



From the Principal

Dear Lavalla Families

Last week, a number of Lavalla staff and members of our community had the privilege of participating in the 2022 Marian Lecture. The Marian Lecture is an annual address, hosted by The Marist Association and our governing body, Marist Schools Australia.

This year's keynote speaker was eminent Australian and Jesuit priest, Human Rights lawyer and academic, Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO. Picking up on the Marist Schools Australia theme for the year of Known and Loved; dignity for all, his speech was titled Human Dignity – An Aussie Value?

Masterfully woven into the current political fabric of the federal election, Frank spoke about the need for our society to think more about “we” rather than “me” as we exercise our democratic right. He called upon us to consider policy positions that affirmed the dignity of all in our community and challenged us by stating “if we are committed to human dignity as an Aussie value, we have to be prepared to have the difficult discussions, and we have to be able to see things through the eyes of those who are most on the margins.”

Frank's words of course implore us to consider Jesus' example at the centre of our decision making processes, rather than at the periphery. It is a call for all people of Faith, to strive to authentically animate God's word in meaningful and practical ways and to advocate for dignity for all.

Congratulations

I was incredibly privileged last Saturday evening to be able to attend the new Gippsland Performing Arts Centre and be part of the aptly named Celebration event. The event marked the first time for a long time that our musicians were able to perform live to a large audience after the COVID disruptions of the last few years. I was completely in awe of the talent of our Lavalla students; from Junior all the way through to Senior. Many months of early morning rehearsals and practice paid off, with some outstanding performances that were incredibly well received by the audience.

My thanks to Mr Lebbe and his entire team for their nurture, dedication and guidance of our musicians. The last few years has been particularly difficult for our Music program, but if COVID has taught us anything, it is that when there is a will there is a way. The performances from our musicians is testament to the resilience and many hours of practice and rehearsals from our committed Lavalla staff and of course our incredibly talented music students.

NAPLAN

Last week our Yr7 and Yr9 students undertook their NAPLAN testing. This national testing that takes place across all Australian schools, provides us with important student progress data and is a useful measure for schools in setting benchmarks for measuring student growth in literacy and numeracy. It is important to note that this form of testing is but one measure within a rigorous, ongoing assessment of student growth and achievement and results should never be read in isolation.

This year marked the first time nationally, that NAPLAN was undertaken completely online. This online approach will speed up the return of results and greatly assist us in analysing the data and using it to understand where and how, as a school, we can better focus our efforts on improving the outcomes in both literacy and numeracy for Lavalla students.



Champagnat Day Mass

On Tuesday June 7, the College will celebrate the feast day of the founder of the Marists, St. Marcellin Champagnat. We will celebrate as a community with a whole school Mass, to be held on the St Pauls Campus, in the Champagnat centre. Bishop Greg Bennet will celebrate the Mass and it will be attended by the National Director of Marist Schools Australia, as well as other special guests. It is a wonderful occasion for the College and the first time that a number of our students will have been together, liturgically, as a whole school community. It will also mark my official commissioning as Principal and after the Mass, Bishop Greg will bless and officially open the Hermitage building.

Whilst we will be unable to have parents on-site, the Mass will be livestreamed so that parents, carers and other members of our community can also tune in. More details will follow closer to the event, but it shapes as a very special day for our community and one that holds great importance for our school.

Feedback

As flagged earlier this term, next week staff, students and parents will be invited to offer feedback regarding important functions across the school. Strategic domains such as Catholic Identity and Religious Education; Pastoral Care and Wellbeing structures; Learning and Teaching as well as College Systems and Facilities will all be areas open for reflection.

Whilst participation is of course voluntary, I encourage you to complete the short survey and to share your ideas for school improvement through constructive feedback. It is important that all community voices can be heard and as we head into a new Master Planning process, I look forward to hearing your reflections, suggestions and ideas. Specific information and survey access will be emailed next week and if you have any questions, please contact my office.

Year 7 2023

In the coming weeks, staff at the College will commence interviews with our 2023, Year 7 applicants. It is always an exciting time meeting with prospective students and their families. We have very high levels of applicants this year, which is testament to the way in which a Lavalla education is viewed within the region and the community.

