

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

“Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord.”

And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great strong wind tore into the mountains... but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

Kings 19:11-12

He doesn't come in roaring thunder, as we expect. He does not write in blazing lightning ...even though we look for Him there. His voice won't be in the rushing wind or the pounding waves. He simply comes to us in a still small voice.

Wendy Moore

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Enrolment Interviews

This week is the second week of interviews for Round 1 applications for enrolment into Year 7 2012 and members of the interviewing panel have been very impressed with the calibre of applicants. We look forward to finalising offers for the first round in the coming weeks. Round 2 applications close on 30 June.

Student Successes

Outstanding student performances in the last two weeks include: Hockey – The Girls Open Hockey team won the NSW CCC Championship. All of our teams played well and represented the school very positively.

Show Team – Our best performance at Wingham Beef Week

Jazz and Concert Band – Two first placings at the Gunnedah Eisteddfod

Diocesan Soccer Gala Day – Our three teams were successful in their divisions qualifying to play the winner from the Lismore Diocese.

UNSW

I received a letter this week from the University of NSW notifying me that Ryan Jenkins (Dux of 2010) has won a university scholarship for his outstanding performance in the Bachelor of Engineering in Chemical Engineering program at UNSW and congratulating the school for the excellent education with which he has been provided. Ryan is an inspiration for all students to work hard towards their goals.

Winter Sports Jerseys

The McCarthy Winter Sports uniform now includes the sports jersey which is available for purchase from Tuff 'n' Tidy. No other jersey may be worn and the jersey is only to be worn with the sports uniform.

We are happy to accommodate the parent request to allow the students' surname to be embroidered on the front of the jersey as a way of identifying ownership. The following conditions apply:

1. the correct and full surname only is to be used
2. it is to be located immediately below the emblem, on the left-hand side
3. it is to be the same font and size as the print on the motto
4. it is to be in gold thread

If the weather is terribly cold, the school jumper could be worn under the jersey.

Please note: the “old” sports jacket can still be worn as part of the sports uniform.

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We recently attended The National Conference for Catholic Schools in Sydney- two of two thousand people from all over Australia. It was a very worthwhile experience and it was wonderful to realise that, as staff from our school, we are a part of a greater whole. We were made aware of the statistic that one in five children attend Catholic schools. Academics, addressing the conference, stated that Catholic schools are now, and will be in the future, very different to the Catholic schools of past eras. They said that our students are very much part of a secular world where, often, a belief in God is scorned. The challenge for us, as educators in Catholic schools, is to help our students find ‘the sacred in the secular’. It was suggested that one way to do this is by showing them how to learn to have quiet time and listen for the ‘still small voice’. Not easy in our modern technological world.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

Diary Dates

1 June:	Year 7 Excursion
1 June:	RCG Course
2 June:	Year 7 Excursion
2 June:	Year 8-10 Exams
3 June:	Year 7 Excursion
3 June:	CCC Cross Country – Eastern Creek
3 June:	Years 9/10 State Touch finals – Penrith
7 June:	CCC Touch – Penrith
7 June:	Year 12 Twilight Retreat
8 June:	Careers Night Year 10 Parents – 7pm
8 June:	ICAS Science Test
13 June:	Long Weekend
14 June:	Senior Success Program
17 June:	Cochrane Cup
20 June:	CCC Tennis – Bathurst
20 June:	Year 12 HSIE Study Day – UNE
21 June:	ICAS Writing & Spelling Tests
21 June:	Association Meeting



ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Facebook is perhaps, the most widely used social networking service today. Certainly many teenagers spend a great deal of time on the site - keeping in touch with friends, sharing interests, thoughts and photos. There are many positive uses for the site. Unfortunately, we have recently experienced many very negative Facebook experiences - with inappropriate photos, derogatory and defamatory language and cyberbullying. I urge all parents to be aware of your child's Facebook use and to be part of the process in educating teenagers about the use of this social tool. Making threats, bullying, making defamatory comments, sending or posting inappropriate issues are all considered offences. Police Schools Liaison Officer, Senior Constable John Croger, has advised that parents report any issues directly to the police.

Another social trend causing some concern is that of planking. This practice can be dangerous, as evident with the number of recent accidents and deaths. All students are advised that any incidents of planking will attract very serious consequences - including suspension.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

PASTORAL CARE

Welcome

We welcome Darcie Martin (Year 7), Zoe Martin (Year 8) and their family to the McCarthy community.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Alice, Joseph and Thomas Murphy and family following the death of their grandfather.

