

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

I stayed awake all night,
prayerfully pondering your promise...
You're the closest of all to me, God,
and all your judgements true.
(Psalm 119:148,151)

Prayer is by nature a dialogue between man and God.
It unites the soul with its Creator and reconciles the two.
Its effect is to hold the world together
(John of the Ladder)

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Walkathon



The annual walkathon, held on 23 September, was again a tremendous success. The aims of community building, social justice awareness, fitness and fundraising were all met and it was a very good day for all involved. It is a shame that some students chose not to attend because they missed a terrific experience and the opportunity to be of service to others in a very tangible way. The event raised \$20,000 for the Catholic Mission. The funds will contribute to the construction of a school in Malawi, Africa.

Mr Barry Irwin (Diocesan Director of Maitland Newcastle Diocese and National Project Manager for School Fundraising for the Mission) visited the school on Tuesday 25 October to thank the school for the incredible effort for the African communities and to present a letter of gratitude from the Parish Priest of Lusaka. He also invited representatives from the school to attend the official opening of the school we 'built' in Kilikiliki, Zambia, in January. Any financial support that would assist us to send representatives to the opening would be gratefully received. McCarthy has contributed over \$100,000 to the Mission through the annual walkathons held over the past 5 years.

Gratitude is extended to Luke Adams, the driving force behind the walkathon initiative.

Hats

A decision has been made to allow students to wear an appropriate hat of their choice during outdoor activities at school for the remainder of this year. The hats will not be permitted to be worn with the uniform outside the school grounds. From 2012 it will be mandatory for students to wear a school hat during PDHPE and Agriculture classes held outdoors. All students are encouraged to sit in the shade, apply sunscreen (provided) and wear a hat at recess and lunch time when outdoors. School hats and caps are available for purchase from the office. Please contact Donna Forrest for sales.

Brittany Coe

Brittany Coe is a Year 10 student who has had outstanding success in the sporting arena. This week she returned from a week in Coffs Harbour where she competed for NSW in the U15 National Touch Championships. Brittany is a modest achiever and an outstanding ambassador of McCarthy. She has also been selected in the U18 Australian National Youth Squad that will tour New Zealand in 2013. Brittany is only 15.

Year 10

A letter will go home this week to parents/carers of students in Year 10 regarding the arrangements for the remainder of the year. Year 10 students are required to attend school until Friday 9 December.

Staffing

Mrs Carol McHugh has resigned from her position as Science teacher at McCarthy, effective from the end of this year. Mrs McHugh has been on leave throughout 2011 and was replaced, in a temporary position, by Mr Charlie James. The position will be advertised in local and Sydney media.

Applications for the temporary Mathematics teacher position and the Counsellor position close tomorrow. Interviews will be conducted next week.

Teacher appraisals will commence in Week 6.

Diary Dates

7 Nov:	School Certificate
8 Nov:	School Certificate
9 Nov:	School Certificate
9 Nov:	Year 7-9 Exams
10 Nov:	Year 7-9 Exams
11 Nov:	Year 7-9 Exams
11 Nov:	Trivia "Fun Raiser" Night
14 Nov:	Year 12 Graduation Dinner
14 Nov:	Year 7-9 Exams
15 Nov:	Year 7-9 Exams
15 Nov:	Association Meeting
16 Nov:	Legal Studies Excursion
18 Nov:	Year 9/10 Girls Touch Finals
22 Nov:	Year 8 ESSA Exam
25 Nov:	McCarthy's Got Talent
28 Nov:	Year 9 Tea Gardens Excursion
29 Nov:	Information Evening for Parents 2012
30 Nov:	Orientation Day Year 7 2012

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Thank you to all families who supported McCarthy Catholic College by bringing in Coles and Woolies vouchers. Both programmes are now complete and the school will benefit from the effort made. Thank you to Mrs Jones and Mr Thornton for managing the Coles vouchers, and to the SLC, particularly School Captain Emily Murray, for managing the Woolies vouchers.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Whole School Mass

We attended Mass as a whole school on All Souls Day this week. Thank you to the priests who celebrated Mass and to those parents, friends and parishioners who joined us.

St Vinnies

The Office Bearers of the St Agnes Conference of the Society of St Vincent de Paul, for 2012 have been elected.

