

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

*The Lord your God is with you...
He will take great delight in you.
He will quiet you with his love,
He will rejoice with you with singing.
Zephaniah 3:17*

The simple fact of being...in the presence of the Lord and showing Him all that I think, feel, sense and experience, without trying to hide anything, must please Him. Somehow, somewhere, I know that He loves me, even though I do not feel that love as I can feel human embrace, even though I do not hear a voice as I hear human words of consolation... God is greater than my senses, greater than my thoughts, greater than my heart. I do believe that He is there in places that are unknown even to myself.

Henry Nouwen

Diary Dates

17 June: Cochrane Cup
20 June: CCC Tennis – Bathurst
20 June: Year 12 HSIE Study Day – UNE
20 June: Year 11 Hospitality Workplacement
21 June: ICAS Writing & Spelling Tests
21 June: Association Meeting
22 June: Year 7/11 Parent/Teacher Interviews
22 June: Peel Schools Carnival
23 June: Try A Trade - TAFE
24 June: Whole School Mass
27 June: CCC Basketball finals
27 June: NAIDOC Week
28 June: Year 11 2012 Information Evening
29 June: Year 8/9/10 Parent/Teacher Interviews
30 June: Newcastle University Open Day
1 July: Athletics Carnival
1 July: Last day of Term 2

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Parent Response to Use of Mobile Phones at School

Please find attached to this newsletter a letter regarding the use of mobile phones at school and a request for feedback.

Staff news

Mr Gian Parodi (Mathematics and Music teacher) has tendered his resignation, effective from the last day of this term. Gian will be moving to Italy with his family. His position is currently being advertised in local, Sydney and online media.

Mrs Ashleigh Jones (PDHPE, CFS and RE teacher) will begin Maternity Leave from 22 August. Her position is also being advertised locally.

Appraisal

Thank you to all parents who completed the survey in preparation for my appraisal at the end of the month. The feedback will be used to help establish areas of focus for the next three years. I will provide a more detailed response at the conclusion of the process.

Reports and Parent/Teacher Interviews

Reports for all students in Years 7 – 11 will be distributed during Weeks 8 and 9 this term. This is a really important time for students to focus on what has gone well or not so well. The emphasis is on improvement for next time, with an overall focus on the long-term benefits of consistent effort in all aspects of school life.

The Parent/Teacher Interviews provide a terrific opportunity for parents to touch base generally with class teachers. It is strongly recommended that parents attend the interviews to learn how best to support and encourage improvement in their child/children's learning. It is important to note that the interviews are brief (only about 3-5 minutes each) and that if any parents would like longer discussions with a teacher, an appointment should be made at another time.

Winter Uniforms

Our school uniform dress code is an important part of our overall mission to prepare our students for adulthood: presenting well; taking pride in self and community; appropriate representation of the school in the broader community; and compliance. We would appreciate your support in ensuring students come to school dressed according to that code. In particular, girls pinafores are to be below the knee and correct shoes, including full athletic joggers/sports shoes (not canvas or volleys) and full black leather lace-up school shoes, are mandatory.

Outstanding Student Success

Brittany Coe – NSWCCC Touch team

Dana Constable – NSW All Schools Hockey team

Sophie Heeney – NSW All Schools Cross Country Championships

The Show Team – success at Wingham Beef Week

The Girls' Bill Turner Trophy Soccer team – progress to Round 4

The College Vocal Ensemble and HSC Music students – performed very well at the recent eisteddfod

High achievements in the Australian Geography Competition.

Canteen Volunteers Wanted for the Athletics Carnival

The Athletics Carnival will be held on Friday 1 July (last day of Term 2). Raelee Balderston, our Canteen Manager, is seeking volunteers to assist in the canteen at the carnival. If you are able to spare a couple of hours please contact the canteen on

67610856 or email baldo@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au . We still require further assistance from volunteers in the canteen during Term 3. Please contact the school if you are able to help. Thank you to parents, students and staff who assist during busy times.

Australian Government Assistance for National Capital Excursion (Year 10)

Students from our school have recently undertaken an educational tour of the National Capital. Whilst on this tour, they participated in a variety of educational programs focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. To assist parents in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$30 per eligible student under the Parliament and Civics Rebate (PACER) program toward the travel expenses incurred. This contribution will be paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

We thank the Australian Government for their support of this program.

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Year 12 Twilight Retreat

The second of three Twilight Retreats for Year 12 students was held recently. It was pleasing to see a significant number of students take time out of their busy lives to accept the invitation to spend some time nourishing their spiritual side. The retreat was held at St Nicholas Church and included the opportunity to have discussion, Holy Hour; a quiet time for reflection, and Benediction. At the end of the evening we moved to the Dragon Palace to have a meal together. We thank Fr Gleeson for his continued support of our senior retreats. We are enormously grateful to him for his generosity in working with our students.

Whole School Mass

Mass will be celebrated in all four churches in Tamworth on Friday 24 June – the Feast of St John the Baptist, at 11.30pm.

