Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer
O loving God . . . I pray you to welcome my deceased family, friends, loved ones into heaven with you. Forgive them their sins and reward them their goodness. Grant that I may be with them again in your Peaceful presence. Amen.

By tradition, the Catholic Church dedicates each month of the year to a certain devotion. In November, it is the Holy Souls in Purgatory, those faithful Christians who have died but who still must atone for their sins. The time they spend in Purgatory cleanses them so that they may enter Heaven free from all effects of sin. Praying for the dead, especially for those we have known, is a requirement of Christian charity.

**PRINCIPAL MATTERS**

**Planning**
This last two weeks has been a time of preparation for 2013, with staffing and long term facilities planning high on the agenda. There are some big decisions to be made about the future directions the school will take and how it will best serve the needs of our community. Recruitment for 2013 has been a priority in this last fortnight and we are very pleased with the outcome of the application process.

**Parent/Teacher Interviews**
Year 11 parent/teacher interviews were conducted last week and I am sure all are working towards improvements as students move into the HSC course. This is a very important time to take stock, to reflect, to plan and goal-set, maintaining a firm focus on the future. It is a time to remind students that twelve short months of hard work can assist significantly in opening up opportunities for the next fifty years.

**Higher School Certificate and Graduation**
The HSC examinations have run smoothly thus far and it appears that most students have viewed the papers as challenging and fair. Staff will continue to support students in any way they are able until the exams are completed.
The HSC Visual Arts major works were marked at school this week. The graduation will be held at the Town Hall on Monday 12 November. We are looking forward to this special event for the Class of 2012.

**Playground Art Works**
Year 10 Visual Art students have completed the unit “Sites-pacific Art” in real style, creating temporary and permanent art works around the school. The works have aesthetic, educational and practical appeal.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Christian Leadership Seminar**
Senior SLC representatives, together with potential Vinnies leaders, attended a seminar on Christian leadership recently. Students were introduced to the concept of ‘servant leadership’ and reminded that, as leaders in a Catholic school, they have a role in making Christ known to those they lead.

**Twilight Retreat**
The first twilight retreat for students in their HSC year was held this week. The focus for this retreat was ‘Be still and know that I am God’. Thank you to all who contributed to this evening.

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal
Rosary in Month of October
Students and staff have had the opportunity to join in saying the Rosary each Friday at lunchtime during the month of October. We intend to continue to provide the chance to meet together in prayer and will devote the month of November to pray for the Holy Souls.

Whole School Mass
The final whole school Mass for this year will be held on Thursday 1 November (today) - All Saints Day, at 11.30am. Students will attend Mass in the following churches across Tamworth: MacKillop - Mary Help of Christians, Edmund Rice - St Patrick’s, Chisholm - St Mary’s and Dominic - St Nicholas’. All parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

PASTORAL CARE

Congratulations
Congratulations and warmest wishes for the future go to Erin (nee Wilde) and Cam Bice. Erin and Cam married during the holidays.

Condolences
Our thoughts and prayers are with Mrs Denise McHugh and her family on the passing of her father, and also with Lesley, James and Jeffrey Wong and their family following the death of their grandfather.

Courses
To book or get further information on the following courses, contact Centacare NENW and ask to speak with the Family Mental Health Support Service team (ph: 6762 9200).

Stress, Anxiety and Self-help Strategies, Wednesday 31 October, 10.00am – 12.00pm
Family Wellbeing, 4 Tuesdays beginning 6 November, 9.30am – 12.00pm
Anxiety, 6 Wednesdays beginning 7 November, 10.00am –12.00pm 18+yrs, referral required
Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, 6 Wednesdays beginning 7 November, 1.00pm – 3.00pm 18+yrs, referral required

Equipment
It is imperative that your child has the required equipment for class. Please encourage good organisation and responsibility by checking class books, planners, calculator, texts, pens, pencils, ruler, scissors and glue. If there is any difficulty in supplying all necessary items please contact the class teacher, Year Coordinator or myself.

