

# LASALLE STAR

*De La Salle*



Issue # 7

11 MAY 2018

## MESSAGE FROM DR DAN WHITE ACTING PRINCIPAL @ LASALLE

*“Just a short personal note to thank you all very sincerely for welcoming me into your college community.*

*My tenure as your 'Acting Principal' was a treasured moment. The warmth of your hospitality combined with your openness to engage with me at both a professional and personal level will long remain in my memory.”*



Dr Dan spent his time overseeing the general running of the school, as well as teaching a multi-media class, a maths class and a religion class.

*“It is my opportunity to meet with parents, teachers, students, priests and members of the school community to hear first-hand of the challenges they face day-to-day and I couldn't be more proud of what I have found during my time here.”*

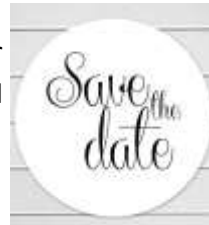
*“LaSalle has recently become co-ed, with girls now in Years 7, 8 & 9 and seeing the respect the older boys have for them is so encouraging, it is a lovely environment that I really do miss.”*

## LASALLE PARENT GROUP MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 20th JUNE

LaSalle Catholic College Parent Group Meeting will be holding our first Parent Forum on Wednesday, 20th June 2018, which will include a workshop on Cyber Bullying and Online Safety.

Venue: in our Learning Centre at 5.30 to 6.30pm.

Time: 5.30pm to 6.30pm



*We wish all our mothers, grandmothers and carers a blessed and wonderful Mother's Day.*

## 2018 DATES TO REMEMBER

### MAY

- 15-17 NAPLAN Testing
- 16 Year 12 Parent/Teacher Meetings
- 22 Years 8 & 9 Mass
- 28 Young Lasallian Evening 6-8pm

### JUNE

- 4 Years 7 & 9 Half Yearly Exams
- 7 Tech Savvy @ Bankstown Library
- 11 Queens Birthday (Public Holiday)
- 12 Athletics Carnival



**MAY:  
THE MONTH  
DEVOTED TO  
OUR LADY**



**Michael Egan  
Principal**



## FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MS LEONIE DOWD

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope you all enjoyed the lovely autumnal weather and spent valuable time with family and friends. It has certainly been quite a busy 2 weeks with lots happening in and out of the classrooms.

At LaSalle, I endeavour to encourage the students to stop and think about Lasallian respect, about the mark they want to make on society, about the person they want to be remembered as. More often than not I am very happy and proud of the commitment and behaviour that I witness the students exhibit. Most recently, however, the College has had to pause and reflect on these values and ask themselves – is this the way Saint John Baptist de la Salle, our founder, would act?

I remind the students to consider the way they leave the classroom and playground. It doesn't matter if they did not drop this paper or that pen. In the words of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop *"if you see a need then do something about it"*. So if you see papers strewn across a classroom, be proactive and pick these up to place in the bin before a teacher needs to ask you to help.

A second challenge is to not to succumb to mob mentality. If one or two students start to model unacceptable or poorly chosen behaviour, don't join in or mimic them, be the stronger person. It is much finer to be remembered as the student who inspired others to do good rather than the student who simply followed others.

I know we can all work well together to improve these last two matters.

**FEMALE UNIFORMS:** To the female students in Year 7-9: I have conducted several meetings with Lowes over the last few weeks and a new shirt has been designed so that you do not have to tuck it into the kilt. It is under production now and should be ready in the next few weeks.

A reminder, if your summer uniform has pilling on the back of your summer uniform, Lowes has expressed that they will accept the return of the uniform with a new uniform issued where appropriate. My advice would be to think about sizing, as you now will not need this uniform until Term 4.



God bless,  
Leonie Dowd



During the month of May - the month of Mary - we feel a special protection of Our Lady that extends to all the faithful; we feel a special joy that shines and illuminates our hearts expressing the universal certainty of Catholics that the indispensable patronage of our heavenly Mother becomes even more tender, more loving and more full of visible mercy and exorable condescendence during her month of May.

