

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

O God our Father,
in Jesus you call all Christian families and homes
to be signs of living faith.
By the light of the Holy Spirit,
lead us to be thankful for the gift of faith,
and by that gift
may we grow in our relationship with Jesus, your Son,
and be confident witnesses to Christian hope and joy
to all we meet.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

We are currently in the Year of Faith, which was instigated by Pope Benedict XVI. It began on 11 October 2012, on the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Ecumenical Vatican Council, and will conclude on 24 November 2013, the Solemnity of Christ the King. It is a call to the universal Church for renewal of faith in Jesus Christ.

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

This last fortnight has been a very full and rich one. Students in Years 7 – 11 have completed Half-Yearly Examinations; there has been an Information Night for Year 10 potential leavers; a History competition; eisteddfod performances in Drama and Music; a visit from the Bishop; the annual St Nicholas Debutante Ball; the Coonabarabran Horse Expo; Year 12 Twilight Retreat; NSWCCC Touch Trials in Penrith; ICAS Science test; Year 7 Outdoor Education trip to Morisset; lots of sports and much more.

Bishop's Visit

Last Friday the school was privileged to host the Bishop for part of the day. He spent morning tea with staff and the school captains and had a tour of the school before meeting with students. The Bishop spoke to students in Years 9, 10 and 12 about the importance of 'goodness' in maintaining true happiness. It was an honour to have Bishop Kennedy at McCarthy and we look forward very much to his next visit, in September.

St Nicholas Debutante Ball

Last Friday evening twenty-five debutantes and their partners were presented to Bishop Kennedy at the annual St Nicholas Ball. Twenty-three of the twenty-five debutantes are students at McCarthy. All presented beautifully and were an absolute credit to their families.

Ordination of Deacon Tuan Tran to the Priesthood

On Friday 7 June, students and staff will represent the school community at the priestly ordination of Deacon Tuan at the Cathedral in Armidale. Deacon Tuan was a regular visitor to McCarthy, assisting with retreats and participating in religious education programs, during his time associated with St Nicholas parish. We congratulate Tuan and wish him God's blessing on his ministry.

Bishop's Commission for Catholic Schools AGM

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bishop's Commission for Catholic Schools will be held at a number of venues via video conference this year. McCarthy will host the Tamworth meeting, which will commence with morning tea at 10.45am on Saturday 22 June. The conference is expected to last approximately an hour. Parents are encouraged to attend. Please contact Debra Wade as a matter of urgency if you wish to register to attend.

Reconciliation Week

Last week the McCarthy community celebrated National Reconciliation Week. The theme this year was "Pathways to Reconciliation: Together We're Doing It".

Enrolment Interviews

Round 1 enrolment interviews for placements in Year 7 2014 continue and will conclude at the end of this week. Round 2 applications close on Wednesday 26 June.

Attendances - Leave

As per government requirements, if a student is going to be absent from school for 5 days or more, an 'Application for Exemption from Attendance' form MUST be filled out PRIOR to the leave taking place. These forms are available from the office.

Diary Dates

7 June: Tuan's Ordination – Armidale
7 June: Year 7 excursion returns
7 June: Year 8, 9, 10 exams
10 June: Long Weekend
17 June: ICAS Writing Competition
17 June: HSC Science Workshop
17 June: NSWCCC Tennis – Bathurst
17 June: NSWCCC Basketball – Penrith
18 June: ICAS Spelling Competition
18 June: Board & Association Meetings
18 June: Toastmasters Graduation Evening
20 June: Peel Schools Carnival
20 June: TAFE Try a Trade Day
21 June: Cochrane Cup RL & Netball
22 June: AGM Bishop's Commission for Catholic Schools - PAC 10.45am
24 June: Whole School Mass 11.30am
24 June: NAIDOC Week
25 June: Year 11 2014 Parent Information Evening
26 June: Round 2 enrolment applications close
26 June: Year 7 & 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews
26 June: University Information Evening 7pm
27 June: Athletics Carnival
28 June: Last day of Term 2.

Permission Validation

If someone other than a parent is collecting and signing a student out from the school, a written note or email is required from the responsible parent/carer. Please refer notes or emails to the Attendance Officer, Mrs Kate Walden kwalden@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au.

Mrs Kate Rayment - Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**The Great Grace, Receiving Vatican II Today Conference**

This major national conference, which ran from 20 – 23 May 2013, was hosted by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. I was fortunate to attend this conference in Sydney for the final day. The focus of the conference was the reception of the Council by the Church in Australia, now and into the future. The Conference featured highly acclaimed international and national speakers and had a focus on lay leadership. Participants had the opportunity to have their questions answered by a panel of experts ranging from Church leaders to academics. It was a worthwhile experience and provided valuable information which will be beneficial to the RE faculty.

