

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer "Every day I need you Lord..."

Every day I need You Lord
but this day especially,
I need some extra strength
to face whatever is to be.
This day more than any day
I need to feel You near,
to fortify my courage
and to overcome my fear.
By myself, I cannot meet
the challenge of the hour.
There are times when humans help,
but we need a higher power
to assist us bear what must be borne,
and so dear Lord, I pray -
hold on to my trembling hand
and be near me today.
Amen.

Diary Dates

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 6pm
27 June: Athletics Carnival
28 June: Last day of Term 2.
15 July: Pupil Free Day
16 July: Students return to school
16 July: Year 7 & 10 Village Space performance
16 July: Board & Association Meetings
17 July: Year 8, 9 & 10 Parent/Teacher Interviews
17 July: Newcastle University Open Day
19 July: Jump Rope for Heart (Year 8)
22 July: Year 9 Resilience Day
24 July: School Photos

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

State Priority Committee Visit

Last Friday 14 June, members of the State Priority Committee met with me to discuss and validate elements of the school's application for a Commonwealth Building Grant. A decision will be made before the commencement of the 2014 school year. If successful, the funds will be used to complete the first stage of the facilities master plan, a multiple stage project to increase and improve the facilities currently available at the school. Details have been available to the College Board and Association and will be published, should the grant be approved.

Staff Matters

We have recently farewelled Mrs Carmel Taylor (part-time Student Welfare Officer) and Mrs Jolene Faint (Aboriginal Education Assistant) who has recently commenced 12 months Maternity Leave. We wish Carmel and Jo all the best and look forward to visits from Jo and the baby. I will formally welcome new staff in the first newsletter next term.

Extra-Curricula Activities

Music and Drama students recently competed in the Gunnedah and/or Tamworth eisteddfods. The results were excellent. Extra-curricula Music programs, including choir, various vocal and instrumental ensembles and a number of beginner and advanced bands, provide a terrific opportunity for students to gain knowledge and skills that will be of life-long benefit. They bring a deep sense of personal fulfilment and great joy to others.

All students are encouraged to participate in the wide range of extra-curricula activities available at McCarthy. These activities are designed to enrich students' lives and broaden their educational experience. They include academic pursuits, the Arts, community service/charitable works, personal and spiritual development, a wide range of sports and much more. There are multiple benefits for students through such participation.

Pupil-Free Day

Monday 15 July, the first day of Term 3, will be a pupil-free day. Staff will be working on the implementation of the Australian Curriculum, which is due to commence from 2014. Students will return to school on Tuesday 16 July.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held as part of the reporting process for all students. The following interviews have been arranged for Semester 1 reporting:

Years 7 and 11 – Wednesday 26 June from 3.30pm – 6.00pm

Year 8, 9 and 10 – Wednesday 17 July (Week 1, Term 3) from 3.30pm – 6.30pm.

Information on how to prepare for Parent/Teacher Interviews is available on Moodle via the Parent log-in. Please call the school for assistance if you are unsure how to access this information or if you would like a paper copy.

Round 2 Enrolments

Round 2 applications close on Wednesday 26 June. Interviews will take place in Weeks 3 and 4 next term.

Athletics Carnival

The whole school will participate in the annual McCarthy Athletics Carnival at the Tamworth Regional Athletics Complex on Thursday 27 June. Students should come to school as usual and will be transported to and from the grounds by bus.

NAIDOC Week

We will celebrate NAIDOC Week next Wednesday with an assembly, morning tea and art exhibition. Our indigenous dancers will perform at a number of schools next week.

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.

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.

Holidays

On behalf of the staff, I wish all families an enjoyable and safe Winter break.

Mrs Kate Rayment - Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**School Social**

The SLC hosted the first school social for 2013 on Wednesday 12 June. The theme was 'Movie Characters' and staff were entertained, delighted and sometimes challenged by the efforts of students. Thanks to great organisation by the Year 12 leaders, the night ran smoothly. DJ Luke Fulwood was a great hit and I thank him sincerely for his service to the school community. Thank you too, to the staff who agreed to supervise on a wet and cold Winter evening, they all earned 'House Points' for their efforts.

Year 11 2014 Parent Information Evening

Coming up on Tuesday 25 June will be an information evening for the parents of Year 10 students, to present information related to Stage 6 study in 2014. The evening will give an overview of the Preliminary Year, the procedures for subject selection and allow a chance to ask questions of relevant staff. Students have received a Senior Prospectus which outlines the subjects offered at McCarthy.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**Whole School Mass**

The next whole school Mass is on 24 June at 11.30am. 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

Students in Years 7 and 10 will attend the Village Space performances on Tuesday 16 July, the first day for students in Term 3. All students have received a note and are asked to hand the money for this performance in to the school office.

Religious Conferences

Throughout the year there are numerous religious conferences held which are designed to enhance the faith of young people. In September the Ignite Conference 2013: 'The Call' will be held in Brisbane and will feature live bands, keynote speakers and discussion groups. For more information go to www.igniteconference.com.au or contact us at school.

There will be another Youth Conference held in Melbourne later in the year of a similar nature.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinators

PASTORAL CARE**Merit Awards**

When students receive 5 Merit Certificates, at least one of which is for service to others, they become eligible for a Certificate of Achievement. The award is *not* automatic, but is dependent upon the merit recognition coming from a number of teachers, and on the student's compliance with the Code of Conduct in all areas of the school.

