

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

Lord,
*the resurrection of Your Son
 has given us new life and renewed hope.
 Help us to live as new people
 in pursuit of the Christian ideal.
 Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,
 the will to want to do it,
 the courage to undertake it,
 the perseverance to continue to do it,
 and the strength to complete it. Amen*

Reflection

As Easter people we can cry with joy 'He is risen! He has truly risen!' Pope Benedict XVI said in his blessing at Easter 'If Christ is risen, then – and only then – has something truly new happened, something that changes the state of humanity and the world. Then he, Jesus, is someone in whom we can put absolute trust; we can put our trust not only in his message but in Jesus himself, for the Risen One does not belong to the past, but is present now today, alive.' (Zenit, 8 April 2012)

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Easter

I hope all families enjoyed the break from school and were able to find time to participate in the Easter liturgies. I was fortunate enough to celebrate Easter Sunday at Santa Maria Maggiore Basilica in Rome with students, parents and staff during the school's excursion to Europe. It was quite an incredible experience, with the vernacular language being Italian and the full Gregorian Mass sung in harmony by a large choir, accompanied by brass and a pipe organ. The Basilica is one of four owned by the Vatican, but found outside the walls of the city.

Catholic Schools Week

This week is Catholic Schools' Week and the theme for 2012 is 'Faith in Every Student'. The document, "The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium", clearly states the aim of Catholic schools. It states *"The Catholic School sets out to be a school for the human person and of human persons. The person of each individual human being, in his or her material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ's teaching: this is why the promotion of the human person is the goal of the Catholic school. ...For this reason the Catholic school, in committing itself to the development of the whole person, does so in obedience to the solicitude of the Church, in the awareness that all human values find their fulfilment and unity in Christ. This awareness expresses the centrality of the human person in the educational project of the Catholic school."* [Para. 9, *Circular Letter to all Involved in Catholic Schooling*, the *Congregation for Catholic Education* (Rome), 1997]

On Tuesday the captains and I attended the special Catholic Schools Week liturgy and the inaugural Spirit of Catholic Education Awards in Armidale.

Congratulations

The school community celebrates the formal recognition of the contribution Miss Kathryn O'Sullivan makes to Catholic education, following the announcement that she is the inaugural recipient of the award for Outstanding Teacher in the *Early Career* category of the new Spirit of Catholic Education Awards. Kathryn was presented with her award at the formal ceremony held in Armidale on Tuesday.

Europe Excursion

On April 5 a group of twenty-three students, parents and staff set off on a three week educational tour of Europe. The tour took the group to Rome, Monte Cassino, Sorrento, Pompeii, Assisi, Florence, Pisa and Venice in Italy then on to Austria, Germany and Belgium before traveling back down through northern France to Paris. The tour focussed on significant historical sites and a range of museums. The leg through Belgium and France, down the Western Front, was particularly poignant as we approached ANZAC Day commemorations in Australia. It was incredible to witness the affinity with Australians and the deep respect for Australian soldiers that is still very much a part of local communities. We were fortunate enough to attend the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gates in Ypres, Belgium, and then to visit the Franco-Australian Museum, Tyne Cot Cemetery, Villers Bretonneux and Natzwiller Concentration Camp.

Healthy Schools Healthy Futures Workshops

Interested parents are invited to attend the HSHF Community Workshop on Monday 7 May 9.00am – 12noon at the school. RSVP to the office by Friday 4 May (tomorrow).

Staff News

This term we welcome two new staff members: Miss Erin Wilde (English and RE) and Miss Frances Mumford (Science).

Diary Dates

2 May:	AFL Swan Cup
2 May:	CRL Country Cup
3 May:	Year 8 "James & the Giant Peach"
4 May:	UNE Open Day
4 May:	Diocesan Soccer – Inverell
10 May:	CCC Hockey Championships
11 May:	Duri Horse Sports
11 May:	Year 8 Maths Day
11 May:	Pie Drive orders due
15 May:	Association and Board Meetings
15 May:	NAPLAN
16 May:	Careers Expo
16 May:	Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews
18 May:	Delivery of Pie Drive orders
18 May:	Diocesan Cross Country & Tennis

During the recent school vacation, Mr Tim Godden and Miss Kate Stroud were married. They enjoyed a brief holiday away before returning to school for the commencement of Term 2. The school community wishes Tim and Kate all the best for a long and happy life together.