Theme for the Week

The theme for National Families Week was “Sticking together: families in good and tough times”. At McCarthy we encouraged everyone to think about the things that make their family strong in both good and tough times, whatever their circumstances. It is good to take time to explore ways we can support each other - in our families and communities - through all the ups and downs of daily life.

During Week 6 we looked at how persistence can improve learning in class and results in exams.

‘You don't choose your family. They are God's gift to you, as you are to them.’ Desmond Tutu

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Attention All Year 7 and New Parents: Information Session – “Preparing for Parent/Teacher Interviews”

The McCarthy Association is holding a series of brief educational information sessions during our monthly meetings.

In the first session, our Principal, Mrs Kate Rayment, will present information and tips on how to get the most from Parent/Teacher Interviews for you and your child/children. We invite all parents to join us for this important and informative meeting.

Family Fund Appeal Pie Drive Fundraiser

We thank all families who purchased pies etc raising much needed funds for the Family Fund Appeal. Thank you to the following people who assisted on the day: Ned Forrest, students, Emma Swivel, Raeleen Iuso, Marie Goodwin, Andrew and Lynda Dehm.

The next general meeting will take place in the Staff Room, 7.00pm on Tuesday 21 June 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, click on McCarthy Parents Association and follow the links to meetings.

CAREERS NEWS

Careers Information Evening for Year 10 Parents

This evening is for parents with students in Year 10. It will be held at the school from 7.00pm – 8.00pm on Wednesday 8 June. Parents will learn about career education at McCarthy, what resources are available, work experience and what parents can do to assist their children in making decisions about when to leave school and outline the options for today's students eg employment, apprenticeships, School Based Apprenticeships/Traineeships, TAFE, private colleges and university. There will be time for Q & A after the presentation. Parents who wish to attend can RSVP by either phoning the school on 67610800 or returning the slip from the note given to Year 10 students. Please note that the evening is for parents only.

Career Opportunities

Students have attended the Careers Expo; some Year 12 students are being shortlisted for scholarships; a Year 10 student will be attending the Rotary “Careers in Aviation Expo” and there will be some Year 9 and 10 students attending the “Try a Trade” event later in June.

Senior Success programs for Year 11 and Year 12

The final Year 12 Senior Success workshop will be held on Tuesday June 14 between 5.30pm – 7.00pm. This will re-cap some of the important points for Year 12 students and their parents to consider and provide the collective wisdom of many experts in the best way to successfully survive the HSC year. RSVPs to the school are required for catering purposes.

The next Year 11 Senior Success workshop will be held on Tuesday June 14 between 7.00pm – 8.30pm. This workshop will assist students and their Study Support Person in discussing the Year 11 exams, preparing for the coming Parent/Teacher Interviews, provide advice for making the most of Term 3 and what to consider at the end of the Preliminary Year.

Mrs Susan Barrett – Careers Advisor careers@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

BELL SHAKESPEARE ACTORS AT WORK PERFORMANCE

On Thursday 26 May Year 10 Drama Students attended a performance of Shakespeare's 'Scottish Play' - *Macbeth*. It was a worthwhile excursion, especially as students recently completed a study of the famous playwright. The performance displayed how relevant and dynamic Shakespeare's work still is within contemporary Australia. Students experienced a display of excellence in acting which can only benefit their future performance development.

Ms Felicity Sawtell – Drama Teacher

BAND



On Friday 20 May, the newly formed McCarthy College Concert Band and Jazz Band travelled to Gunnedah to participate in their first eisteddfod.

The Jazz Band was the first group to perform. After only being in existence for a term, the band admirably played *In The Mood*. The adjudicator stated that "overall, you captured the style of the piece very well with good use of accents and staccato". He had no idea that it was their first public performance and awarded them first place.

The Concert Band performed two pieces: *Wombat Shuffle* and *The Phantom of the Opera*. The adjudicators' comments included "Good, confident opening. Good ensemble playing throughout the piece. You captured the style very well." They also received first place for their inaugural public performance. (Previously they had only played at assembly).

The Band members were a credit to the school in every manner. The eisteddfod organisers were still commenting on them the next day. Thank you to all the students for their hard work, Mrs Perfrement for her assistance and the lovely parents who came to hear the Bands play.

Mrs Lisa Lane – Instrumental Music Program Director



SPORT



NSW CCC Hockey Championships – Tamworth 26 and 27 May

McCarthy hosted the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Hockey Championships last week. Forty-five teams from throughout NSW competed in around one hundred and twenty games over two days. McCarthy had four teams competing – one in each of the Open Boys, Open A Girls, Open B Girls and Under 16 B Girls Divisions.