President: Maegan Watts

Vice Presidents: Lesley Wong and Shannen Lyon

Secretary: Shae Parsons.

We look forward to a great year; already new ideas for fundraising and ways to support the work of Vinnies are being put forward.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

PASTORAL CARE

URGENT

The school is working in partnership with Hunter New England Health on a four year project called *Healthy Schools, Healthy Futures*. The first stage is the collection of data. The more complete and representative the data, the better we will be able to implement strategies to benefit our students and indeed the whole school community. If you have forgotten to send in permission forms for the student survey, or have not yet completed the parent survey, *please do so as soon as possible*.

PCYC Program

The Police and Community Youth Club is running a program in Coledale at Granny Munro Park, 4.00pm – 9.00pm every Friday night until Friday 16 December. Supervised fun and safe activities will include sports, BBQ's, discos and movies. Young children must be accompanied by an adult.

Family Relationship Centre Program

"The Explosive Child: How to Manage Extreme Behaviour" program will run on Thursdays, 3 and 10 November from 5.30pm to 8.30pm at the Centre, corner of Bridge and Hercules Streets. For further information, phone 67629200.

Theme of the Week

During the first four weeks of term we are concentrating on *Exam Preparation* and *Study Skills* as Years 7, 8 and 9 prepare for their Semester 2 Examinations, Year 10 their School Certificate and Year 11 their first HSC assessment tasks. Good organisation and persistence will help students in this preparation. Please see your child's School Planner (pages xiii-xiv, 10-15, 20-21) for more information on Good Habits for Success and Study Skills.

"Perhaps the most valuable result of education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not." – Thomas Huxley

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

TEACHING AND LEARNING

School Certificate

Year 10 School Certificate Exams will take place on Monday 7 November (English and Science), Tuesday 8 November (Mathematics and History/Geography) and Wednesday 9 November (Computer Skills). Students are reminded to have the equipment they need for these exams, eg calculators, geometry sets etc. Students should also make sure they are at school by 8.30am in preparation for these exams.

HSC

We are half-way through the HSC and I would like to congratulate students on the mature approach they have taken to these important external exams. We wish students all the best for their remaining exams.

Yearly Exams Years 7-9

Exams for Years 7-9 will begin on 9 November. The timetable for these exams will be on the school website and a copy has been distributed to students. Students are encouraged to prepare for these exams by revising set work, and ensuring that they have all necessary equipment, eg calculator, ruler, geometry set.

Europe 2012

Organisation of the Europe Trip for 2012 is well under way. All students intending to travel on this excursion need to email Mrs McHugh to be added to the contact list. denny123@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au Our group will leave on 5 April and return on 26 April

2012. We will be visiting Italy, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium and France. A copy of the itinerary is available from the office.

Ms Denise McHugh – Teaching and Learning Coordinator

CAREERS NEWS

Year 12

Students who receive early round university offers are advised to follow instructions and keep all paperwork involved. You can accept an early offer by making the course your first preference, then defer and change preferences if desired, before the main round closes in early January.

Year 10

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, any student intending to do work experience after the School Certificate must follow the steps involved and complete all necessary paperwork BEFORE they can commence work experience. This can take time to complete so please take this into consideration. Not all workplaces meet work experience insurance conditions and as such, sometimes work experience is not possible. Details of what is involved can be found at: <http://www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au/careers/>

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

VET NEWS

Last Wednesday, 19 October, Jacalyn Dillon and Eliza Richards competed in Worldskills for Business Services Administration. The students had to complete a range of tasks relating to Business Administration within a three hour time frame. Eliza placed second and Jacalyn placed fourth. Well done on a fantastic effort.

Hospitality students have been busy learning how to prepare and serve Espresso Coffee and are getting better every day. We hope to have a guest coffee artist demonstrate some tricks of the trade in the coming weeks.

TVET students are reminded to give their TAFE teacher a continuing form.

Year 10 students have begun their expression of interests for TVET courses for 2012.

Mrs Raelene Maxworthy – VET Coordinator

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Congratulations to the following Junior Band members who successfully passed their Grade 1 Band Exam this week and earn promotion to the Concert Band:

Carl Herden - Percussion

Abigail Constable - Flute

Gabrielle Studdy - Baritone Sax

Shanice Madden – Mellophone.