Students will attend in their House groups as follows:-

MacKillop: St Patricks, West Tamworth

Dominic:

Mary Help of Christians, South Tamworth

Edmund Rice: St Marys, North Tamworth

Chisholm:

St Nicholas, East Tamworth

Parents and friend are most welcome to join us for Mass.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

PASTORAL CARE

Welcome

We welcome Maddison Young (Year 9) and her family to the McCarthy community.

Condolences

Our sympathy and prayers go to Ben and Sam Collett and their family following the death of their grandfather.

Families with Separation

The following courses are being offered by the Family Relationship Centre (Ph: 67629200). There is no cost.

Teens in Between – helps teens deal with the divorce or separation of their parents: Thursday 30 June and Friday 1 July 9.30am to 3.30pm.

Building Connections – 2 x 3 hour seminars to help separated parents have good relationships with their children: Monday 20 and 27 June 9.30am –12.30pm, Monday 4 and 11 July 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Winter Health

If your child has a cold, please supply as appropriate tissues, lozenges etc. It would be greatly appreciated if all parents could remind their child of hygienic behaviours such as covering the mouth when coughing or sneezing, washing hands often and disposing of tissues correctly. If your child is very ill please keep them at home so they can recover more quickly and the chance of cross infection is reduced.

Contact

If there are any changes to your contact details please inform the school immediately.

Theme for the Week

"After the Exams are Over" was the subject for discussion during Week 7. Students were encouraged to check the marking of their papers, listen carefully to comments made by their teachers, file their papers effectively, identify areas of work that need further revision and to undertake study based on the feedback provided by their teachers and their own exam analysis.

The topic for Week 8 was *'Things Better Left Unsaid'*. Swearing, verbal bullying and gossiping were considered.

'Blessed are those who listen for they shall learn.' - Anonymous

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

CAREERS NEWS

In recent weeks, we have had:

- some Year 10 students participating in Work Experience after their exams
- students in Years 9 and 10 attending the "Try a Trade" session at TAFE
- Year 12 students attending a talk on preparing resumes for work, scholarship and accommodation applications
- over fifty parents of Year 10 students attend the Parent Career Information evening.

The coming July holidays is a time when Year 12 students and their families are encouraged to travel, if it is convenient, to Sydney and other places to visit universities and colleges before the busy Term 3 commences. It is not always convenient to attend open days and most institutions will gladly show you around their facilities and answer questions about courses if you phone and make an appointment.

The planning for the final careers excursion for 2011 is underway for the Newcastle University Schools Visit Day on Thursday 30 June. All other open days will be held on weekends. A list of dates is on the Careers Noticeboard at the front of the library. The University Information evening for this year will be held from 7.00pm - 8.30pm on Wednesday 27 July for interested parents and students contemplating university study.

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

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 on Tuesday 21 June.

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.

HSIE

Year 10 and 11 Geography students took part recently in the National Geographic Channel Australian Geography Competition. As part of the competition, students were required to demonstrate their knowledge about global and local issues with questions on the major flooding in Pakistan, the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, asylum seekers entering industrialised countries and regional trade.

A number of student geographers at our school gained impressive results in the competition.

High Distinction: Nathan Adams, Alexandra King, Shae Parsons, Ellie Stanley

Distinction: Jerome Studdy, Lexie Cotter, Ryan Gleeson, Chloe Johnson, Kate Lumber, Sarah Robinson, Laura Swanborough, Ryan Taylor, Leo Steyn

Credit: Luke Dillon, Luke Fulwood, Harrison Kuczer, Harry Vella, Joseph Bennett, James Dunn, Christian Rice.

Mrs Louise Vella – HSIE Coordinator

MARY POPPINS

Forty-five students travelled to Sydney on Wednesday 1 June to see the musical "Mary Poppins" at the Capital Theatre. The musical was an absolute delight, leaving all students wanting more. The musical was exhilarating - elaborate costuming, magnificently designed sets, exquisite singing and dancing, and of course, there was Mary Poppins, holding her umbrella, flying across the ceiling of the Capital Theatre. It was truly a most rewarding experience for all. A sincere thank you to Miss Felicity Sawtell and Mr James Vella who accompanied myself and the students.

Mrs Suzanne Perfrement – Acting Creative Arts Coordinator

HOSPITALITY



McCarthy Chef Challenge is a “Serve Food and Beverage” task where each team is required to present four interesting canapés for tasting. Staff came to the tasting and voted for their favourite team’s canapés. This year we had Mr Rob Manvell from Antilles Coffee as a special guest. Congratulations to all Year 12 Hospitality students who took part in our McCarthy Chef Challenge. The quality of dishes was very impressive and the students worked exceptionally well in their teams. Thank you to all staff, and in particular Mrs Julia O’Neill and Mrs Angela Milek for their help and participation.

Year 11 Hospitality students are attending mandatory workplacement in Weeks 9 and 10 of this term. Students are reminded that full uniform is a requirement to meet industry standards. They will need to be prepared for their workplacement week and have some important forms that need to be signed and finalised this week.

