

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

O Lord, what a variety of things you have made!

In wisdom you have made them all.

The earth is full of your creatures. Psalm 104:24

Experience God in the wonder and beauty that is around you!

His sun shines warm upon your face.

His wind whispers in the treetops.

Like the first ray of morning light, celebrate the start of each day with God.

(Wendy Moore)

Diary Dates

8 Sept:	School Social
9 Sept:	Walkathon
13 Sept:	Year 12 Twilight Retreat
14 Sept:	Year 12 Farewell Mass 6pm St Nicholas
15 Sept:	Year 11 Exams
16 Sept:	CCC Athletics
20 Sept:	Cybersmart Outreach Program
22 Sept:	Year 12 Farewell Assembly
23 Sept:	End of Term 3
10 Oct:	Pupil Free Day
11 Oct:	Term 4 commences
13 Oct:	HSC commences

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Pupil-Free Day

Teaching and support staff joined on Monday for a professional development day on Positive Schools. The Positive Schools project uses positive psychology to build a school philosophy that enables each member of the community to perform optimally due to general wellbeing. When staff, students and parents flourish, outcomes are better for all. Some new material on Positive Schools and on general wellbeing will be made available on the College website, through links on MOODLE.

Dominican Sisters' Farewell

On Monday, staff farewelled the Dominican Sisters at a luncheon hosted by the school. The lunch was attended by Sr Kath Maher OP, Sr Patricia Cregan OP and Sr Geraldine Maher OP, the only Sisters remaining in Tamworth at this time., Mr John Mula (Diocesan Director of Catholic Schools) and Mrs Patricia Thornberry (Chair of the McCarthy Board) also attended the farewell.

Congratulations are extended to Mrs Maxworthy and the eighteen outstanding students who prepared and presented the lunch.

The Dominican Sisters arrived in Tamworth in 1876 and have been working selflessly for the community ever since. Links to McCarthy Catholic College have been long and strong. McCarthy grew from roots with St Dominic's Convent and Christian Brothers College. In 1972, Sr Patricia Rowe began the McCarthy story by establishing a new senior school on the current site. The College annual Dux Award is named in her honour. Sr Teresa Cathie was the foundation Principal of Our Lady of the Rosary College, which opened in 1981. Sr June Peck was the last Religious Principal of McCarthy Catholic Senior High School, completing her appointment in 1991. Sr Kath and Sr Geraldine worked for many years as members of the Pastoral Care team of Our Lady of the Rosary College and Sr Geraldine moved to the new McCarthy Catholic College following the amalgamation of the two schools. All of the Sisters, including Sr Patricia, have worked as pastoral assistants in the parishes for many years.

The McCarthy community is very sad to be losing 'our' Sisters but we are honoured and very grateful for the dedicated and loving service and witness the Sisters have given over so many years. We will be continuing our links with the Dominican order and will maintain the Dominican and Christian Brothers charism long into the future.

We wish the Sisters God's blessing and best wishes as they move into the next chapter of their lives.

For further information on the Dominican story in Tamworth, please use the following link:

<http://www.arm.catholic.edu.au/about/history/tamworth/st-nicholas-parish/tamworthareligious.htm>



Important Opportunity/Cyber-safety

After three years attempting to gain access to the government's Cyber-safety program we have finally been offered a date: Tuesday 20 September.

The Cybersmart Outreach Program is a national cyber-safety education program managed by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (the ACMA), as part of the Australian Government's commitment to promoting online safety for children and young people.

The Cybersmart Outreach Program aims to:

- **Inform** children, parents, teachers and library staff about cyber-safety issues
- **Educate** audiences through information, resources and practical advice

- **Empower** children to be safe online.

The Cybersmart Outreach team will be at our school on Tuesday 20 September. They will run three sessions on the day.

Session 1: for students 2.00pm – 3.00pm

Session 2: for staff 3.20pm – 5.00pm

Session 3: for parents 7.00pm – 9.00pm

This is an excellent and rare opportunity. I highly recommend attendance at the parent session.

Higher School Certificate

Higher School Certificate Drama practical examinations were held on Friday 2 September and Board of Studies representatives were in the school on Tuesday 6 September to mark the HSC Design and Technology major works. Congratulations are extended to Ms Sawtell, Mr Belson and the students involved for the high quality of work presented.

Year 12

Next Tuesday our Year 12 students will participate in their final voluntary Twilight Retreat and join parents and staff in a thanksgiving Farewell Mass on Wednesday evening at St Nicholas' Church. The school will hold the Formal Farewell Assembly for the students on Thursday 22 September.

Staff News

This week we welcomed Mr Tim Godden to McCarthy. Tim is a Mathematics teacher and will replace Mr Gian Parodi.

Mrs Ashleigh Jones and her husband Adam welcomed a new baby son, Cooper, into the world last week. Cooper is a baby brother to Riley. We congratulate Ashleigh and Adam and wish them well.