Whole School Mass

The whole school Mass for Term 2 will be held on Monday 24 June. Students will go to Mass at the following churches: Dominic - Mary Help of Christians, Chisholm - St Patrick's, Edmund Rice - St Mary's and MacKillop - St Nicholas'. All parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

Village Space Presentations

In Week 1 next term Village Space, from Catholic Mission, will provide dramatic presentations for Years 7 and 10 in the school hall. Their performance will focus on topics which will be relevant to both RE and HSIE modules. The cost to attend will be \$5.00 and it is expected that all students attend.

Twilight Retreat

The second of the Year 12 Twilight Retreats was held this week. Students who attended responded well to discussions on faith and witness. We are grateful to Monsignor Wilkes for being with us and also the staff members who attended and spoke openly about their own faith journey.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

PASTORAL CARE**Congratulations**

We congratulate Shania Nicholls and her family on the birth of her brother, Patrick.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Matthew Carrington and his family following the death of his grandfather and also with Abigail Mortlock, Katie Taylor and their families following the death of their grandmothers.

Parenting Courses

The Family Relationships Centre offers the following free courses at V Guy Kable Building, Marius St.

Building Connections - helping separated parents to have healthy strong relationships with their children. Friday 21 June, 9.30am to 12.30pm.

Exploring Challenging Children – helping parents understand and manage challenging behaviours. Mondays 17 and 24 June, 5.30pm to 8.30pm or Wednesdays 19 and 26 June, 12.30pm to 3.30pm.

Theme for the Week

“Are You Ready For Exams?” was the subject for discussion during Week 5. Students were encouraged to check that they had the necessary stationery and equipment; that they were managing their time well; and that they were employing effective study strategies. The best way to reduce the stress associated with examinations is to be well prepared. A balanced approach including exercise and good sleep should be adopted whilst study is given top priority.

In Week 6 we considered the National Families Week's theme *Families – Working Together – Getting the Balance Right* and the United Nations International Day of Families theme *Advancing Social Integration and Intergenerational Solidarity*. Students were encouraged to maintain contact and share activities and responsibilities with immediate and extended family members. The responsibility for and the benefits of developing a good work / play balance was also discussed.

Following is an extract from 'Is Your Child Too Busy?' by Michael Grose:

Build Regular Down-time into Family Life

Avoid being a family that's always on the go. Make sure you have some down-time so family members can relax and have the chance to connect. Do not be afraid that your children may become bored. Boredom gives children opportunities to keep themselves occupied. This may mean that you need to say no to an afterschool activity. Alternatively, children can participate but maybe another adult can take them and pick them up.

Some Tips for Getting the Balance of Activities Right:

1. Make sure children have a couple of after-school activities that suit their interests, and that they want to do.
2. They should have enough spare time to do homework without feeling stressed.
3. Make sure they have spare time each day for self-initiated activities including watching television, using the Internet (if appropriate age-wise) and socialising.
4. Check that children have opportunities each day to spend time with family members including parents.

“You may never know what results come of your action, but if you do nothing there will be no result.” ~ Mahatma Gandhi
Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Pie Drive

The Family Fund Pie Fundraiser for 2013 has been a huge success and this would not have been possible without the support from families, friends and the wider community of McCarthy Catholic College. I would like to apologise on behalf of Thompson Pies for the mix up in the order and thank all families for being exceptionally understanding. Last Friday I was able to fill the Family Fund freezer with several products that were donated by Thompson Pies as a result of the large order that had been placed.

Thank you to all helpers that assisted in making the fundraiser a huge success.

Mrs Lynda Dehm

Social Night

A social night will be held in August at Strike Bowling Bar with further details following our next meeting on June 18.

Next **Association Meeting** will be held on Tuesday 18 June at 7.00pm for 7.15pm. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

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

CAREERS NEWS

Year 12

I am continuing to conduct interviews with Year 12 students to discuss their plans for 2014 onwards. To cover several options, I have organised the following events:

- Thursday June 13 12.30pm – 1.00pm: **TAFE presentation** for interested Year 12 students. This is aimed at students looking at the large variety of TAFE courses to pursue their desired career path or as a back-up if students cannot get into university or are unable to secure an apprenticeship for 2014.
- Wednesday 26 June 7.00pm – 8.30pm: **University Information Evening** for parents and Year 12 students. This is a vital meeting to outline application procedures, dates, decisions to be made, costs and other financial matters. Parents and students in Years 10 and 11 are also invited to find out what lies in store for them.
- Wednesday 17 July **Newcastle University Schools Visit Day** 5.00am – 7.30pm. Permission notes and money are due to the office by Monday June 24.