During May students are invited to say the Rosary every Friday during their lunch period.





FROM OUR LEADER OF LEARNING: MS JIZELLA AKKARI

YEAR 12 PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT INTERVIEWS

I would like to congratulate Year 12 students this week for their preparation for and co-operation during their half yearly examinations at the end of Term One. This significant exam period will be the last formal assessment block prior to the Trial HSC exams which will take place at the beginning of Term Three.

I would like to remind parents and students that **Semester One Year 12 Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews will take place on the afternoon/evening of Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May at the College between 3.20pm and 7.30pm in the Benilde Building.**

**PARENT  
TEACHER  
INTERVIEWS**

Both the Semester One Report and the Parent/Teacher/Student Interviews are designed to give students clear and worthwhile feedback, not just with respect to how they are progressing in their classes, but with regards to strategies that they may adopt towards their studies in the coming months in the lead up to the HSC exams.

I would strongly encourage all students to come with their parents to this Parent/Teacher/Student night and make the most of this worthwhile opportunity.

Further information, including the Sentral booking process, was distributed this week.

**NAPLAN Examinations**

This coming week will see students in Year 7 and 9 complete the 2018 NAPLAN Examinations.

Information regarding these exams have been sent to parents over the past couple of weeks, however, should you require information regarding these tests, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Akkari at the College on 9793 5600.

**Y-FACTOR 2018**

From Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April, I had the opportunity to attend Y-Factor 2018, a youth camp run by Sydney Catholic Youth. More than 100 people from Catholic schools all over Sydney attended the camp.

The camp involved various talks and sessions led by various people. One such talk that greatly impacted me was the last talk of the camp, given by John Nguyen, titled "Saints of the New Millenium", detailing how we, the young people of the Church, are saints of the present, and that it is up to us to change the world for the better.



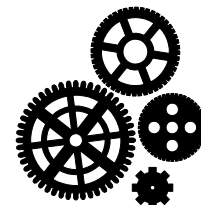
While several students had attended a Y-Factor camp in the past, this was my first one, and I entered as a complete stranger. Despite this, by the time I left I knew everybody at the camp, having bonded over the worship of our Lord.

*Nathan Galvin-Valencia*



NEWS FROM OUR SAINT YON TRADE TRAINING CENTRE:

“TRY A TRADE DAY” SHOWCASE EVENT”



Saint Yon Trade Training Centre hosted ‘Try a Trade Day’ on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May to showcase the facilities for a group of over 100 Year 9 and 10 students and teachers from five local feeder Catholic schools.

The showcase offers knowledge, information and contacts students need to discover, guide and support student’s career choices through interactive hands on lessons.

The VET Skills ‘Try a Trade Day’ showcase is a once a year event that takes careers advice out of the office and into the workshop, through an exhilarating showcase of VET courses in:

- Hospitality
- Plumbing
- Electrotechnology
- Construction
- Automotive

Students were able to dive head first into their future at the ‘Try a Trade’ Day showcase watching hands on activities to test drive five different trades and skills through interactive workshops and activities. Students and teachers were able to network with industry trainers, current School Based Apprentices and VET teacher experts to help them get ready to decide on their subject selection and their future career.



Students were also able to book parent private tours for students interested in completing a VET course or, those students wishing to fast track their career with commencing a School Based Apprenticeship/Traineeship.

Highlight of the showcase

The highlight of the showcase was the Hospitality workshop and skills demonstrations where students and teachers were treated to a scrumptious gourmet food tasting of:

- Wagu Beef and Salad Sliders
- Chocolate and Honeycomb Mouse



The food tasting was prepared specially by Year 12 VET Hospitality students as a wonderful way to finish the day.

LaSalle Year 10 students will have the opportunity to attend the Lasallian ‘Try a Trade’ Day later this year.

