

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

God, I know I'm going to be very busy today.
 Help me not to be so busy I miss the most important things.
 Help me not to be too busy listening to other voices,
 that I fail to hear your voice speaking to me.
 Help me not to be too busy to sit still for a moment and be thankful.
Amen

Reflection: "Prayer is, first of all, listening to God. It is openness.
 God is always speaking; he is always doing something. A spiritual life
 without prayer is like the Gospel without Christ. The real 'work' of prayer
 is to become silent and listen to the voice that says good things about
 me. Prayer is not what is done by us, but rather what is done by the Holy
 Spirit in us. To pray is to walk in the full light of God and to simply say,
 without holding back, 'I am human and you are God'.
Henri Nouwen

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Sincere Thanks

I received a beautiful card from Marie, Christian, Claire and Evan Rice last week and I pass on, with Marie's permission, the following message:

To all the McCarthy Catholic College staff and loving families

I cannot thank you enough nor adequately express our thanks and gratitude for the magnitude of love, support, kindness and practical help you have given my family and I since Julian's death. You are a sign of God's Kingdom on earth and I thank God for you all..... God bless you all.

Staffing

I am pleased to announce the following appointments:
 Miss Erin Wilde – English/Religious Education (replacing Mr Julian Rice)
 Miss Frances Mumford – Science (replacing Miss Karen Dickinson)
 Mrs Lisa Lane – Instrumental Music Program (permanency)

Enrolments

Applications for enrolment in Round 1 close on Thursday 5 April. If you know anyone with a Year 6 child in a Catholic school, please remind them of this date as late applications will not be considered until Round 2.

Annual General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting of the Board and Association were held on Tuesday. The following positions were commissioned:

Board

Chair:	Mrs Trish Thornberry
Secretary:	Mrs Vicki Cooper
Association Representative:	Mrs Laura Hughes
Staff Representative:	Mr Daniel Mitchell

Association

President:	Mrs Tracey Carrington
Vice President:	Mr Stan Heuston and Mrs Lynda Dehm
Secretary:	vacant
Treasurer:	Mrs Laura Hughes
Publicity Officer:	Mrs Emma Beckett

Enhancing Catholic School Identity Survey

This is a very comprehensive and detailed survey of Catholic life in our school community. It is most important that a substantial sample is surveyed in order to present a full and accurate picture of the faith life of the community. Staff members have completed the survey and students will do so next week. I encourage parents to also provide feedback via the survey, which will take approximately 40 minutes to complete. Please go to www.schoolidentity.net. The password is Oceania. Select "Survey Research" and then "McCarthy Catholic College" from the menu. You will need to keep a record of the User Code and password issued in case you want to come back to the survey later.

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



McCARTHY MARKETS and MUSIC (Fundraiser for CARITAS)
WHEN: Friday 30 March 2012
TIME: 5:30pm to 7:30pm
WHERE: McCarthy Catholic College Terrace (near the Hall) and COLA
WHY? To bring our school motto (Service) to life by supporting the work of Caritas. To have fun! To bring members of our McCarthy community together! To save cooking on that night! To enjoy the musical talents of McCarthy students and staff! To reduce clutter in our homes by donating goods to the stalls! To buy things you could use at 'bargain' prices!
YOUR PRESENCE WILL MAKE THIS NIGHT A SUCCESS!



St Vinnies

Unfortunately the Vinnies Youth Camp, which was to be held last week, has been postponed. A future date is to be decided and it is hoped that many of our students will be able to attend the camp later in the year.

Many Vinnies members have been visiting both Nazareth House and McKay House. The next major effort will be to collect Easter Eggs to take to the Children's Ward at the hospital prior to Easter.

Thank You

Thank you to the clergy who have been involved with our school over the past weeks. Father John McHugh visited Year 12 for discussion while Father Richard Gleeson spoke with all Year 7 at St Nicholas Church. He also conducted a seminar on Fundamental Theology for staff at the school one evening. Father Roel will visit on Tuesday in Holy Week and students and staff will have the opportunity to go to Reconciliation in preparation for Easter. We greatly appreciate the time they give to our college.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

PASTORAL CARE

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Stacie Welk and her family on the passing of her grandmother.

Vaccinations

Year 7 and Year 10 students received vaccinations on Monday 12 March. If your child was absent or had not returned forms, he/she will be able to catch up during the next vaccination day in May. Please return any outstanding forms to the office.

Theme of the Week

Our theme "How Have I Started?" asked students to assess their progress so far. Do they have all necessary equipment? Is equipment labelled and accessible? At home, how are they managing their time and work space? In and out of class, what are they doing to improve their learning? Are they using the additional resources on offer, e.g. Study Club, Maths help, HOTmaths?

Harmony Week and Harmony Day remind us to recognise and appreciate the cultural differences in our community. The 2012 theme, **Sport – play, engage, inspire**, acknowledges the important role and positive influence that sport has in our multicultural nation. Involvement in sport whether as a participant, volunteer, spectator or administrator unites people of all ages and fosters a sense of belonging, acceptance and an understanding of other cultures.

Each of us is different. Expect it. Accept it. Respect it. (Anonymous)

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Wine & Cheese Night: Wednesday 28 March 2012 from 6.30pm – 8.30pm in the staff room.

Coming soon..... our famous **Pie Drive**. Order forms will be distributed first week of Term 2. Delivery date is 18 May.

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



CAREERS NEWS

Senior Forums

A lunchtime forum for Year 12 students on "What to do if you don't know what you want to do" was held last week. The twenty-five students and one teacher who attended have found lots of ideas and inspiration on how to find the right career or course for them to pursue after the HSC.

