DET.

I understand that:

- DHS will use information I have provided to DET to confirm my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund and will disclose to DET personal information including my name, address, payment and concession card type and status.
- this consent, once signed, remains valid while my child is enrolled at a registered Victorian school unless I withdraw it by contacting the school.
- I can obtain proof of my circumstances/details from DHS and provide it to DET so that my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund can be determined.
- if I withdraw my consent or do not alternatively provide proof of my circumstances/details, I may not be eligible for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund provided by DET.
- information regarding my eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund may be disclosed to the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and /or State Schools Relief for the purpose of evaluating concession card services or confirming eligibility for assistance.

You are able to request access to the personal information that we hold about you, and to request that any errors be corrected, by contacting your child's school.

Signature of applicant _____

Date ____ / ____ / ____

CSEF ELIGIBILITY

Below is the criteria used to determine a student's eligibility for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF).

Criteria 1 – Eligibility

To be eligible* for the fund, a parent or legal guardian of a student attending a registered Government or non-government Victorian primary or secondary school must:

- on the first day of Term one, or;
 - on the first day of Term two.
- a) Be an eligible beneficiary within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004, that is, be a holder of Veterans Affairs Gold Card or be an eligible Centrelink Health Care Card (HCC) or Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) holder, OR
 - b) Be a temporary foster parent, and;
 - c) Submit an application to the school by the due date.

* A special consideration eligibility category also exists. For more information, see:

www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

Parents who receive a Carer Allowance on behalf of a child, or any other benefit or allowance not income tested by Centrelink, are not eligible for the CSEF unless they also comply with one of (a) or (b) above.

Criteria 2 - Be of school age and attend school in Victoria

School is compulsory for all Victorian children aged between six and 17 years of age inclusive.

For the purposes of CSEF, students may be eligible for assistance if they attend a Victorian registered primary or secondary school. Typically, these students are aged between five and 18 years inclusive.

CSEF is not payable to students attending pre-school, kindergarten, home schooled, or TAFE.

Eligibility Date

For concession card holders CSEF eligibility will be subject to the parent/legal guardian's concession card being successfully validated with Centrelink on the first day of either term one (28 January 2020) or term two (14 April 2020).

PAYMENT AMOUNTS

CSEF payment amount

The CSEF is an annual payment to the school to be used towards camps, sports and/or excursion expenses for the benefit of the eligible student.

- Primary school student rate: \$125 per year.
- Secondary school student rate: \$225 per year.

The CSEF is paid directly to your child's school and will be allocated by the school towards camps, sports and/or excursion costs for your child.

For ungraded students, the rate payable is determined by the student's date of birth. For more information, see:

www.education.vic.gov.au/about/programs/Pages/csef.aspx

Year 7 government school students who are CSEF recipients are also eligible for a uniform voucher. Secondary schools are required to make applications on behalf of parents so please register your interest at the school.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE APPLICATION FORM

NOTE: ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Complete the PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN DETAILS section.
Make sure that the Surname, First Name, and Customer Reference Number (CRN) details match those on your concession card. You will also need to provide your concession card to the school.
If you are claiming as a Foster Parent or a Veteran Affairs Pensioner, you will need to provide a copy of documentation confirming your status as a temporary Foster Parent or provide your Veterans Affairs Pensioner Gold card to the school.
2. Complete the STUDENT/S DETAILS section for students at this school.
3. Sign and date the form and return it to the school office as soon as possible. The CSEF program for 2020 closes on 26 June, 2020.

CSEF payments cannot be claimed retrospectively for prior years.

Queries relating to CSEF eligibility and payments should be directed to the school.

Upcoming Webinar for Parents

This school has a membership with Parenting Ideas, one of Australia's most trusted sources of parenting education and support. As part of this membership, all the parents in this school community can attend some fantastic webinars in 2020 at no cost. We're pleased to let you know about an upcoming webinar.

Future-proofing your child: 18 March 8–9pm AEDT



Watch from any device, any location



See the expert as they speak



Catch up recording available

**Valued at
\$37 per person**

Webinar Overview

This century is characterised by disruptive change that is turning our world upside down. Jobs aren't just changing, whole industries are ceasing to exist. The scripts for success are being rewritten on a daily basis in our families, at work and in life. In this webinar Nikki Bush teaches parents what to expect and how to support their kids to thrive in a future world of work.

Key learning and discussion points include:

- Key trends that are changing the world
- Frameworks for future-proofing children
- Highlighting the X-factors for success
- Explaining the role of school in a changing world
- Helping parents to set realistic and relevant parenting goals



[View video overview](#)

parenting*ideas

Presenter Overview

Nikki Bush, an award-winning speaker and bestselling author, helps individuals and teams to win at life and work. Inducted into the Professional Speakers' Association of South Africa Speaker Hall of Fame in 2019 Nikki is the first woman to receive this lifetime achievement award.