For Year 10 Parents

To book a **Parent Private Tour** for students interested in VET courses or School Based



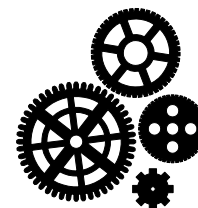
Apprenticeships, please email Nicola Pegum, VET Pathway Planner, Email: [nicola.pegum@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:nicola.pegum@syd.catholic.edu.au)

We would like to thank the VET Trainers and Teachers and VET student helpers who helped to make the day such a success.



## NSW TRAINING AWARDS

It is with great pleasure to announce that two Year 12 students, **Timothy Karam**, *Saint Yon Captain* and **Ryan Bao Do**, *Turon Captain* have made it to the first round interviews of the **NSW Training Awards**. These awards are conducted by the NSW Department of Industry to recognise outstanding achievement in the vocational education and training sector.



The NSW Training Awards are conducted annually by Training Services NSW to recognise outstanding achievement in the vocational education and training sector. The Awards honour and reward the achievements of students, trainers/teachers, training organisations, large and medium employers.



*Tim Karam,  
nominated  
Best School  
Based  
Apprenticeship  
Award*



*Ryan Bao Do,  
nominated  
Best VET in  
Schools Award*

Tim Karam was nominated by his employer and his VET Electrotechnology Teacher, Mr Craig Parker, as the **Best School Based Apprentice Award** and Ryan Bao Do was nominated as the **Best VET in Schools Student Award** by his VET Hospitality Teacher, Mrs Beth Davidson, based on feedback from employers, technical skills developed and academic achievement.

The students worked with Mrs Pegum, *VET Pathway Planner* to write a 12 page submission, letters of recommendation from teachers and employers and both prepared a portfolio with work photos, achievement certificates and letters of support.

We congratulate, Tim Karam and Ryan Bao Do, who were selected from a group of 300 competitors to go through to the next round interviews at the Dooley's Catholic Club in Lidcombe on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018. The NSW Training Awards Committee interview 12 students and then select the top three finalists in each category. We wish Tim Karam and Ryan Bao Do all the best in being selected as a Finalist NSW Training Awards that will be announced at the end of May.

**Mrs Nicola Pegum, VET Pathway Planner**





## A FAMILIAR FACE RETURNS TO LASALLE CATHOLIC COLLEGE

LaSalle Catholic College's 8 Solomon class were delighted and honoured to be taught by the Executive Director of Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Sydney, Dr Dan White. Accompanied by journalist Jade Ramirez, the class was taught about the fundamental aspects of being both the interviewee and interviewer for our Media unit.

After a visit to LaSalle Catholic College two years prior, Dr Dan White has returned to our welcoming Lasallian community as the acting principal for a week. After a long period since his last visit, the Year 8 gifted and talented class were truly fortunate to be taught by the academically brilliant Dr Dan - great minds thinking alike!



In addition to teaching us the journalistic aspects of media and the basic premises of interviews, he was also interested in our experience in regards to the recent introduction of co-education in college life. The integration of co-education to LaSallian college life piqued the interest of other single-sexed schools who are deciding to go into co-education. Journalist Jade Ramirez probed the class with questions relating to their experiences so far in a co-ed school.

Dr Dan then flipped the tables and in we were then interviewers of Dr Dan. 8 Solomon used their learning to ask both 'fat and skinny' questions ranging from his personal background to his stances on Catholic School funding and Catholic Schools in general.

In response to a question asked about Catholic School funding, Dr Dan answered *"We focus most of our funds on great teachers - at least 80% of funding."* He went on saying *"The other 20% is focused on resources, such as facilities and classroom equipment."* He also explained how he trusts that the teachers collect data on the student learning gains which reinforced his idea of great teaching. Another student enquired about his stance on the importance of opportunity classes and he answered with *"Opportunity classes such as the Solomon program gives students the chance to use their gifts to the max."*

The class felt very fortunate to be singled out for a visit and we really appreciated his time, energy and knowledge.