The next lunchtime forum will be on "HSC Bonus Points, Scholarships and Early Entry Schemes" and will be held on Friday 23 March.

Earlier this week, over twenty students in Years 10-12 attended the Health Careers Forum held at the Tamworth Referral Hospital where students were able to listen to, and then talk to, health professionals in various medical and allied health areas.

Work Experience

Any student considering doing work experience in the April holidays, must go to Careers@McCarthy on Moodle (<https://moodle.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au/course/category.php?id=19>), login and then print out the application form, complete and return by Tuesday 27 March at the latest.

Mrs Susan Barrett – Careers Advisor

EX-STUDENTS NEWS

Paddy Ryan – in the NSW Waratah's team and part of the teams' Community Connection program.

Blake Saban – and band won a place in the Australasian final of the Global Battle of the Bands. Their debut album is "City of Light".

Alecia Simmonds – described for the Sydney Writers' Festival as "scholar, lawyer, theatre critic and freelance writer", whose opinion pieces appear regularly in the Sydney Morning Herald.

Alex Jenkins – in the Emus Colts cricket team to tour New Zealand.

Luke Morgan – has won his first ABCRA Saddle Bronc Champion title.

Ross Steyn – with brother Leo and their parents received citizenship on Australia Day.

Entrants in the 2012 Tamworth Country Music Queen competition included **Johanna-Lea Campbell, Amy Walker, Sarah Adams, Melanie Hussey, Emily Maher and Jane Fox**. Jo was selected as "Miss Congeniality".

SPORT

Triathlon

Congratulations to Sophie Heeney (bike), Sophie Soles (run) and Ellie Camilleri (swim) on winning the gold medal at the recent CCC Triathlon Championships in Penrith. The girls also received a bronze medal in the NSW All Schools event.

Sophie Heeney competed earlier in the week in the individual event and was placed in the top 10. Well done girls.

Cricket

The 2011/2012 cricket season is just about over. All our McCarthy teams have done very well this season.

Year 7 - We had two Year 7 teams playing cricket in the Friday Night Twenty20 games. These games are non-competitive and are designed as an introduction to secondary school cricket and for players to meet new team mates at their new schools. We are very thankful to Mr Murray Lang who looked after one of our Year 7 teams and to Mr Geoff Hunter and Luke Paterson for looking after the other team. We hope to see our Year 7 players signing up for the next cricket season in Term 4.

Under 14s - The McCarthy Under 14s team has had a great season. The team, co-coached by Mr Dave Cumming and Luke Paterson, missed out in playing for first or second place in the competition due to a washout. The team will play for third or fourth place this Saturday and we wish all the players the very best of luck.

Under 16s - The Under 16's final this Friday afternoon will be a battle between McCarthy Blue and McCarthy Gold. The Gus Comi coached Blue side has stormed into the final, defeating every other school in the competition. McCarthy Gold team, supervised by Mr Neil Alderton, has also earned a spot in the final. We wish both teams the very best of luck and are delighted that whatever the outcome, a McCarthy team will be the Under 16s Cricket champions for this season.

Opens - The McCarthy Opens team has already made history in the Ron George Monday afternoon cricket competition by being the first McCarthy team to make it into the finals in many years. McCarthy will play Farrer 1 in the final next Monday afternoon and proud coach Mr Dan Mitchell is confident his players are up for the challenge. Good Luck!

The McCarthy Cricket Club would like to thank all our players for participating in this year's cricket season and we hope that students have enjoyed the cricket.

We would also like to thank parents for getting the children to the games and for their help with scoring and umpiring; without help there would be no games.

Also a big thankyou to our coaches - we all appreciate them giving up their time and making it possible for McCarthy teams to play cricket.

Thank you to Mr Bernie Williams (President) and to Mrs Natalie Paterson (Registrar/Treasurer), who works tirelessly behind the scenes all season.

We look forward to seeing you all again next season.

Mrs Maureen Alderton – Secretary McCarthy Cricket Club

Diocesan Rugby League Trials

Trials for the Armidale Diocesan Under 15s Rugby League team were held at O'Connor Catholic College, Armidale last Friday. McCarthy had seven representatives, who all played very well. Joshua Strange and Cameron Sing were selected to trial with the squad at the Northern Country trials in Smithtown next month.

Tamworth Peel Valley Lions Club Offers ALL drivers the chance to...



We Serve



Low Risk Driving & Awareness Courses

When: Saturday April 28 OR Sunday April 29 2012

8am to 4pm with morning tea and lunch included.

Subsidised by Peel Valley Lions so only \$65.

(Normally \$300)

Nationally accredited Driving Instructors from Sydney will give you practical tuition to help make you a safer and more aware driver.

Have you considered you may benefit from a refresher course?

Open to L platers who are accompanied by a licensed driver.

Contact David Gilroy 6765 7769



You are invited to attend the McCarthy Association Wine and Cheese Night

When: Wednesday 28 March 2012

Where: Staffroom – directions at the front of the school

Time: 6.30pm – 8.30pm

RSVP Friday 23 March 2012

By email to admin@mccarthy, ph 67610800 or return the slip below to the school office

Join us for glass of wine, nibbles, short tour and a chat.

Information will be available which outlines what the Association is about, the directions we are taking, opportunities for parents, calendar of meetings and social events etc.

By attending this social function there is no obligation to attend further meetings or volunteer your help as this is merely an informal social function for parents put on by the Association.

We hope to see you there.

Please note: This is a parent only social function

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Yes, I will be attending the McCarthy Association Wine and Cheese night on Wednesday 28 March 2012.

Name: _____

Number attending: _____

Contact number: _____