2013 Enrolments

Enrolment interviews for Round 1 places in Year 7 2013 commence in Week 4. The interviews will be conducted by members of the College Executive. Round 2 applications close 30 June.

Pupil Free Day

Please note that staff have professional development on Monday 4 June, therefore this will be a pupil free day.

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Whole School Mass

The next Whole School Mass will be held on the Feast of the Sacred Heart on 15 June. Mass will be at all four churches in Tamworth at 11.30am. All parents are most welcome to attend.

Caritas

The final amount raised for the Caritas Appeal, Project Compassion, through the McCarthy Markets and Music and the Project Compassion boxes in Homeclasses was \$7,000. Sincere thanks to all who contributed to this appeal; it is a generous amount which will greatly aid Caritas in the wonderful work it does, helping those in poverty develop projects which will enable them to support themselves.

Religion Education

There will be no examinations held in Religious Education (Years 7 to 10) during Exam week this term. Instead there will be Assessment Tasks for each Year group as follows: Year 7 in Week 4, Year 8 in Week 5, Years 9 and 10 in Week 9.

Catholic Women Connecting Tamworth

Catholic Women Connecting Tamworth (affiliated with CWL – Diocese of Armidale) will be holding their Inaugural combined Mass on 3 June at 11.00am in Nazareth House Chapel followed by a luncheon. Cost is \$20 per person. Ladies of all ages are warmly invited to join with others from across the Armidale Diocese to form new friendships and share their support and faith. Bishop Michael Kennedy will celebrate the Mass and there will be a special guest speaker, Mrs Kathleen Evans, the second miracle of Saint Mary MacKillop. For more information contact Marg Tarbert phone: 6769 1441 or Di Bolitho phone: 6762 1452. Tickets and money required by 25 May.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

ANZAC Day

Media across Australia recognised a shift this ANZAC Day, as young people joined marches to pay their respects to those who have fought for our country. This was certainly evident at McCarthy, with literally hundreds of students joining marches in a number of centres, including Tamworth, Manilla, Quirindi and Kootingal. All who were involved were very proud of the McCarthy students and the manner in which they conducted themselves on the day.

NAPLAN

While NAPLAN tests are quickly approaching for all students in Year 7 and Year 9, two classes will also participate in a NAPLAN Equating Study on Monday 7 May. Equating tests are administered to sample groups across Australia so that the difficulty of the 2012 tests can be adjusted, if necessary, to the same level as previous tests. Year 7M English and Year 9H English will participate. The equating test will take about an hour. A letter has been sent home and further information is available at http://www.acara.edu.au/verve/_resources/Reliability_and_validity_of_NAPLAN.pdf

A reminder that the official changeover to Winter uniform is Week 3 - Monday 7 May.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

PASTORAL CARE

Welcome

We welcome Becky and Samantha Smith (Year 9), Brianna Hoad-Kelly (Year 10) and their families into the McCarthy community.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Nathan Daley and Shae Parsons and their families following the deaths of their grandmothers.

Courses

P.U.L.S.E. – Pumping Up Low Self- Esteem (for 12 –15 year olds). Wednesdays 9,16 and 23 May, 4.00pm – 6.00pm. Centacare, 201 Marius Street. Free. Ph: 67629200

PARENTING – The Centacare New England North West will be presenting a free Parenting Now program in Quirindi on Monday 21 and 28 May from 10.00am to 1.00pm. Ph: 1800 372 826.

Midnight Basketball

Midnight Basketball commences at the Tamworth Sports Dome Saturday 5 May 7.30pm – Midnight. Registration is free. Dinner, uniforms and transportation home are provided. Contact Marg Hombsch for further information. Ph: 67646666.

Theme for the Week

LEARNING was our first theme this term. Students were reminded that this is an active process and their responsibility. We considered the positive impact of *confidence, persistence, organisation, getting along* and *resilience* on learning. All students were given two sheets with ideas on how to improve their learning.