Year 7 Vaccinations
Year 7 vaccinations are this Friday (tomorrow). All Year 7 are to wear sports uniform. Please assist by ensuring your child has breakfast and has food and water for the day.

Theme for the Week
This week junior students are being encouraged to prepare for their upcoming examinations and Year 11 students for their first Higher School Certificate assessments. Time management allows students to maintain a balance while they study. Study advice will be given by teachers and is also available in your child’s Planner.

‘Lost time is never found again’. Benjamin Franklin

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

Year 11
It has been a hectic start to Term 4 for Year 11 students as they approach the beginning of their HSC studies. I would like to express my sincere thanks for all the well wishes from Year 11 students and families following the birth of Noah. I would also like to acknowledge Mr Andrew Davy who replaced me in the Year Coordinator role whilst I was on leave.

Congratulations to the students who have been elected as School Captains for 2013. I am sure that Georgia Rae, Ted Alderton (Captains), Lara Northey and James Dunn (Vice Captains) will do an outstanding job and I look forward to working closely with them in a leadership capacity. Along with the Year 12 SLC members for 2013 (Anna Camilleri, Harry Velia, Jerome Studdy, Leo Steyn, Mikala Dimmock and Sarah Simmonds), they will play a vital role in being a voice for the student population and developing initiatives for the school.

We wish Megan Reid and Ben Collett good luck for their upcoming trip to France where they will represent Australia in Horse Ball; what an exciting and amazing opportunity.

Students have received a Year 12 textbook list which outlines what is required for each subject for their HSC year. Year 12 students will hold a textbook sale later in the term when their HSC exams have concluded. This is a good way of purchasing cheap textbooks. Also, we will hold a textbook sale for next year’s Year 11 students where your child will have the opportunity to sell their texts from this year. Please note: Preliminary texts for all Mathematics courses are still required during the HSC year.

If you have any pastoral care concerns regarding your child or would like to be added to my email database from which I email texts from this year. Please note: Preliminary texts for all Mathematics courses are still required during the HSC year.

More information on the Year 11 textbooks and how they can maximise their HSC scores.

Mr Luke Adams – Year 11 Coordinator

CAREERS NEWS

Two HSC Open Days run by The School For Excellence are aimed at 2013 Year 11 and 12 HSC Students who want to learn more about how they can maximise their HSC scores.

A collection of guest speakers and teachers will present in-depth motivation and subject advice, as well as advice about learning and study skills on Sunday 11 and Saturday 17 November in Sydney.

Admission is $10 per day and for more information contact 1300 364 173 or see Mrs Barrett for details or go online. http://www.tsfx.com.au/nsw/hscprograms/hsc_open_day/hscopenday.html

Mrs Susan Barrett – Careers Advisor carees@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
LISMORE SHOW

Last Wednesday the Show travelled to the annual North Coast National Show. While Lismore is almost guaranteed to be hot, humid and highly competitive, it remains the favourite show on the calendar every year.

On Thursday the team participated in an Education Program which saw the students exposed to a number of cattle judges who explained different methods of appraising cattle for different purposes. The students were then asked to put their learning into practice with Sharna Coleman and Alex Watt placing 2nd and 3rd respectively after their speeches. Samarah Thrift was able to place the steers exactly as the judge had and was called up to give a speech in her first ever speaking competition which was an outstanding effort.

On Friday the team showed both our school stud cattle and our three steers. Our Simmental cow “Just in Time” and her calf “Nick of Time” won Champion Senior Female and Grand Champion Simmental Female. Our Red Angus cow “Empress” placed 3rd in her class and 4th in the cow and calf class, with Billy and Claudia sharing the fun of showing our tiny calf while Jasmine and Samarah took turns to show the cow. Alex competed in the School Steer competition with “Wrangler”, who took out 2nd alongside Sharna on “Chevy” who placed a respectable 4th. The star of the day however was “Sin” who won his class and was then awarded Grand Champion Led School Steer. All of the students competed in the paraders competition which saw a large number of competitors from a wide area trying to impress the judge with their cattle handling skills. Paul Murphy, Alex Watt and Billy McNaughton were all selected for the finals, and despite their varied levels of experience in the ring, all three managed to outshine their competitors.