HSC Revision Study Days in July Holidays

Several institutions will be holding study days during the school holidays. Details have been posted in recent Careers Alert emails. Students may consider attending these or organise private visits/tours of universities and colleges in Sydney if the Open Days are not at a convenient time.

Year 10 - University Requirements and Subject Selection for Year 11 2014

At the meeting last week on career options for Year 10 students, some parents requested copies of the *University Entry Requirements 2016 Year 10 Booklet*. This is for students in Year 10 in 2013 to help them make decisions about which HSC courses to take in Years 11 and 12. This booklet lists details of prerequisites, assumed knowledge and recommended studies applicable for each area of study offered by UAC's participating institutions.

I have several copies in the Careers Advisers Office but if you would like a copy, the price is \$6.00. This needs to be brought to the school office in an envelope with UAC Book written on the front of it by Friday 14 June. I will order copies on the following Monday for those families who have paid by the due date.

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

SCHOOL BANDS

The McCarthy School Concert and Jazz bands have been busy over the past two weeks. They have been representing the school in the Gunnedah and Tamworth Eisteddfods.

On Friday 17 May, Mrs Perfrement and Mrs Lane took twenty-eight students across to Gunnedah. They played beautifully and were most excited to receive 1st place in both the Jazz and Concert sections. The Jazz Band played *On Broadway* and *Basin Street Blues*. The Concert Band played *Lean On Me*, *Rolling In The Deep* and *Party Rock Anthem*.

On Thursday 23 May, they competed in the evening at the Tamworth Town Hall. The Jazz Band had a convincing 1st place win with *Born To Be Wild* and *Bad Romance*. The Concert Band rose to the challenge of a harder piece: *John Williams Medley* and *Rolling in The Deep*. They received a commendable 2nd place behind the well-established Calrossy Orchestra by 1 mark! They were thrilled to beat three other groups.

Overall many favourable comments were received about how well they were playing. They were also commended on how well they presented and behaved.

If any students who play an instrument, would like to join the School Band they would be most welcome. They should see Mrs Lane in the PAC on a Thursday morning.

ABC RADIO INTERVIEW

Jerome Studdy (Year 12) was recently invited to attend the 'student' forum at the Tamworth ABC Radio Station. The forum seeks the opinions of community members, from varied backgrounds and age groups, on current local and national issues. Jerome was an outstanding ambassador for McCarthy and for youth in the region. This was Jerome's second such forum.



SPORT**Rugby Union**

Ryan Prentice, Bradley Thrift (Opens), Joshua Strange and Cameron Clout (Under 16's) were selected to represent the Diocese at the NSWCCC Rugby Union selection trials at St Gregory's College, Campbelltown on May 21 and 22. Although the boys were unsuccessful, they benefitted from the experience.

NSWCCC Hockey - Girls

The 2013 NSWCCC Hockey Championships were hosted by McCarthy in Tamworth on Thursday and Friday 23 and 24 May. McCarthy entered three teams, one in the Open A Girls, one in the 16B Girls and one in the Open Boys.

The McCarthy Open Girls, coached by Denby Budden, put in a great effort over the two days. They made the final before finishing runners-up to MacKillop, Bathurst. Their results were as follows:

Defeated McAuley, Westmead 5 – 2 (Breeanna Curry 2, Taylor Ambrose, Caitlin McHugh, Megan Murphy); lost to MacKillop, Bathurst 2– 3 (Caitlin McHugh 2); defeated Trinity, Lismore 2 – 1 (Caitlin McHugh 2); drew with McAuley, Grafton 1 – 1 (Caitlin McHugh) and defeated Trinity, Goulburn 3 – 0 (Samantha Howard, Megan Murphy, Caitlin McHugh). In the final against MacKillop, Bathurst, the girls were defeated 2 – 4 with Caitlin McHugh scoring both McCarthy's goals.

Open Girls: Olivia Dillon (GK), Taylor Ambrose, Georgia Cooper, Breeanna Curry, Prue Davies, Madeline Doyle, Samantha Howard, Libbi Maher, Lauren MacRae, Catlin McHugh, Amanda Mulcahy, Megan Murphy and Alexandra Prowse.