*Vince Dionisio, Student Reporter Wed May 2, 2018*

## CAREER NEWS: YEAR 12 CADETSIPS APPLY NOW

### TUES 1<sup>st</sup> MAY 2018 OPPORTUNITY FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

Stand out from other university students by undertaking paid work at a leading company while you study at university. The **Business Cadetships Program** places cadets at **UBS Bank**, a top-ranking global bank. **Applications close on Wednesday 16 May 2018.**

Applications for the **Engineering & Technology Cadetships Program open on Monday 30 April**. Engineering Cadets are placed with **Cubic Transportation Systems** and Technology Cadets are placed at **Macquarie Group**. For details about the cadetship programs and to apply online, go to [www.professionalcadets.com.au](http://www.professionalcadets.com.au). It costs nothing to make an application, or to undertake the cadetship, and you can expect to receive a good salary from your host company.

If you'd like any more information please contact Alister Wilkinson from Professional Cadetships Australia at 02 4998 8780 or [alisterwilkinson@professionalcadets.com.au](mailto:alisterwilkinson@professionalcadets.com.au)



Every fortnight we will be publishing a short story from our 8 Solomon's 'Whodunnit's Short Stories.

**“Sorry, well, not sorry.”**

*Ann Luong*

June 15th, 2002

From her seated position, she rose to her feet, eyes twitching. Her eyes were bloodshot, her hands white from the knife clutched in her fist. She stumbled up the stairs shoving the door out of her path in a rough manner. Her footsteps were heavy. Each foot brought down was followed by a loud thud. It was impossible to have a tighter grip on the knife. She staggered through the hallway slamming each door open in search for her daughter's room. **“Bingo” she whispered. She found it. She made her way to her daughter's sleeping body. Her daughter is Wren. Wren's mother leant forward, over the fourteen-year old's body. She raised the knife in both hands, above her own head. Wren's mother brought the knife down into Wren's abdomen. She twisted the knife as her eyes shot open. Wren began violently coughing up blood. Before Wren could scream, she had passed. She had killed her own daughter.**



English Subject - Detective Fiction

Realising what she had done, Wren's mother's eyes widened. She sobered up immediately. Wren's mother slid down from where she stood, grabbing her head whilst doing so. She lay on the floor for a while, sobbing. She was pulling strands of her hair out in the process. She abruptly stopped and shot upwards, sitting upright. She called emergency services right away. **“Hello?” She couldn't bring herself to answer. She felt strangled. “Hello?” the voice asked once more. She shook her head. She couldn't get caught. She had hung up.**

June 22nd, 2002

**“Any news?”** a deep voice had asked. This voice belonged to detective Birdie Silverstein. The short man waddled across the office. One of his legs was longer than the other, causing a limp in his walk.

**“Yes,”** one of the detectives answered.

**“Well?”** birdie asked, brushing his bangs out of his face.

**“Locks of brown hair has been left at the crime scene.”**

Birdie furrowed his eyebrows. His face soon lit up. **“There have been several murders throughout the city of Texas. Those murders have yet to be solved. However, it is suggested that they were all committed by the same perpetrator”**

**“So?”** Jane, one of the investigators asked.

**“So that means that all these cases could be related, including Wren's case.”** Birdie didn't see much brightness in his fellow group of investigators. Mr Silverstein sighed. **“What do they all have in common?”** Everyone stared at him confused. Birdie yelled in frustration. He was feeling quite angsty as he wasn't able to wash his hands.

The investigators looked at him dumbfounded. Not one understood Detective Silverstein. Birdie had left the room slamming the door closed. He had left to wash his hands.

Soon after, he had come back. **“So, anything?”** The investigators shook their heads no in response. Mr Silverstein took a deep breath in before answering them. **“All the murders committed in the past month all have something in common. Strands of brown hair were left behind at every crime scene. If we were to check the DNA of each strand, it is most likely that the different samples hair belongs to the same person.”** The team of investigators nodded their heads in understanding. The team left the room after that have given the samples of hair to Detective Silverstein.



Birdie was a forensic scientist which meant that he was able to compare the hair himself. Though it may seem obvious that the hair belonged to the same person, he thought that it would be best to be one hundred percent sure that all cases were committed by the same perpetrator.