On Saturday Alex worked incredibly hard with the steer “Wrangler” and was able to convince the judge to place him 1st; making this the third consecutive year that McCarthy has won the Lightweight Champion on the Hoof. Our heavyweights “Chevy” and “Sin” placed 8th and 4th respectively in a highly competitive and very large class. Thus an exhausted but incredibly happy team travelled home to await the carcase results.

“Wrangler” won the Lightweight Champion Carcase as well as Champion Overall School Steer. “Sin” and “Chevy” placed 3rd and 4th in the overall Champion School steer competition. The students were outstanding representatives for McCarthy.

Thank you to Graham Jordan for the loan of his heifers for Paraders, as well as Georgie Carrigan for sponsoring our show team with our “Chevy” caps. We must also express our gratitude to Rob Maxwell for all that he does for us, as without his support we would not have our fabulous Show Team.

Miss Leanne Sjollema
YEAR 11 HOSPITALITY
The Year 11 Hospitality class has started their unit of work, “Prepare and Serve Espresso Coffee”. We have been lucky to have our local coffee expert, Mr Rob Manvell from Antilles Coffee, join our class and demonstrate to the students the art of roasting and grinding fresh coffee beans and how to make perfect espresso. Rob has also showed us how to make a great cappuccino, the tricks behind milk texturizing as well as some basic latte art.
I would like to thank Rob for his continued support and assistance in our Food and Beverage training for our students. It is wonderful to see Hospitality students enthusiastic and learning new skills.

Mrs Raelene Maxworthy – VET Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

McCarthy Association
Trivia Night
The McCarthy Association Trivia Night will be held on Friday November 16 and we are calling for donations of prizes for this fun-packed wonderful night.

Nothing is too big or too small, and all donations are greatly appreciated.
Examples of prizes include: ITunes cards, store vouchers, potting mix, wine, gardening tools, chocolates, pots, small electrical appliances, BBQ tools, DVD’s, CD’s, linen, towels, kitchenware, cosmetics etc.

All funds raised on the night will go towards the purchase of a Defibrillator for the school. This piece of equipment may one day save a life within the school community.

Please help us raise the funds by either donating a prize and/or getting a table of 8 together for the night itself. It promises to be a fun filled night. Please see the Trivia Night flyer for more details on the internet or at the office.

Next Meeting: 7:00pm Tuesday 13 November in the Staff Room.

For more information about the Association and to keep up to date with the latest please go to the following link http://mccarthy.nsw.edu.au/parents/

SPORT

Downie Shield
On Friday 26 October, our Open Boys’ Cricket team played O’Connor Catholic College at Scully Park. After winning the toss, O’Connor chose to bat first, and were bowled out in 11 overs for 58. Luke Paterson took 3/0 in 1 over, and Leo Steyn (2/6) and Ted Alderton (2/15) were also amongst the wickets. At one stage, McCarthy took 6 wickets within 7 balls. McCarthy overhauled O’Connor’s total comfortably for the loss of 4 wickets, with Jake Deasy top scoring with 23. McCarthy now advances to Round 2 of the knockout competition.

Cricket
Luke Paterson (19’s), Jye Paterson, Keytan Hislop and Matthew Hughes (15’s) were selected to participate at the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Country North Cricket selection trials at Coffs Harbour on 24 October.
The trials were held to select the NSW CCC Country North teams: Luke Paterson was chosen in the Under 19’s team for the NSW CCC trials to be held in February 2013 and Keytan Hislop was selected in the Under 15’s team for the NSW CCC trials to be held on 5 and 6 November 2012.

Horse Ball
Congratulations to Megan Reid, Ben Collett and Sam Collett for gaining selection in the Australian Junior Horse Ball team. They will compete in France next week at the Heinz Wolff Under 16 International Horse Ball Tournament.