

Newsletter

Telephone: (02) 6761 0800

Postal Address: PO Box 3486 West Tamworth NSW 2340

Email: admin@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

Facsimile: (02) 6766 4557

Website: www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

McCarthy Office Hours: 7.30am – 4.00pm



Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

The Lord will guide you always;

He will satisfy your needs in the sun-scorched land

And will strengthen your frame.

You will be like a well-watered garden,

Like a spring whose waters never fail. (Isaiah 58:11)

God still draws near to us in the ordinary, commonplace,

everyday experiences and places... He comes in surprising ways.

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 9 March was Ash Wednesday. This day marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent, a time of penance and restoration. All staff and students attended Mass simultaneously in four churches across Tamworth and thus began the journey together towards Easter, in communion with Catholics around the world.

On Ash Wednesday, Christians are marked on the forehead with a cross of ashes as a sign of penitence and mortality. The ashes come from burning the palms from Palm Sunday the previous year. At school we will be focusing on prayer, fasting and almsgiving (good works) throughout Lent. Caritas' Project Compassion Appeal is at the centre of our almsgiving efforts.

Open Day

The College Open Day was held last Saturday 5 March. It was terrific to see so many families use this opportunity to access the facilities and gain information about what the school offers. Twenty members of staff and a number of our parents assisted on the day. Gratitude is extended particularly to the parents who provided morning tea for visitors.

The first round of applications for enrolment (2012) closes on 8 April.

Board

Parents are invited to participate in voting for new membership to the College Board. Nominations are being accepted for two vacancies. Elections will be held by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting of the Board this Tuesday afternoon at 5.30pm.

Swimming Carnival

The annual college swimming carnival was held at the city pool on the afternoon/evening of Thursday 24 February. Outstanding performances in the pool, fantastic team spirit and a lot of hard work made this important day such a great success. Thank you to all families who supported the occasion. The highest point-scoring team was Dominic. The new participation trophy was awarded to Chisholm.

Parenting Resources

Useful parenting resources are now available via the College Moodle website. They can be accessed by clicking on the 'Parents' tag and then going to the 'Parenting Links' (the first item on the drop-down menu).

Website

The Year Group pages are now open on the College Moodle website. Parents are encouraged to explore these pages, and the remainder of the website, to keep abreast of what is happening in the school. This will assist parents to monitor and support their student's learning more effectively and to build further on the partnership necessary for holistic educational success. Please visit <https://moodle.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au> and log in, using your child's username and password, to access a range of information.

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St Vinnies

The number of students who have joined St Vincent de Paul this year is very pleasing. There is a wide range of interested students across the Year groups keen to be involved. A Youth Camp will be held at Lake Keepit at the end of the month and it is hoped that a good number of Vinnies members will take the opportunity to meet with likeminded students, from other Diocesan schools, by attending this camp.

The 'bucket drop' collection for Queensland flood victims raised approximately \$400.00. This has been passed on to the St Vincent de Paul Flood Appeal.

Lenten Group

McCarthy will again host a Lenten Group this year for parents, teachers and students. It will be held in the Meeting Room on Wednesday evenings commencing at 7.00pm.

Diary Dates

11 March: Diocesan Swimming Carnival
 14 March: Year 10 Canberra Excursion
 14 March: Association Meeting AGM
 15 March: Board Meeting AGM
 16 March: Lenten Group (continues)
 18 March: Diocesan U/15 RL trials
 18 March: Senior Textiles Workshop – Armidale
 18 March: Carinya Horse Sports
 21 March: St Vinnies Camp
 21 March: Year 12 Health Careers
 22 March: Year 11 Property Planning Competition
 23 March: Year 9/10 Science & Engineering
 24 March: Year 8 Science & Engineering Challenge
 24 March: Year 7 Mass 9.30am
 25 March: Year 12 English Day

Sacramental Theology Seminar

Ten members of the RE staff recently had the privilege of having Fr Gleeson present a seminar on Sacramental Theology. Information on the topics of 'liturgy' and 'sacraments' was detailed and interesting and will be invaluable to teachers of the RE curriculum. We are extremely appreciative of Fr Gleeson giving up his evening to educate us.

Caritas

The beginning of Lent this week turns our attention to supporting the fundraising efforts of Caritas, through Project Compassion. As in previous years, there will be a focus in Homeclass each morning, as well as some large fundraising events, which should allow us to make a significant contribution to Caritas again this year. Funds totalling \$530.00 raised at the swimming carnival, through the efforts of St Vinnies members, will be donated to Caritas.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

PASTORAL CARE

Welcome

We welcome Mitchell Bain and his family to the McCarthy community.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Shannen Lyon and her family following the death of her grandmother.

Parenting Ideas

Parenting is a challenging task, but it is easier when you get good advice and you do not feel you are parenting alone. McCarthy Catholic College is a *Parentingideas* School member. The program is written by Michael Grose –columnist and author. I will pass onto parents via the Newsletter and the school website information to support you with parenting challenges you may experience. As a parent you may subscribe to Happy Kids, a regular free email newsletter from www.parentingideas.com.au. A free chores and responsibility guide is included. A link to the site can be found on the College moodle website under the "Parents" tag.

Community Support

Multicultural Seniors Gathering, Wednesday 23 March, 10.00am to 2.00pm, Community Centre (phone: 6766 4480).

Vaccinations

Any Year 7 or 10 student who missed their vaccination can catch up when Round 2 takes place. All forms must be completed and returned to the school office.