The McCarthy Open A Girls team became McCarthy's first ever Open Girls Hockey State champions. In the final they defeated Trinity Lismore 3-1, with Ashley Ninness scoring the first goal and Libby McHugh the next two. In their preliminary games, McCarthy was undefeated, having wins over Trinity Lismore (2-1), MacKillop Bathurst (3-2), O'Connor Armidale (9-0), MacAuley Grafton (3-0) and Trinity Goulburn (3-1). Winning team members were: Lauren Ayres, Georgia Cooper, Madeline Doyle, Morgan Farmilo, Isobel Hazel, Samantha Howard, Lauren MacRae, Caitlin McHugh, Libby McHugh, Ashley Ninness, Bronte Pennefather (goalkeeper), Shannan Purdy and Maegan Watts.

While not experiencing the same level of success, McCarthy's other teams also tried very hard and were great representatives of the school. In a tough division, the Open Boys team's efforts were highlighted by a 6-1 win over Dubbo and a close 5-4 loss to Goulburn. Standout players for the boys were Richard Burke, Kieran MacRae, Isaac Farmilo and Chris Ninness. Meanwhile the Open Girls B team had 2 wins and 2 losses to finish just one place out of the final, The Under 16 B Girls team (whose members were all in Years 7 and 8) competed strongly throughout despite losing their four games.

Thank you to Mr McKenzie and Mr Davy for their efforts in organising and running the carnival. Thank you also to the McCarthy students who helped out at the two venues.

Mr Geoff Denton



Armidale Soccer Gala Day

Last Friday, Armidale hosted the Annual Diocesan Soccer Gala Day in which McCarthy entered three teams: Open Girls, Open Boys and Year 7-10 Boys.

McCarthy had great success with all three teams winning their respective divisions.

The Junior Boys team won their first two games convincingly, accumulating eight unanswered goals. They met O'Connor in the final defeating them 1 – 0 to remain undefeated for the day.

The Open Girls also proved too strong for their opponents accumulating twelve goals for and three against during their first two matches. They then won the final against O'Connor 1 – 0 to be outright winners on the day.

The Open Boys team remained undefeated for the day winning 8 – 3 against O'Connor in their first game. They then played St Marys of Gunnedah beating them 6 – 2.

All three teams now qualify for the next stage of competition in which they will play the winners of the Lismore Diocese: place and time to be confirmed.

I would like to thank Mrs Kate Woolaston and Mr Charlie James for assisting on the day.

Mr Ronny Rindo

Equestrian Team - Moonbi Public School Horse Sports

On Friday 13 May six McCarthy students attended the first Moonbi Public School Horse Sports. The day started with a march past the judges of all the schools. McCarthy team was polished and professional, however the prize went to Moonbi. Ben Collett was awarded Champion Senior Boy Rider, while Sam Collett took out the Reserve Champion Senior Boy Rider. Sian Bricknell was awarded Reserve Champion Senior Girl Rider and Mett Letton Reserve Champion Junior Boy Rider.

Sam Collett, Ben Collett and Emma Trickey won Highest points score in their age division. Matt Letton and Natasha Achurch won Runner Up point score in their age division.

McCarthy Catholic College also won the highest point score for High Schools on the day.



CRL High Schools U/13 and U/15 Country Cup

McCarthy competed in the Country Cup on 25 May. In the Under 15 competition McCarthy had victories over Oxley and Tamworth High Schools. We lost to Peel High by 2 points and to Farrer by two tries.

In the Under 13 division we lost three close games against Peel High, Tamworth High and Farrer A. We won our last game against Farrer B. Max Chillingworth, Jack Cameron, Sam Collett and Nick Ellison all played very well.

EX-STUDENTS NEWS

John Grace – the youngest ever blood donor to reach one hundred donations in NSW.

Candice Quinn – Tamworth psychologist, studying for the final year of her PhD thesis on brain function. She has been invited to attend a summer school in Wales.

Sally Rafferty and Grace Ryan – both in their second year at University and completed a 2 week internship for the RAS at the Sydney Easter Show.

Kevin Humphries – Minister for Mental Health, Healthy Lifestyles and Western NSW in the State Parliament.

Alex Jenkins – in the successful Emu cricket team that toured Western Australia recently.

Geoff Artis – caddy for his finance Rebecca Flood on the European Ladies Golf Tour.

Jason Palmer – in the Tamworth Musical Society production of AIDA recently.

James Cooper – in the South Sydney Toyota Cup Rugby League squad.

Jessica Drury – won the race in her first ride at a city race meeting at Doomben, posting the 91st win of her career.

Shannan Whitney – (class of 1992) director of a Sydney Real Estate company.

Breanna Chillingworth – reporter with Prime Television (Tamworth).