Meeting with new and returning families and especially with young people who are eager to be part of our school is always a highlight. I ask that you keep all of our perspective students in your thoughts and prayers, as they begin to take the first steps of their journey into high school.

May St Marcellin and Mary our Good Mother continue to watch over us and guide us with their wisdom and strength.

RYAN GREER

Principal

Congratulations



CLAIRE FABRIS

Assit. Principal

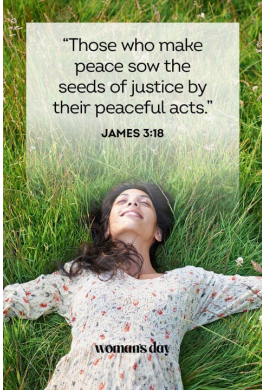
Staff Wellbeing & Development

We are so excited to share that **Katie Lee and Dave Stinear** welcomed their baby girl, **Alex Christine Stinear** into the world, on Monday 9th May. She was born at Monash Hospital at 1:08pm, weighing 3.7kg. Mum and bubs are doing well and of course Katie and Dave are both completely smitten with their gorgeous girl.





DOUG DOHERTY
Deputy Principal
Student Wellbeing & Operations



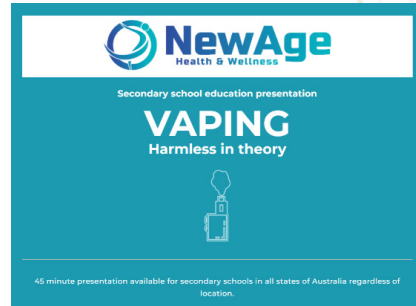
It could be argued that well-being is a journey for towards peace – which is founded on respect for oneself and others.

As we continue to strive to re-establish College routines post pandemic lockdowns, the Well-being team seeks to provide opportunities for our students and families to engage in educational journeys that will assist with this goal. One such

routine is the safe use of technology and social media. In order to help educate our students and families on Cyber-safety and Cyber-intelligence, a programme of examining these topics will begin in the next two weeks. This will be followed with presentations by Project Rokit, which will have a key focus on respect, branding and educating on Cyber-intelligence. These presentations will take place on 15th, 16th and 17th June. I would encourage all families to begin the discussions around Cyber-safety and Cyber-intelligence by making use of our SchoolTV link for Cyber-safety- [HERE](#), as well as the eSafety



Commissioner [website](#).



Peace for oneself is also found in the pursuit of health and respecting one's body. Our College has recognised the concern of society for the growing popularity of Vaping. As a proactive educational initiative, the Wellbeing Team has organised a 50 minute whole College presentation on the dangers and consequences of Vaping for individuals as well as others. This will take place on Monday 23rd May at 11:35am. The following will be covered in this presentation:

1. What is vaping?
2. Vaping & E-Cigarettes- Fact or Fiction?
3. Vape & E-Cigarettes Anatomy
4. Nicotine
5. Peer Pressure or Social Norms
6. What attracts young people to vaping?
7. Vape & E-cigarette Marketing
8. Vaping & E-cigarette Lung Diseases
9. School policy, advocacy & the law
10. What can you do about the Vape & E-Cigarette Problem?
11. A Good Reason to Quit
12. Social Triggers when Quitting
13. How To Quit Vaping

Thank-you and God Bless

Student Achievement

We congratulate the following students on their pathways success.



Enrique Sbablia
Apprenticeship
SKF Automotive



Luke Healy
Apprenticeship
Bosse Plumbing



Rhys Porter
Apprenticeship
Bosse Plumbing



Georgia Reid
FullTime
Employment
Frankie's Cafe



Naomi Gilmore
TAFE
Childcare



ROBYN REBBECHI
Assist. Principal
Catholic Identity & Mission

Connecting with our Marist family

Recently we were fortunate to be able to participate in some valuable staff and student formation sessions, through our Marist family connections.