Walkathon

Friday 9 September (tomorrow) is the McCarthy annual walkathon day. This is a very big day for our school community. Many parents would be aware that the walkathon forms the basis of our fundraising efforts for Catholic Mission. Last year's walkathon raised over \$28 000, enabling us to build a complete school in Kilikiliki, Zambia. This effort made us the most successful fundraising school in the world for the Missions. The school has been recognised locally, nationally and internationally for the extraordinary results from this community charity event.

This year we hope to continue to support the Missions by raising enough funds to build another school, this time in Malawi. We are the only school in the world to be given our own projects of this magnitude and it is an enormous credit to the developing sense of awareness and charity in our students.

We are grateful for the family support given to this event.

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Satisfaction Surveys

All students were given the opportunity this week to complete their online survey during class time. The results of this survey, along with the responses from parents and staff, will be published later this year on the MySchool website. Thank you to everyone for your participation in this initiative.

Summer Uniform

The last two weeks of term will be a changeover period for uniform. Students may wear either full winter uniform or full summer uniform for Weeks 9 and 10. All students are expected to be in summer uniform at the commencement of Term 4. Please take the time to check the length of your daughter's dress over the holidays. Dresses are expected to be below the knee. We appreciate your support for our uniform policy.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Vinnies

The Vinnies Winter Appeal has been finalised and we will be able to donate \$1,400 directly to this appeal. We have also contributed over twenty bags of clothing to a local store as a result of a 'Dress a Homeless Person' competition held in Homeclasses. We are very grateful to all who contributed to this, and also to the other fundraising activities which were conducted over the past two terms. We would like to thank the enthusiastic Vinnies leaders and other Year 12 members who organised most of these activities.

Alternative To Schoolies

Catholic Mission has organised the following immersion program which is designed to provide Year 12 school leavers with both an alternative to 'Schoolies' and a valuable life experience. For more information contact us at the school.

'Alternative To Schoolies'

Get Involved Globally Immersion Experience in Kiribati and Fiji

November 23 – December 7, 2011

World Youth Day Travellers

Several past McCarthy students attended the recent World Youth Day in Madrid. Following are some of their comments on their experience. These reflect very favourably on the young people involved and indicate the value of an event like WYD for the church.

'Through this World Youth Day pilgrimage, I have come to realise how amazingly beautiful, strong and valid our Church is in these modern times that have so many troubles and crises. I am already looking into and planning to attend World Youth Day 2013 in Brazil.' 'Tomorrow we have the Stations of the Cross throughout the city and then Saturday is the pilgrimage to the vigil sleep out in Madrid where the Pope will say Mass on the Sunday morning. Just being among so many young Catholics is incredible and really strengthens my faith! Can't wait to share everything with you. I've heard so many amazing testimonies and have met so many inspirational people!'

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

PASTORAL CARE

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jessica Collier and Laura Cryer and their families following the passing of their grandfathers.

Merit Awards

Congratulations to the following students who have been presented with a Certificate of Achievement:

Year 12: James Forsythe, Gemma Myers

Year 10: James Dunn, Harry Vella

Year 9: Thomas Paff

Year 8: Caitlyn Butler, Bridget Galvin, Lauren Macrae, Nicholas Sanderson, Connor Wieland

Year 7: Emily Klepzig, Hayley Littlejohns, Madeleine Northey, Patrick Sparke.

Healthy Schools, Healthy Futures

I wish to remind parents this week is the last opportunity to return Healthy Schools, Healthy Futures permission notes to the office.

Your child's participation in this program will reap benefits in the future.

Theme of the Week

Week 8 has been *The Time To..... Find Our Forte, Tame Our Inbox and Follow Our Moral Compass*.

Laughter is a wonderful thing to share. It reduces stress, makes us feel better and brings us together. In Week 7 we talked about these benefits and shared some jokes. It is necessary for adolescents to understand that there are jokes suitable for different situations, that racist and sexist jokes are unacceptable, and that it is a good idea to remember some jokes that are suitable in any company. It is also vital to appreciate the difference between laughing with and laughing at someone. Congratulations in particular to DAJ, ESD, MJA, DSB EAP, MJW, MGP and CML for their fun contributions. Here are some jokes that can be shared with the family:

- ☺ What do you call Postman Pat when her retires? Pat (MJA)
- ☺ Why did the frog cross the road? To see his flat mate (MPC)
- ☺ What do you call a laptop that plays Rolling in the Deep? A Dell (CMB)
- ☺ What do you call a dinosaur with no eyes? A doyouthinkhesaurus. (CIM)

A family that laughs together is more likely to stay together.

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

SPORTS SHOES

There has been a significant increase in the number of students, particularly girls, wearing canvas style shoes or Dunlop volleys as part of their sports uniform. These shoes are not acceptable as part of the school PDHPE uniform.