The McCarthy Under 16 Girls, coached by Cheryl Cruickshank, played well throughout the carnival and gained valuable experience. They finished third in their division with results as follows:

Lost to St Mary's Star of the Sea Wollongong 2 – 1; defeated St Mary's, Gunnedah 5 – 0; lost to St Pius X, Adamstown 2 – 1. The girls played off for third place defeating St Mary's, Gunnedah 3 – 0.

Under 16 Girls: Grace Allan (GK), Georgia Achurch, Natasha Achurch, Claire Annis-Brown, Hannah Backhouse, Annie Beckett, Hollie Constable, Kate Cruickshank, Bridget Galvin, Camille Hazell, Hayley Littlejohns, Sophie Littlejohns and Emmalene Tinson.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the success of the carnival.

NSWCCC Hockey - Boys

In the round matches, McCarthy defeated All Saints, Maitland 5 – 1, O'Connor, Armidale 4 – 2 and Trinity College, Goulburn 9 – 2.

This placed them first in their pool and gave them a semi-final match against Red Bend, Forbes who they defeated in the 2012 Under 16 Final.

The semi-final was very close with McCarthy edging out Forbes 3 – 2 in the closing minutes.

The final against a star studded and much older McAuley, Grafton was a very exciting and tight game with play constantly moving from one end to the other. In the final seconds and trailing 2 – 3 McCarthy was awarded a penalty corner. Following a scramble in the goal circle Jack Cruickshank slipped the ball past the Grafton goalkeeper to send the game into extra time.

In the second period of golden goal, Isaac Farmilo nearly snatched victory with his shot beating the keeper but passing agonisingly outside the goal post.

With the scores still level at the end of two periods of extra time, the game moved into penalty strokes which McAuley won 4 – 2.

Despite the loss, McCarthy can be very proud of the boys, as they competed against a team made up mostly of Year 12 players with a team that contained two Year 7 and two Year 8 boys.

The team looks very strong for 2014 as only two boys, Harrison Kuczer and Patrick Baxter, are in Year 12.

Over the five games Isaac Farmilo, Chris Ninness, Matt Johnston, Jack Cruickshank and Darcy Doyle were outstanding. However, all players contributed significantly to the final result and I look forward to seeing them develop over the next 12 months.

Open Boys: Patrick Baxter, Matt Carrington, Cameron Clout, Jack Cruickshank, Darcy Doyle, Isaac Farmilo, Tom Finn, Harper Galvin, Matt Johnston, Harrison Kuczer, Jake Mitchell, Chris Ninness, James O'Connor and Jake Vandeven.

Well done to all the players.

Thank you to Andrew Farmilo who gave his time to coach the team over the two days.

Mr Ian McKenzie

Netball

It has been a very good start to the netball season, with thirteen teams representing MCC across the ages. I have watched the girls over the last two Saturdays and been impressed that the girls have settled into their teams and are displaying talent and sportsmanship.

It is important that they listen to coaches and show respect to all umpires. If girls are unsure about umpiring they can request an "umpire in training" bib to show others they are beginners. We will be holding an umpiring confidence course at school to help the girls in this area. The game and umpiring draw will be put up on the Bookroom window each week but can also be found in the NDL and on the Tamworth Netball website.

If there are any problems please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Ashleigh Jones, Mrs Donna Forrest or myself during school hours.

Mrs Jane Burt

Bill Turner Trophy Football – Girls

McCarthy played Round 2 of the Bill Turner Trophy Knockout Competition against Tamworth High school recently.

The match was played at the Gipps Street field in cold and overcast conditions. The first half proved difficult for McCarthy allowing THS to score two unanswered goals. A determined effort in the second half resulted in a well-earned goal for McCarthy. However, this was answered by two more goals by Tamworth High to secure the match 4 – 1.

The McCarthy team played with enthusiasm and sportsmanship and they must be commended for their effort on and off the field.

Thank you to Mr Michael Herden for driving the school bus on the day.

The team consisted of: Madison Sharp, Ella Heeney, Alicia Guest, Bella Burr-Clift, Olivia Riley, Rhiannon Graham, Makayla Riley, Breeanna Curry, Grace Allan, Hollie Constable, Matilda Shumack, Alexandra Reed and Jessie Cutcliffe.

Mr Ronny Rindo

Football (Soccer)

Sophie Soles, Rhett Graham and Matthew Dunn were selected to play in the CCC Football trials at Bathurst on 27 and 28 May. Unfortunately, they missed out on selection to play for CCC at the NSW All Schools Championships.