Brother Tony Leon and John Hickey, from the Marist Mission and Life team, visited our college to work with staff who are new to working in a Marist school, introducing them to the educational philosophy of Marist schools and the life of St Marcellin Champagnat. This was a great opportunity for staff to begin learning about the particular Marist 'flavour' of our Catholic school, and we thank Br Tony and John for their important work.

Several other staff members also participated in a special formation program for Middle Leadership, again run by Br Tony Leon. Staff visited Marist-Sion College and worked with their peers, learning about the importance of their role and how best to strengthen their teams and nurture themselves as leaders in a Catholic school.



Finally, the student leaders were involved in a day of discovery about Leadership and service, again led by Br Tony at Marist-Sion in Warragul. Working with their fellow leaders from Marist-Sion, our students learned about the communication skills needed in leadership, particularly active listening, learning how to accompany and support people and creating a sense of community with others. Given the experiences of the past couple of years this was a valuable insight for these young leaders, framed in the idea of service. The students considered their roles and 'badges' as being a badge of service for others, rather than any statement about themselves and their position.

We are grateful to the community of Marist-Sion College for their organisation of these events, and for extending their hospitality to our Lavalla Catholic College staff and students. We hope to continue this arrangement in future years.



Delany House Liturgy

Next week, Delany House at the Kildare campus will gather together to celebrate their House patron, Bishop Daniel Delany, and the work of the Brigidine sisters. We hope that the liturgy and time of focus on the Brigidine's history will give students a greater understanding of the history of their House and the role of the Brigidine sisters in the history of Lavalla Catholic College. The House celebration time will also be an opportunity for the students and staff of Delany house to pray together, and to support each other in creating a greater sense of connection in their community. The other houses at Kildare will each have an opportunity to celebrate their house liturgies in the future.





MATTHEW HARRIS
Year 9 Wellbeing Coord

Year 9

'Just about the worse thing to call an Australian is a bludger – someone who does not pull their weight or pay their way' opines Bruce Moore, one of Australia's foremost lexicographers. The Marist's have a term for this concept too – love of work – framing it in the positive.

Year Nine has always been a difficult year for students – obsessed with clothes and other material possessions; and the value of friends seems to eclipse the value of family, and certainly school, for a time. Getting the work submitted and sharing in the school community often seem unimportant, picayune things. Importantly though, there is nothing otiose about pulling one's weight, working hard, and paying your own way. Handing in work on time, making sure that there is equal participation in group tasks, stopping to help others, and taking on the responsibility to be industrious in class, yet complete the work set for homework; these are foundational Australian values. No one wants to be a bludger.

The outset of term two has been busy for Year Nine students – Outdoor Education camps have seen our kids trampling over the Port Albert area, NAPLAN tests have come and gone, the wonderful retreat days at the Summit campsite have all occurred, exams are approaching rapidly, and the Geography field trips are about to see our students traipsing over South Gippsland. It's a busy term.

I had the distinct privilege of attending a number of the Outdoor Education camps over the last few weeks. Nonetheless, I was surprised that it wasn't trudging through the brackish marshes of the South Gippsland coast, or paddle-boarding around the beachhead and rivers that I enjoyed the most. It was the duty groups and the personal responsibilities undertaken by our students that shone incandescent to me. These duty groups heralded tasks like sweeping, vacuuming, dishes (no dishwasher), wiping benches & sinks, taking out bins, mopping out showers, making dinners and lunches, taking responsibility for your own bowls, plates, and cups. Many times jobs were left half done – they were always called back to complete the work though. The more expectation that was placed on our students – the more they resented the bludgers. The more pressure that was put on them to pull their weight, the more they expected of each other. It was so very Australian; it was very Marist too, as the 'love of work' is taking pride in a job accomplished. The whole thing was trenchant and instructive, as we have not yet lost this part of our culture – being a bludger is still quintessentially un-Australian. I, for one, am glad of that.



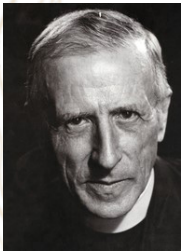


CHRIS ROGA
Faith Formator



Spirituality Means Waking Up

We happily follow Jesus the Healer and Jesus the teacher. We build our schools and hospitals and pride ourselves on the good job we do; rightly so. But that is the easy part; we conveniently



forget that Jesus is also a prophet and that we are called to be prophets, too, to make things beautiful and right for all.