Students will not be permitted to participate in practical PDHPE lessons if they are wearing this type of footwear, even if they have a note. These shoes offer minimal stability, traction and protection.

Mr Ian McKenzie – PDHPE Coordinator

CAREERS NEWS

The most hectic term, careers-wise, is nearing an end. There have been guest speakers, information evenings, EAS and early entry forms to be filled in, scholarships to be applied for, online applications to be made and deadlines to be met. There is also an upcoming excursion to the TAFE Aeroskills facility at the airport.

Important dates coming up for Year 12 students are 30 September for on time applications for university and the end of October deadline for popular TAFE courses.

Year 10 students have made their subject choices, some are doing work experience, others have applied for TVET courses and school based apprenticeships or traineeships while others are preparing to seek full-time employment after completing the School Certificate.

I will be away on sick leave during part of Week 9 and can be contacted via email at the address below by parents or students.

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

DRAMA HSC EXAMINATION

On Friday 2 September students in Year 12 completed their HSC Drama Performance exams. The students have been working hard on their performances for several months and should be very proud of their achievements. I wish to thank the students and teachers (too many to list) who assisted in making the day run smoothly.

Ms Felicity Sawtell – Drama Teacher

PARENT INFORMATION

Thank you to those parents who have attended our informative talkback sessions with Mrs Kate Rayment. Our September meeting will be replaced by the Cybersmart Program for parents at 7.00pm on Tuesday 20 September. We encourage all parents to attend this essential session.

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.

COACHING CLINIC

Last weekend the McCarthy Show team had the chance to participate in a school-based coaching clinic which concentrated on improving their junior judging, parading, cattle handling and presentation skills. Mr Neville Farrowell taught how to assess the quality of stud cattle and judge cattle for kill classes. Mr Chris Law took the time to instruct the students on the finer details of ring craft and showmanship. Mr Robert Maxwell demonstrated the skills needed to present cattle to a level acceptable for the show ring. After a BBQ lunch, cooked by our own 'master chefs in the making' Darcy Doyle (7) and Will Keogh (7), the students competed in a mock judging class. The overjudge, Mr Chris Law, announced "Lonestar" our best steer, and Tiarna Rootes (7), having placed all animals correctly was announced first in this practice class, followed by Jasmine Whitten (9) and Paul Murphy (8). All students who attended enjoyed themselves immensely and gained a great deal of knowledge and practice in each of the three key focus areas. They have been using the subsequent cattle afternoons to practice their new skills, and hopefully will have a chance to demonstrate some of what they have learned in upcoming shows. Our appreciation goes out to the coaches who gave up their time to work with the McCarthy Show Team on a weekend.



Miss Leanne Sjollema – Agriculture Teacher

The Junior students listening carefully to the advice from Mr Chris Law.

SPORT

NSWCCC Athletics

The following students will be travelling to Homebush next week to compete in various events at the NSWCCC Athletics Championships: Sophie Heeney, Chloe Moyses, Megan Murphy, Alice Read, Mikhaila Stockdale, Mikala Dimmock, Jack Cameron, Sam Collett, Jayden Gimbergh, Rhett Graham, Bradley Thrift, Aaron Ritchie and Nathan Leehy. We wish them well.

Girls Hockey

The Secondary Girls Hockey semi-finals were played on Monday 29 August. McCarthy had three teams win their major semi-final and progress directly to the grand final on Monday 12 September. The McCarthy first division team defeated an understrength Oxley team 9-0, with goals from Libby McHugh (4), Shannan Purdy (3), Morgan Farmilo and Georgia Cooper. Sam Howard and Lauren Murphy scored for McCarthy Black in their hard fought 2-0 victory in division 2A. The McCarthy Red Year 7 team defeated Calrossy Purple 2-0 in division 3B in another tough game. Goals in this game were scored by Hayley Littlejohns and Prue Davies. The McCarthy Blue team, coached by Mr Davy, had a 0-0 draw in their division 3B minor semi-final against Calrossy Yellow. This allowed them to progress to the preliminary final on 5 September by virtue of finishing higher after the 'regular season' games. A special mention must be made of McCarthy Gold, our other team who were unlucky to miss the semi-finals in division 2A. This team was comprised of a delightful group of Year 8 girls, along with Year 12 goalie Gemma. All members of the team were reliable and enthusiastic and they were outstanding representatives of McCarthy.

Netball

McCarthy had three teams – Chicks, Powerpoints and Calippos – compete in the grand finals of Tamworth Netball Association Competition last Saturday. Congratulations to the Powerpoints who were successful on the day: Sarah Adams, Eliza Connell, Rhiannon Graham, Meg Hobson, Georgia King, Tess O'Connor, Cara Paterson, Emily Reid, Sophie Reid and Kim Taggart. The Chicks and Calippos were runner-ups.

Thank you to the coaches/managers for their continued support throughout the season.