Mrs Lisa Lane – Band Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Mango Fundraiser

Thank you to the families who placed orders for mangoes. They will be available for collection in the first week of December. (Actual date is yet to be confirmed).



Trivia Night Fun Raiser

On Friday 11 November (Remembrance Day) The Association will be holding a Trivia Night at the school. The focus is on **fun** not fund raising, hence "Fun Raiser". A flyer will be sent home with your child and is also available on the website for you to print out. It promises to be a fun evening with a lot of games and trivia.

Tables of 8 can be booked either at the office, by phoning 67610800, emailing admin@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au or by returning the slip at the bottom of the flyer to the office. Please see flyer for full details. Tables must be booked by 9 November.

What year was Marilyn Munroe born?

What is the population of Tamworth?

What is the deadliest spider in the world?

Hope to see you there, it promises to be a night full of fun....and full of trivia!

Our next meeting will be Tuesday 15 November. Please come along with any suggestions or ideas you may have. We look forward to seeing you there.

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.

PDHPE

Year 7 PDHPE classes have swimming during their double practical lessons pending pool availability. Notices have been distributed to the students.

Mr Ian McKenzie – PDHPE Coordinator

CANTEEN NEWS

Term 4 Special – A bike for Christmas?

We have received a van De Freestyle bike from our supplier *Drury's Wholesale*. Thank you Patrick York for organising this reward for us. The Canteen group has decided to offer a meal deal for Term 4 to assist in raffling off this reward. Whenever a student or staff member purchases our meal deal they will gain an entry into the bike raffle. The lucky winner will be advised and receive their new bike on the last day of term.

Meal Deal: Chicken or Ham Salad Roll + a bottle of water = \$5.00.

When ordering students/staff need to state Chicken or Ham Meal Deal and we will do the rest.

Red Days Term 4 are planned for:

Thursday 10 November: Nachos (without beans) will be included on lunch orders
Thursday 24 November: Ham and cheese croissants will be included on lunch orders

Can you help?

If you are in a position to volunteer during Term 4, even for one day, we would love to hear from you. We are struggling to find helpers on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. If you, a family member or friend is interested in interacting with others, learning new skills, engaging with the students and having a laugh, do not hesitate to contact Raelee on 67610856 or baldo@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

SPORT

Australian All Schools Touch Football

Brittany Coe was a member of the NSW team who competed at the Under 15 Australian All Schools Touch Tournament in Coffs Harbour last week. On the first day of the round robin tournament, NSW defeated ACT 12 – 0 and Tasmania 17 – 0 with Brittany scoring 9 tries. Day 2 saw NSW defeat South Australia 7 – 0 and Northern Territory 19 – 0. Unfortunately, Queensland defeated NSW 4 – 1. On the final day of the round robin, NSW defeated Victoria 21 – 0 and Western Australia 12 – 0. In the nail-biting gold medal play-off, the scores were locked at 3 all with Queensland scoring with minutes remaining. Unfortunately, NSW had a try disallowed in the dying moments after the advantage rule was not applied.

Congratulations to Brittany for winning a silver medal.

Cricket

The Open's Downie Shield Cricket team played O'Connor Catholic College from Armidale on Thursday 20 October. Luke Paterson (55) top scored for McCarthy and Jack Cameron (37) also played an important innings. McCarthy scored 156. Felix Bruno picked up 2 wickets and O'Connor successfully chased down the total after 27 overs. Thanks to all the boys for their great sportsmanship and for the school spirit they displayed on the day. Also thank you to Mr Davy and Mr Mitchell for assisting on the day.

Matthew Dunn

Soccer

The Mark 'Gilbert' Goddard Rising star award recognises young talent in the Oxley Vale-Attunga Football Club, and is awarded to somebody who is achieving on and off the field. Recently at the OVA presentation night James Dunn was presented with this award. James is noted by fellow players as both a good player and a good person. He is a talented football player who is committed to his team, OVA Reserve Grade in the Northern Inland Premier League competition. James is a determined sportsman with a positive attitude.

James Dunn (centre) with his award (Rising Star) and other nominees.



Netball

Any student who will not be playing Netball next season, and would like to sell their uniform can label it with name, price and phone number and send it in to Mrs Burt at school for resale. Once it is sold, you will be contacted to make arrangements for collection of money.