A few days later, several witnesses called in describing the perpetrator. It was a woman in her forties, Blonde hair, small frame. However, the locks of her hair left behind were brown. This had left Detective Silverstein confused.

One by one, the team of investigators walked into the office taking their seats. Mr Silverstein greeted every single one of them as they walked into the room through the door. Birdie informed the investigators about what he had discovered. “So witnesses say the woman is blonde, but the hair left behind is brown. How does this add up?” Birdie questioned.

Without hesitation, Jane answered, “She could be wearing a wig” Birdie thought about this for a moment. Jane was one of their investigators. Jane was in her forties, blonde and suited the description that was given. However, ever since Detective Silverstein met her, she was blonde. Birdie soon dismissed the team.

The results had come back. The strands of hair were indeed from the same person. Birdie Silverstein now suspected Jane. He thought about this for a while. Birdie felt unsure because the evidence he had so far isn’t solid.

Birdie left the building and walked through the city for a while. Birdie’s hand was developing an itch. His nose began twitching. The development of Birdie Silverstein’s habit of washing his hands been evident since he was young. Mr Silverstein is thirty-seven years of age but still struggles to break his habit. Birdie knew this was a sign of obsessive-compulsive disorder. He just couldn’t stop. At this point, Birdie couldn’t deal with the fact he was unable to have access to a sink. Mr Silverstein had blacked out.

Jane had arrived back to her home that she shared with her husband, Mr Alexander Callinan. Jane’s husband was having trouble coping with his daughter’s death. However, Jane was completely fine. Since the death of their daughter Wren, Mrs Callinan has not shed a tear. Though this behaviour was suspicious, Mr Callinan brushed it off and assumed that it was her way of grieving. When Jane wasn’t at work or home, not one soul would know where she had gone. Mr and Mrs Callinan were in the kitchen making dinner. “Jane, have you heard about the murders in Texas? Apparently, all cases were committed by the same person.” Mrs Callinan stared at her husband with wide eyes. Jane slid down from her upright position and onto the floor. The tears in her eyes were threatening to escape her eyes. Her husband looked at her concerned and worriedly asked, “Jane, What’s wrong” over and over again. At this point, Mr Callinan was panicking.

Sobbing, she whispered, “I’m sorry.” Her husband furrowed his eyebrows in confusion.

“Jane, what are you on about?” he asked. Jane just kept repeating the words ‘I’m sorry’ over and over again. She stopped. No more tears, no more shaking, no more sobbing. She began giggling. She stared at her husband dead in the eye leaving him confused.

Mrs Callinan giggled softly then proceeded to pull off her blonde wig revealing her head. She had patches dark brown locks and bald patches from the hair she had pulled out. Her husband stared at her for a period of time. He was speechless. “Why?” he whispered. He stood up and yelled. “What the hell is going in your mind to even kill not another human, but your own daughter!” He hesitantly ran into their room to grab his phone. Mrs Callinan opened the top drawer in the kitchen pulling out a knife. Before her husband could dial nine one one, Jane stabbed Mr Callinan in the throat. Mr Alexander Callinan collapsed immediately. She laughed.

“Sorry, well, not sorry.” Jane giggled.

The following week, which was when Detective Birdie Silverstein was informed about Mr Callinan’s death, He was one hundred percent sure that the perpetrator was Jane Callinan. However, the detective had no concrete evidence to provide to the court. Detective Birdie Silverstein was being paid a fortune so he knew he had to be diligent and smart in order to win this case.





## COMMITMENT · CONFIDENCE · SUCCESS

Several days passed, and Mr Silverstein was having trouble sleeping. He just couldn't think of how he could find more evidence. This resulted in his bloodshot eyes, dark circles and a grumpy mood. These days Detective Silverstein communicated in a series of grunts, nodding and shaking his head and arm gestures. He had run out of ideas. At one point he nearly gave up. His only motivation left was the money he would receive if he won the case. He was struggling to prove that Jane was the perpetrator.