“We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience.”

(Teilhard de Chardin)

Everyone is born spiritual. Children are naturally open to wonder and joy and mystery. But spirituality slowly seeps out as we grow. The spiritual life is a conscious, interior journey of transformation, growing into freedom to live our best life. As the quote says, God is present within; we have to learn to dig up and remove the stuff that is piled on top to release the God within.

There are many ways to describe the journey; for this article I will outline three stages:

1. Compliance: As children we receive our spirituality from our parents and family. We keep rules and are socialised: we follow customs, and learn habits. We say prayers in many words for ourselves and for others. We do not make choices. We conform and receive praise and prizes for being obedient. It makes us feel very good and happy. This is perfectly right for this stage. But many of us do not grow out of this stage; our spirituality remains childish even when we are grown up professionals and adults. Key quality: Unthinking Obedience.
2. Awareness: We, through some person or experience, or both, (great love or great suffering), are drawn into the interior journey. We awaken gradually to our role as co-workers in God’s plan of ongoing creation. We go out of our selves for the sake of our world and others. Key Quality: Contemplative Practices, Social Justice.

3. Transformation: We begin to align, in human terms, with the ‘mind and heart of God’. We become godlier, increasingly thinking like God and growing more compassionate like God. We are being divinized. We live justly in an unjust world, are meek in a world where it arrogance is common, are compassionate in the face of prejudice and judgement, to defend those who are helpless against those with power. We challenge systems and organizations to get better.

Finally, how do we set about and persevere in this journey? Slowly. It is a lifelong journey. Read the scriptures with the heart; be passionate about being good because God is good always; listen to the silence because it is the language of God. A light will shine for you to find your way. All you have to do is be open to start.

This year NRW is from 27 May to 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

In 1901 when the Constitution of Australia was drawn up, the aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders were not counted as part of the Australian population.

On 27 May 1967 the Australian 90.77% of the Australian population voted to change the Constitution. Now Aboriginal and Torres Strait islanders were counted as part of the population of Australia.

In 1982 Eddie Koiki Mabo and others began a legal claim against the government of Australia for ownership of their lands. They won the landmark case on 3 June 1992. The Mabo case finally recognised the history of the First Nations dispassion of their lands in Australia. The legal fiction of ‘terra nullis’ was abolished and it changed Australian Law.

Though these milestones and others are very important, reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of all of us. We all have a role to play in reconciliation, and in playing our part we value Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, histories, cultures, and futures, and build a nation that is just and fair to all.



SUZANNE PICKETT
Youth Ministry &
Social Justice Animator

Year 10 Game Changers

On Friday the 6th of May we had a group of seven Year 10 students travel to Bulleen in Melbourne with Mrs Cassar and Mrs Pickett for the Marist Youth Ministry Game Changers event, hosted by Marcellin College. During this retreat we got to experience youth ministry and participate in several workshops with students from other regional Marist colleges. This day-built relationships with other Marist schools as we got to work with them throughout the day. This provided a great insight for all of us into ministry and the types of activities and avenues that game changers have to offer. We were able to build a number of new friendships and work together with like-minded people to discuss topics like social justice. We look forward to participating in more Marist game changers events throughout the year and into the future.



Laptop Chargers at St Paul's Campus

This notice is for parents of students at the St Paul's campus of Lavalla Catholic College.

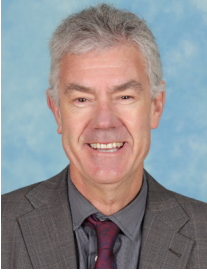
The college policy for student laptops is that a **student starts each day with a fully charged laptop**. This will normally allow each student to engage in their learning during the school day.

However, we seem to have an increasing number of students, at the St Paul's campus, with laptops that have lost charge with students requesting a charger to charge their device. Due to the volume of requests and the increasing variety of chargers and laptop charging connections, **we will no longer be supplying students with a charger at school beyond the end of Term 2**.