“What we have to learn to do we learn by doing.” (Aristotle 384-322BC Greek philosopher)

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

Year 7

Year 7 students received a note in their Year meeting regarding their excursion to Morisset from Wednesday 30 May to Friday 1 June. Please return completed forms and deposit by Monday 7 May to the office. If you have any concerns, please contact me at school.

Mrs Libby Molony – Year 7 Coordinator

Year 12

Welcome back to another very busy term for Year 12 students and their families. We are always moving one step closer to the HSC Examinations. At the end of April, each student will receive from the Board of Studies their own timetable for the HSC Examinations in October – November. By now all students should have logged on to the website: studentsonline.bos.nsw.edu.au to view their personal details. After the HSC, this website will be the means of accessing assessment ranks and HSC results. Assessment Tasks continue this term, as well as theory work during lessons. I ask that all students be aware of school rules and Board of Studies regulations in regards to attendance and punctuality.

There have been some useful Careers Alerts emails sent out by Mrs Barrett recently. I encourage all students to regularly check their school email. Important notices regarding scholarships, university open days, early entry schemes, and employment and training programs are in these alerts. These can be powerful motivation tools for students. Students must start their career planning for post HSC this year.

I was very proud to see over forty Year 12 students attend the recent ANZAC Day March in Tamworth. Other students represented McCarthy at marches and wreath laying services in Manilla and Quirindi.

I look forward to a happy and productive Term 2.

Mrs Sharon Stuart – Year 12 Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION



Pie Drive

Spare order forms can be obtained from the office. Please note order forms and money are due to the office by **Friday 11 May**. Cheques are to be made payable to McCarthy Catholic College. Please write “Attention Pie Drive Fundraiser” on the envelope. Delivery date is **Friday 18 May** and pies can be collected from the front entrance of the school hall.

The next Association meeting will be held on Tuesday 15 May at 7.00pm in the Staff Common Room at McCarthy. All are most welcome to attend.

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

Major careers excursions and guest speaker presentations at lunchtimes and recess will occur in Term 2. The main events are:

Friday 4 May:	UNE Open Day
Wednesday 16 May:	Careers Expo at TRECC (Years 10 –12)
Thursday 7 June:	Agricultural Careers Expo
Thursday 29 June:	Newcastle University Schools Visit Day

Interviews with Year 12 and other students will continue. The Careers Room is open on Tuesdays and Fridays at lunchtime.

Mrs Susan Barrett – Careers Advisor

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

All three bands are now practising well.

Junior Band is coming ahead in leaps and bounds and is already up to six notes. They are starting on real pieces next week. It is important that they continue to practise at least five times a week for 20 minutes to consolidate what they have learnt.

Concert and Jazz Bands are working on new repertoires and rebuilding following the departure of last year's Year 12 students. Members are reminded to turn up to rehearsals promptly. Jazz Band 8.20am Tuesday morning, Concert Band Thursday lunch.

Congratulations to Year 11 student Laura Heuston for participating in the winning A Grade Junior Brass Band (Gunnedah) at the National Band Championships held in Melbourne over Easter.

Thank you to Laura for going to St Edwards' School on Thursday 26 April and playing the Last Post for their ANZAC Service. It was a commendable effort.

Mrs Lisa Lane – Instrumental Music Program Instructor

MUSIC

The Music department is preparing for a busy term which includes the Eisteddfod in June and rehearsals for Catholic Schools Celebrate, which will be held Thursday evening, 16 August.

All students who are involved in Instrumental groups are working well and looking forward to performing at assemblies during the term.

Cello Required

The String Ensemble is in need of cellos. If you have, or know of anyone who has, a cello and would like to either hire or sell it, could you please contact Libby Molony at school.

Catholic Schools Celebrate Sponsorship

We are seeking McCarthy families with businesses who may be interested in supporting CSC 2012. Sponsorship to assist in the financial costs of staging a production, including sound and lighting, hiring of TRECC, ticketing and transportation of students to rehearsals, is sort. Please contact Libby Molony at school for further details.