Detective Birdie Silverstein was sitting at his desk jotting down useless ideas. He looked from one side of his office to the busy roads outside his apartment. An idea had sparked in his head. One of the victims was Jane Callinan's daughter. He felt so stupid as he didn't figure this out before. Packing his bag, in a rush, he ran to his car and drove straight to the building in which he worked.

He asked for the hair sample of the deceased, Wren, and the hair samples that were left at the crime scene. As soon as he received both samples, he ran into the lab in both excitement and happiness. He compared the results of both hair samples and it was confirmed that the hair sample left at the crime scene belonged to the mother of Wren Callinan.

Jane had a meeting the next day. However, she was out binge drinking because she thought alcohol would solve her problems. The morning before the meeting, she was suffering a terrible hangover and was still intoxicated. Realising she was going to be late, she swore to herself and stumbled out of the door.

Mrs Callinan arrived half an hour late and was not yet sober. Whilst parking she ran into a pole which caused her to be later than intended. Throughout the meeting, she was tipsy. Whilst Detective Silverstein was speaking, she played with her pens, giggling to herself. Jane was far from sober. "I did it!" she yelled out. "I was the perpetrator!" She burst out laughing. She laughed so hard that she fell off her chair. She stood up and began sobbing in realisation. "I did it" she whispered. "I killed the people I love."

The day after, Jane had gotten herself arrested. She turned herself in before Detective Birdie Silverstein could. Mr Silverstein had also recorded the meeting. Jane was said to be mentally ill and was sent to rehabilitation.

Several days after, it was Birdie's birthday. As usual, he arrived at the building in which he worked, minding his own business. To his surprise, he received many gifts. He was shocked by this as he knew that he wasn't very likeable. Although he was very thankful, he grunted in response because every gift he received was hand soap.



Jane Callina





## FROM OUR LEARNING CENTRE:

### WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU GET A DISAPPOINTING ASSIGNMENT MARK?

We all have times when we think we have done brilliantly then get an assignment back and are really disappointed instead. You could just feel really bad, or you could try these steps:

#### 1. REVIEW AND UNDERSTAND

The first step is to work through the feedback and work out what went wrong.

- Did you not meet the criteria?
- What feedback were you given from the teacher?
- Do you understand the feedback?
- Can you work out why you got the mark you did?

If you don't understand why you got the mark you did, it is **ESSENTIAL** you ask your teacher for further clarification. Otherwise you will keep making the same mistakes.

#### 2. CHALLENGE OR ACCEPT

Once you understand what the issue was, you can either accept it, or challenge it.

*ACCEPT:* If you feel now that the mark was actually fair enough, then it is time to move on. There is no point beating yourself up anymore about your disappointing mark.

Instead you need to treat this as a learning process, the people who are most successful in life don't let their mistakes get them down, they see them as a learning opportunity where they can improve and make sure it doesn't happen again.

However, if you really think your mark was unfair and you had met all of the criteria, you can talk to your teacher and politely explain your point of view and ask if they would reconsider your mark.

#### 3. LEARN AND CHANGE

The only way to improve, is to work out what you did wrong, then try and fix it.

It is actually a really good idea to re-do part of the work and re-submit. Not everyone has the commitment to do this, but if you do - then wow - you will really see the benefit in your results. It might just be a case of re-doing a section of the assignment and asking your teacher to review it.

But if you don't have another go, you won't know whether or not you have really taken the feedback on board. Some students let a bad mark get them down and start to think they are not capable of succeeding, so they don't try to address the issue, make similar mistakes again and just feel worse. Don't be that sort of person! Learn from what you have done and have another try.

Another good thing you can do is to ask to see other students' work who received top grades for their assignments - to evaluate what was missing in yours or how you could improve yours next time.

It would also be a great idea for your next assignment to show your teacher a plan, or a draft early on, explaining how you think you've met the criteria, and seek feedback well **BEFORE** handing it in.

You might also like to visit the **Assignment Skills** unit at [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) for some more ideas on approaching assignments.

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