Theme for the Week

Courtesy was the theme for Week 5. Students were reminded of the importance of using 'please' and 'thank you', greeting people, and being aware of others' movements in order to show care and respect.

In Week 6 students were asked to reflect on "How Have I Started the Year?", with regards to having all necessary equipment, managing homework and study, taking responsibility for improving their own learning and availing themselves of the extra learning support in the school.

"He who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love" (Proverb)

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Items Discussed at the Last Meeting

During our meeting on 21 February we congratulated the team of hard workers who helped raise over \$19,000 from the Country Music Accommodation during January. Thank you once again to Lynda and Andy Dehm and the team who helped with this wonderful fundraiser. Positive feedback was received from our visitors.

The Wine and Cheese night held on 15 February was also a great success.

We also discussed possible social events for the year and we will investigate this further at our next meeting, following the AGM. The AGM and regular meeting will take place in the Staff Room, 7.00pm on Tuesday 14 March 2011. All are welcome to attend.

To keep up to date on topics covered at our monthly meetings please go to www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au and click on McCarthy Parents Association and follow the links to meetings.

CAREERS NEWS

Senior Success Program for Year 11

Senior Success Program began last week with an interested and enthusiastic group of Year 11 students and parents, all wanting to know more about the change of expectations and workload for Stage 6. The next meeting for this group will be Tuesday 3 May beginning at 7.00pm. This workshop will be about preparing for the Year 11 Half-Yearly examinations and will include organisational tips and study habits. It will be conducted by Mrs Denise McHugh and Mrs Susan Barrett.

Senior Success Program for Year 12

This term we will be holding an evening function for the students and parents who participated in the program last year. We will be revising aspects of the Senior Success program relevant to the students in their HSC. This will be held in Week 10 of this term on Wednesday April 6 beginning at 7.00pm. Light refreshments will be served on the night.

Careers

Opportunities continue for our students. This month, Year 12 students interested in a career in health will be attending the 2011 Health Careers Forum on March 21 to be held at the University Department of Rural Health at Tamworth Base Hospital.

A pleasing number of Year 10 students are looking at career options and organising to do work experience through the school. There is a lot of paperwork to be completed by the school, student, parent and employer but the benefits are invaluable.

I am continuing to conduct career interviews with Year 12 students. Over fifty students attended a lunchtime forum last week to find out what happens and when during the HSC year.

Mrs Susan Barrett – Careers Advisor

MATHEMATICS

All students should now have their Mathematics textbooks and are required to have them in class for every lesson.

Students in Years 7 to 10 have, or will shortly be given, their usernames and passwords for *hotMaths*. This is a valuable resource for enhancing mathematical skills at all levels and students are encouraged to use it. Students can access this both at home and at school.

Mrs Jane Ashcroft – Mathematics Coordinator

SPORT

Swimming Carnival

Last Thursday McCarthy held a successful swimming carnival at the Tamworth City Pool. It was great to see such wonderful House spirit and participation on the day. The final point score was very close with Dominic overtaking Chisholm in the relay events to win by only 5 points.

1st place: Dominic, 2nd place: Chisholm, 3rd place: MacKillop 4th place: Edmund Rice.

Age Champions

Girls

12 years	-
13 years	Tarryn Rizzi
14 years	Ellie Camilleri
15 years	Gabby Studdy
16 years	Anna Camilleri
17+ years	Laura Roach

Boys

Jayden Gimberg
Sam Collett
Jarrold Chester
Reubben Short
Jerome Studdy
Tristan Studdy

A number of records were broken on the day. Congratulations to the following students: Anna Camilleri (5 records), Ellie Camilleri (2 records), Anneke Pretorius (1 record), Jayden Gimberg (6 records), Jerome Studdy (4 records), Tristan Studdy (3 records), Reubben Short (2 records), Brice Davy (1 record) and Richard Burke (1 record).

The following students will compete at the Armidale Diocesan Swimming Carnival in Gunnedah tomorrow: Matthew Letton, Sam Collett, Reubben Short, Jerome Studdy, Tristan Studdy, Richard Burke, Tarryn Rizzi, Abbey Ruttley, Hope Martin, Jayana-Jayde Mangan, Jayden Gimberg, Ellie Camilleri, Gabby Studdy, Anneke Pretorius, Rhiannon Graham, Brice Davy, Hayden Davy, Sophie Heeney, Jack Robinson and Anna Camilleri.



St Edward’s Parish South Tamworth

On behalf of our parish priest, Fr John Willis, St Edward’s Parish Council extends a warm welcome to all families who have become part of our community this year.

Listed below are numerous groups operating within the parish. We invite you to consider joining an activity which interests you.

- Liturgy participation – Special Minister of Holy Communion
 - Altar Server
 - Reader
 - Music
- Various prayer groups
- St Eddie’s monthly seniors lunch (as a guest, or helping prepare and serve food)
- Monthly card afternoon (participating or assisting in operation)
- Parish Family Groups – (Details on the table in the church foyer)
- Catechists
- Children’s liturgy at Sunday morning Mass
- St Vincent de Paul Society
- St Edward’s Ladies Club

Complete below and place in offertory collection.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

Telephone:.....

Email:.....

I would like more information on:

1.

2.

3.

New parishioner – please tick

Existing parishioner – update information

Presbytery: phone 6765 9543 (Fr Willis) Parish Council: phone 6765 7259 (Grahame Tighe)