SURPLUS MCCARTHY YEARBOOKS/MAGAZINES

The school has uncollected yearbooks from 2010, 2009, 2008, 2006, 2005, 2003, 2002 and 2000. There are also a small number from the McCarthy Catholic Senior High School era (eg 1993, 1995, 1996, and 1997).

If you would like any of these books please let the school office know and Mrs Pat Kilborn will contact you to make arrangements for collection.

ZONTA CLUB - YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD

Three Year 12 students, Emily Murray, Bronte Pennefather, and Melissa Sweeney, were nominated by the College for the Young Women in Public Affairs Award, which is an international award to promote women in public affairs. The students completed an extensive application form which detailed their commitment to voluntary service in the community and their views on women in public affairs. Each student then presented their views and interests to a judging panel. The judging panel were impressed with the level of commitment the McCarthy applicants showed to advancing the cause of women in public affairs. The Zonta Club of Tamworth have advised Melissa and Bronte that they will receive a Club Award at their Annual Award Dinner on Wednesday, 9 May. The College is very proud of these three young women and wish them well in their careers as young leaders.

CANTEEN NEWS

Term 2 Special Order Days: The following items will only be available on the days outlined. These items are not permanent menu items and we will not be able to make changes to the item outlined ie we cannot do 'with or without' as products will be made in bulk.

Monday:	Mustard Dogs \$2.60 Canteen approved frankfurt, mustard, cheese and tomato sauce on hotdog roll
Tuesday:	Bacon & Egg Rolls \$3.00 Picnic bacon, egg and BBQ sauce on a small white roll
Wednesday:	Chicken Kebab \$3.60 Chicken, lettuce, carrot, cheese and BBQ sauce toasted wrap
Thursday:	Roast Beef & Gravy Rolls \$3.60 Shredded roast beef and gravy on a large white roll
Friday:	Toasted jaffles Spaghetti or creamed corn or baked beans or egg \$2.50 Chicken, cheese and sweet chilli sauce \$3.00

Term 2 Red Day will be Thursday 14 June 2012, when items not usually on the canteen menu will be available for purchase.

Autumn/Winter Specials: During the cooler months we will provide a Soup Surprise and a Hot Lunch Surprise where possible. These items will be advertised daily on the canteen noticeboard. Canteen approved meat, cheese and bacon, potato, and curry pies and sausage rolls are now available.

Volunteers: We welcome anyone who is interested in volunteering. Please contact Mrs Balderston 67610856 or baldo@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au if you can assist, just one day a term is a great help and allows you to participate in a day at McCarthy with your child or grandchild.

SPORT

Hockey

Congratulations to Dana Constable who played for NSW at the Australian Hockey Championships in Newcastle in the holidays. The team made the semi-finals where they were defeated by Victoria.

Soccer

Congratulations to Sophie Soles who was recently selected in the Northern NSW Under 16 Soccer team. She will now compete at the National titles in July.

Netball

Zoe Martin (Year 9), attended the CCC Netball 15 years selections on 27 March and Morgan Ferris (Year 10), attended the CCC Netball Opens' selections on 28 March. Both of these events were held in Lidcombe.

AFL

With the winter sport season commencing this week, so too has the promotion and development of AFL at McCarthy. Late last term seventeen students played a trial match after school against Farrer. Some of the students were new to the sport of AFL, while others showed their skill and knowledge of the game. Lachlan Maloney showed great ball skills as he led the McCarthy team into early attack, kicking two goals. It is envisaged there will be more opportunities to play games against Farrer this term.

On Wednesday 2 May a team of Under 16s played for the Swans Cup at No 1 Oval in Tamworth. McCarthy competed against other secondary teams from the north-west region. This was the first time we have entered a team in this competition, heralding an exciting time for AFL development at McCarthy. If any student would like to play AFL, please contact Mrs Sharon Stuart, AFL ambassador for the school.

Rugby Union

Ryan Witherdin, Ryan Prentice, Brad Thrift and Mitchell Bain travelled to Orange this week to trial for the Under 16 CCC Rugby Union team. Congratulations to Ryan, Brad and Ryan on their selection to attend the NSWCCC trials at Richmond later in the month.