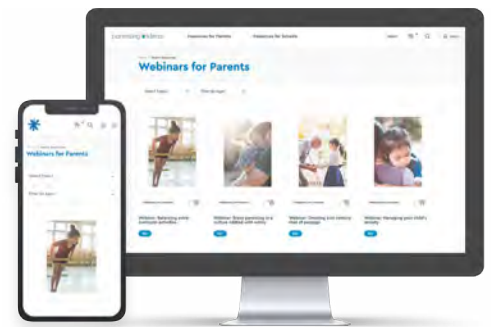
Nikki is a best-selling author of several books including *Easy Answers to Awkward Questions*, *Tech-Savvy Parenting*, and *Future-proof Your Child for the 2020s and beyond*.

Redeem your webinar – it's easy!

To redeem your webinar click this link:

www.parentingideas.com.au/parent-resources/parent-webinars/webinar-future-proofing-your-child

- Click 'Add to cart'
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- Enter the voucher code FUTURE and click 'Apply'
- Enter your school's name to verify your eligibility. The \$37 discount will then be applied.
- Click 'Proceed to checkout'
- Fill in your account details. These are the details you will use to login to your account and access your webinar and resources
- Click 'Place Order'



This offer is valid until 18 June 2020. If you're unable to make the broadcast time, just register anyway and you will get access to the recording.

Articles for Parents

On the Parenting Ideas website you can also view and receive helpful articles to support your parenting journey.

Read up on topics such as:

- Resilience
- Siblings
- Bullying
- Positive Parenting
- Digital and Social Media
- Behaviour
- Confidence
- Friendships
- Anxiety
- Girls
- Boys
- Learning and Education



Visit www.parentingideas.com.au/blog to access today.

INSIGHTS

Making new friends and staying in touch with old classmates



As a parent there is a great deal you can do to help your child adjust socially at the start of the school year. Here are some tips to help.

Encourage your child to be open to new friendships

An open, friendly attitude is a child or young person's best social asset. Students who open to forming new friendships are more likely to succeed than those who seek solitude, who are critical and who limit themselves to just one or two familiar faces. Encourage your child or young person to seek out new friendships, even though they may feel uncomfortable or strange at first.

Encourage healthy relationships

Do all you can to encourage healthy relationships based on respect and common courtesy. Generally, when a relationship is healthy a child feels safe, valued and able to speak up. Unhealthy relationships, such as cliques, are restrictive, one-sided and are full of gossip and criticism.

Encourage inclusiveness

Studies have shown inclusiveness to be one of the prime social skills shared by socially successful students. Encourage your child or young person to include others in games, conversations, team activities and other group activities. Inclusiveness is not just a wonderful friendship skill, it's strong leadership attribute as well.

Encourage friendships with both genders

If you are in a co-education environment encourage your child to form friendships with both boys and girls. This is particularly valid if your child has siblings of their own gender, or don't have siblings. It's through these early relationships that we gain the confidence to mix with different genders in the later years. Forming friends across genders helps to break down the mystique that sometimes forms, when a child has little contact with the 'other' gender.

Stay in touch with former classmates and school friends

Encourage your child to maintain friendships with former classmates and groups outside of school as this helps to insulate against unfriendly behaviour that they may experience with their close social circle.

Provide social scripts

Your child may benefit from being provided with some social scripts that they can use in common social situations such as meeting a new friend, joining in a game or asking someone else for help. Boys, in particular, can benefit when given the words to use in a variety of different social situations.

Forming new friendships can take time

Meeting new students and forming new friendships can be anxiety-inducing. If this is the case for your child, then it helps to acknowledge their feelings of discomfort, but also remind them that these feelings will pass. As well discuss the fact that feeling comfortable with new friends often takes time, particularly if your child by nature is reserved or slow to warm up in social situations.

Helping kids work through friendships can be tricky for a parent as you don't have a great deal of control over what happens at school. However, with empathy, patience, encouragement and a supportive attitude you can do a great deal to help your child make a smooth social transition.



Michael Grose

Michael Grose, founder of Parenting Ideas, is one of Australia's leading parenting educators. He's the author of 12 books for parents including *Spoonfed Generation* and the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World and Last Borns Want to Change It*. His latest release *Anxious Kids*, was co-authored with Dr Jodi Richardson.

Fr Elio Capra

Dates: February 03, 10 & 17

Time: 7:30pm

St Paul's Lecture Theatre,
Lavalla Catholic College

Grey Street Traralgon

(entry next to Traralgon College)

Feb 03 A New Look at Lent ~

From giving up to choosing

Feb 10 The Gospels of Lent Year A ~

A challenge to conversion and
spiritual growth

Feb 17 Lent as the journey towards Easter

Enjoy a cuppa and supper afterwards.

Entry by gold coin (or larger) donation.



Fr Elio Capra SDB is a lecturer at Catholic Theological College and is a member of the Departments of Systematic Theology and the Department of Pastoral and General Studies.

He lectures in Liturgy and Sacramental Theology. He is a priest of the Salesians of Don Bosco.

Fr Elio's main academic interests are the Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults, and resources for the period of Mystagogia in the RCIA.

Come and enjoy his fresh, enlightening and entertaining approach to Lent.

Please advise your attendance to
St Michael's Parish Office
5174 2060 or email to sec@smpt.org.au