If their laptop charge is not lasting out the whole school day then there **is a 15 bay charging tower available in the Marian Learning Centre that can be self-managed** and each laptop bay is electronically secured by a pin number created by the student. To make use of this, students will need to bring their laptop charger and laptop to school each day. A good time to recharge laptops is during recess and lunchtime. Our IT staff are happy to help students with managing this resource.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Chris Denny - Director of Digital Technology



STEPHEN ERDELY
Geography Teacher

After a 12 month hiatus from field trips, students from the 2 Year 12 Geography classes enthusiastically embraced our first off campus activity when they travelled to inner city Melbourne as part of their Unit 3 studies which has centred on changing land use.

With the focus on open space, each group visited a broad range of pocket parks and community reserves such as Richmond Terrace, Mollison Street, Victoria Park and Cambridge Street. With the wonderful support of open space planners from the Yarra City Council, students were involved in talks as well as asking questions to consolidate their understanding of the challenges which face residents in the suburbs of Richmond, Abbotsford and Collingwood, where increasing population growth and density has made the provision of green sites so critical to physical and mental well-being.

2 other fascinating sites which we visited included the Yorkshire Brewery as well as The Lyric which gave students a wonderful insight into the growing demand for residential development sites on former industrial and business locations. Again a big thankyou to SMA Projects for allowing us on site and capturing some spectacular views of the city. To finish off our long day, both classes spent time together having a meal at Thank God it's Friday in Fountain Gate Shopping Centre followed by an assortment of donuts from Krispy Kreme which raised energy levels noticeably on the trip back to the Latrobe Valley.

A special thankyou to Miss Kloppenborg and Ms Widrich for accompanying the groups as well as our beloved bus driver Craig Perry from East Gippsland Variety Tours. A memorable day out for students who now can use the valuable information gathered to complete their field reports for assessment.





SHANE LEBBE
Dir of Music & Liturgy

On Saturday the 14th of May, our musicians took to the stage of the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre, Traralgon. After the long awaited hype, our College's Senior Concert Band, Intermediate Concert Band and Senior Jazz Ensemble were able to wow our community with their musical prowess. This event marks our first concert since 2019 and for a number of our junior music students, this was their first performance. It was wonderful to be sharing the stage with the Latrobe Orchestra, which served as a fantastic opportunity for our students to hear quality local musicians performing quality music together. Our Music Department really appreciates the warm support from both the College community and the wider community.

Congratulations to our musicians who have showcased their hard work. Their commitment to fostering community within our College is admirable and we're grateful to have such a vibrant group of young people representing our music department.

Our Parent Support group has been busy organising our next round of fundraising opportunities. If you are making a trip to Bunnings (Traralgon) next Sunday the 29th of May, you might like to support our Music Program by purchasing a sausage. Our parents would also like to invite you to purchase doughnuts through our Krispy Kreme drive. Please find attached an order form if you would like to support and note that orders will be due by the 3rd of June and can be collected from your preferred campus on Thursday the 23rd of June. All funds raised contribute towards to purchase of equipment and learning opportunities to help give our students the best musical experience they can have.



We are selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts to raise money for the Lavalla Catholic College Music Support Group.

This group subsidizes the cost of excursions, uniforms and musical equipment for the choirs and bands of Lavalla Catholic College.

Ask your friends! They may like to share a dozen between them.

Order forms to be returned to your campus MUSIC office by **TUESDAY 7TH OF JUNE**

Doughnuts will arrive on Thursday 23rd June: Collect between 2.45pm and 3.45pm

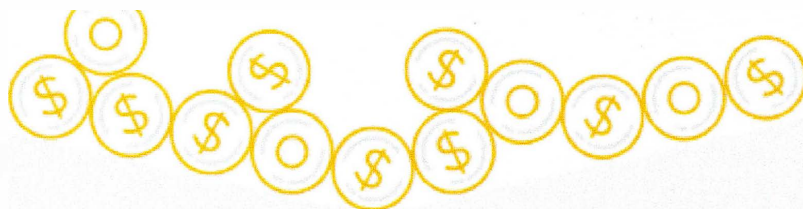
PLEASE RETURN ORDER FORMS AND MONEY TO:

CARLY MARSLAND (Music Department)

Student Name: _____
 Student Year Lvl: _____ **Pick up from Kildare or St Pauls (Pls circle)**
 Customer Phone: _____
 Customer Email: _____

Dozen Type	Dozen Includes	Quantity	Price Per Dozen	Total Price
	12 x Original Glazed Doughnuts		\$21	\$
	6 x Original Glazed 2 x Choc Iced with Sprinkles 2 x Choc Iced 2 x Strawberry Iced		\$29	\$
	6 x Original Glazed 6 x Strawberry Iced		\$29	\$
	6 x Choc Iced 6 x Choc Iced Custard		\$29	\$
Total				\$

*Fundraising dozens are already established, they cannot be change or replace by other flavours.



Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) On School Students with Disability

What is the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data?

Schools must now complete the *Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (NCCD)* every year. It counts the number of students who receive additional adjustments or “help” at school because of a disability. The NCCD helps governments plan for the needs of students with disability.

Who is counted in the data collection?

To count a student in the NCCD, schools must think through some key questions:

1. Is the student getting help at school so that they can take part in education on the same basis as other students?
2. Is the help given because of a disability? The word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA) and it can include many students.
3. Has the school talked to you or your child about the help that they provide?
4. Has the school kept records about the help they provide, the student needs and the reasons that the student needs this help? The school will need to keep copies of tests, student work, assessments, records of meetings, medical reports or other paperwork and information about how the student’s learning is moving along over time.

Once the school decides that the student should be counted in the NCCD, they then choose a disability group and one of four levels of help that has been given to the student.

What does the word ‘disability’ mean in the NCCD?

In the NCCD the word ‘disability’ comes from the [Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#) (DDA). There are four types of disability that the school can choose from: sensory, cognitive, social-emotional and physical.

Many students that need help at school can be counted in the NCCD. For example, students with learning problems, e.g. specific learning disability or reading difficulty (sometimes called dyslexia), health problems (e.g. epilepsy or diabetes), physical disability (e.g. cerebral palsy), vision/hearing loss and social-emotional problems (e.g. selective mutism, Autism Spectrum Disorder, anxiety).

Letters from doctors or specialists can be very helpful for schools as they plan how to support students with their learning. Schools do not need to have these letters before they can count a

student in NCCD. Teachers can use all that they know about the student's learning and the records that they have collected over time to decide if a student can be counted in the NCCD.

What sort of help does the school give students?

Students need different types of help at school. Some students need a little help sometimes while other students need a lot of help nearly all the time. The type of help given depends on the needs of the student. The help can include changes to the school buildings or grounds (e.g. ramps or things like special desks or chairs), extra teacher help in classes, special learning programs, changes to the work they give the student or extra adult help.

How will the NCCD be different this year?

All schools have been counting students in the NCCD since 2015. The government will use the NCCD data as part of the funding to schools.

What will the school need to know about my child for the NCCD?

Schools work together with families to understand the needs of each child. It is helpful if families give their child's teacher a copy of any letters or reports they have. The letters or reports will help the school understand the child and the help that they might need. Letters from doctors, psychologists, speech pathologists, doctor, and occupational therapists etc. can be very helpful for schools. These reports along with information that the teacher has (i.e. school based tests, your child's work and learning plans) helps the school to understand and meet your child's needs.

What happens to the NCCD data? Who will have the NCCD information?

Each school principal must check the NCCD data in August of each year. The school will give the information to the Catholic Education Office. The school will work with the Catholic Education Office to make sure that the NCCD data is OK before they give the data to the government. The government will not be given the names of any students or any letters or records. Please ask your school for their privacy policy if you need to know more.

Does the school need me to agree with them about counting my child in the NCCD?

Amendments were made to the [Australian Education Act 2013](#) and [Australian Education Regulation 2013](#)). Schools do not need you to agree to let them count a child in the NCCD. You cannot ask the school not to count your child.

Where can I find out more?

Please contact your child's school if you have further questions about the NCCD and/or refer to the national [NCCD Portal](#).