Year 11 also have a special guest butcher, Mr Glenn Wade, in our class today to prepare us for our cookery task in the “Organise and Prepare Food” unit. Glenn demonstrates some great skills for the students. It is a wonderful practical lesson and students will need to be in immaculate uniform and bring along the equipment to transport their products home as discussed in class.

Mrs Raelene Maxworthy – Hospitality Teacher

WINGHAM SHOW

Earlier this term a group of show team members travelled to compete in the Wingham Beef Week competition. This was the most successful show in the history of the McCarthy Catholic College Show Team.

Beef Week had a decidedly educational focus, with students attending lectures, career seminars, judging competitions and educational workshops. The McCarthy team made a statement in our new show shirts, sponsored by Coopers Animal Health, and got the judges talking about the quality presentation of our students. I thank Liz Watt and Rod Kent for organising these professional show shirts for the Wingham team.

Each of the team members were able to compete in a number of varied judging competitions ranging from identifying important breeds of cattle and feed sources, through to judging individual cattle based on their suitability for different markets. Eliza Quinn was successful, placing 3rd overall in the intermediate Junior Judging competition after delivering a convincing oral presentation on her decisions.

On the second day of competition the entire team competed, with most students placing in the paraders classes. Sam Collett was awarded 2nd place in the junior competition, Ben Collett placed 4th in a large field of over 50 competitors, Eliza Quinn won her age group which numbered over 70 entrants and Stephanie Watt won the senior division.

The following day saw our unled entries “Col” placing 4th and “Tyler” placing 2nd in their respective hoof classes. In the show ring, Stephanie Watt led “Oscar” to win the Light Middleweight Class. Ben Collett won 1st place in the Heavy Middleweight class, then going on to impress the judge to win Grand Champion Led Steer. This is an honour for McCarthy and a credit to Ben for displaying great showmanship. Ben was recognised for his efforts both in and out of the show ring, being named the Intermediate Herdsperson for the show.

The team suited up to visit the Wingham abattoirs for a chance to view our carcasses; an opportunity unique to Wingham Beef Week. A very busy day of competitions saw McCarthy win more ribbons for the hook classes, with our steers “Jackson” and “Oscar” both placing 2nd in their classes. Our unled steer “Tyler” went on to place 3rd in the carcass competition and “Col” placed 1st and then was awarded Grand Champion Carcass. This is the first time in the history of the show team that McCarthy has won this trophy at any show. It was a very memorable and exciting end to a fantastic week of education, fun and competitions. I would like to thank Rob Maxwell, who transported the cattle to the show, prepared and polished cattle, encouraged and educated competitors, and provided us all with a fantastic campsite.

Miss Leanne Sjollema – Show Team Coordinator



SPORT

Hockey

Congratulations to Dana Constable on her selection this week in the NSW All Schools Under 16 Hockey team. She will compete at the National Hockey Championships at Newcastle in August.

NSW CCC Touch Football Trials

Last week Kathleen Ferguson, Luke Dillon, Brittany Coe, Chloe Coe, Bridget Kerrigan and Brodie Ingram attended the NSWCCC Touch trials at Penrith. Congratulations to Brittany Coe who gained selection in the NSWCCC team for the third year in a row.

NSW CCC Cross Country Championships

Congratulations to Sophie Heeney on placing fourth in the NSW CCC Championships at Eastern Creek recently. She has been selected to compete at NSW All Schools Cross Country Championships in July.

Bill Turner Trophy – Under 15 Girls Soccer

McCarthy recently played Round 3 of the Bill Turner Trophy competition against Gunnedah High School. The game was played in Tamworth under very cool conditions.

Both teams seemed evenly matched and Gunnedah opened the scoring with a well constructed passage of play resulting in a well deserved goal. McCarthy responded in minutes with a beautiful goal from Hope Martin to level the score at half time.

The second half saw both teams in a stale-mate until McCarthy was awarded a penalty shot due to an obvious hand ball. Julianna Bruno made no mistake in scoring the penalty, giving McCarthy the lead 2 – 1, which was the full time score.

McCarthy played Tenterfield High School yesterday at Tenterfield in Round 4. Results will be in the next newsletter.

Thank you to Liz Doherty for assisting with the team on the day and in preparation.

Mr Ronny Rindo

Country Schools Rugby Union

Congratulations to Daniel Carr and George Rixon on their selection to the NSW Country Schools 1st XV. The boys will attend the NSW All Schools Trials next week in Sydney.

Indigenous Rugby

Congratulations to Kerrod Binge and Dylan Pascoe, who travelled to Armidale to brave the icy, wet conditions on Tuesday 31 May to participate in the Indigenous Rugby Discovery Day.

Both boys showcased their skills brilliantly which lead them to be selected for the Northern NSW Championships to be held in Coffs Harbour on 30 June and 1 July.

If selected at the Coffs Harbour Championships they will then have the opportunity to compete in the prestigious Lloyd McDermott National 16's Championships to be held in Sydney later this year.