It was my pleasure to ask Mrs Rayment to present the first 2013 recipients with their Certificates of Achievement at assembly last week. Congratulations to:

Year 7: Ethan Walden

Year 8: Grace Allan, Hannah Macpherson, Kiarra Ruttley, Alexandra Watt

Year 9: Kate Cruickshank, Gabrielle Vella

Year 10: Vindhya Dayaratne

Year 11: Kimberly Bruccoleri, Dana Dehm, Jacinta Flynn, Priyanka Pinto, Jessica Whitbread

Year 12: Ted Alderton, Anna Camilleri, Antony de Senerpont Domis, James Dunn, Harrison Lord, Jerome Studdy, Harry Vella, Tahlia White, Hannah Woods.

**Year 7 Outdoor Education**

Year 7 students travelled to Morisset for three days of fun, fear, friendship and feelings of self-satisfaction and pride. The students faced many challenges including the Survivor Challenge, the Flying Fox, High Ropes, Giant Swing and the Super Drop.

Highlights of the camp included the way students encouraged and supported their peers and teachers and strengthened their relationships through sweat, tears and laughter. Many thanks go to Mr Northey, Mrs Gale, Mrs Shoemark, Miss Sjollem, Mrs Godden, Mr Burke, Mr Feltrin and the "camp instructors". Special thanks to Mr Davy for his organisation and leadership.

The Holidays

It would be appreciated if students and/or parents could use this time to let down hems to below knee level, replace jumpers and shirts that are now too short, purchase correct track pants, mend holes in jumpers and shine shoes etc.

The upcoming break provides a great organisational opportunity for students – to check all work is complete and up to date, all tasks and exams filed, study area tidied, stationery supplies (particularly class work books) should be checked and replenished if necessary and school bag cleaned. For senior students it is a time to study. For all students there should be time for family, exercise, socialising and relaxation. Enjoy!

Theme for the Week

In Week 7 students were encouraged to recognise that *'After the Exams'* is ideally a time of intense learning. They should check the marking of their papers, listen carefully to comments made by their teachers, file their papers effectively, identify areas of work that need further revision and undertake study based on the feedback provided by their teachers and their own exam analysis.

The topic for Week 8 was *'Things Better Left Unsaid'*. Swearing, verbal bullying, putting people down and gossiping were considered. An adolescent's participation in and response to these actions by others, is an indication of maturity and character. The development of *empathy* – an awareness and understanding of others' feelings and experiences – helps us to judge what we should – *and shouldn't* – say.

'We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak.' Epictetus (circa 55-135)

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Next **Association Meeting** will be held on Tuesday 16 July 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 10

I am currently visiting Year 10 classes to discuss career education in terms of decisions to be made this year and the options for students. Please ask your son or daughter for a copy of the *Year 10 Career Booklet* and the *My Career Plan* sheets they have been given.

Please discuss and fill in the *My Career Plan* sheets with both the student and parent/guardian signing it. These are to be returned to the student's Maths teacher by the end of Week 1 in Term 3. Resources are available at school to be borrowed and information is available via the Careers Page of the school website at: <http://mccarthy.nsw.edu.au/careers/>

Year 12

The University Information Evening will be held in the PAC on Wednesday 26 June starting promptly at 6.00pm and will end by 7.30pm. **Please note the change of time which is due to the rugby league State of Origin match.** There will be guest speakers from UNE and the University of Wollongong on the night and information on Dunmore Lang College at Macquarie University in Sydney. It is highly recommended that all Year 12 students and their parents attend this evening if university is the goal either in 2014 or 2015.

Details of the Newcastle University Schools Open Day visit on 17 July will be finalised on Monday 24 June.

Australian Air Force Cadets

The Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC) is an air-minded youth organisation open to young people aged between 13 and 18 years. The local unit, 310 Squadron, is now recruiting. An information session will be held on 25 June from 7.00pm at 6 Rentell Street, Tamworth Airport. For more information contact David Koppers, Commanding Officer, on 0428 240 809.

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



BAND

On Sunday 9 June, Mrs Lane and six McCarthy students; Jessica Higgins, Laura Heuston, Jerome Studdy, Jeffrey Wong, Matthew Letton, Gabrielle Studdy, competed in the East Coast of Australia Band Competition in Newcastle. They played with the Tamworth Brass Band in a field of twelve bands. They were thrilled to achieve 2nd place in their Hymn and Test section. They should be commended for their efforts, not just playing, but choreographing and dancing in the Wiggles number.....and yes we had to "wake up Jeff"! Jerome was also an outstanding compere.

Mrs Lisa Lane

SPORT

NSWCCC Touch

Nine students; Kerrod Binge, Brittany Coe, Chloe Coe, Brodii Ingram, Bridget Kerrigan, Sophie Soles (Opens), Cara Paterson, Jye Paterson and Patrick Ferguson (15s), competed at the NSWCCC Touch Championships in Werrington on 5 June.

Congratulations to Brittany Coe who was selected in the NSWCCC Opens Touch team to compete at the Australian Championships next term. We wish her well.

Rugby Union

Congratulations to Ryan Prentice and Brad Thrift who were selected to attend the NSW All Schools Rugby Union trials as part of the NSW Country Schools 1st XV Rugby team.

NSWCCC Cross-Country

Last Friday, Sophie Heeney, Ella Heeney and Bronte Ellicott competed at the NSWCCC Cross-Country Championships at Eastern Creek. Congratulations to Sophie Heeney who won a gold medal in the 16 Girls' division and to Ella Heeney who won a silver medal in the 13 Girls division. The girls will return to Eastern Creek early next term to contest the NSW All Schools Championships. We wish them well.

AFL - Regional Final at Coffs Harbour



McCarthy competed in the regional final of the Mid North Coast/North West Regions against John Paul II College at Coffs Harbour on Wednesday, 5 June. In a highly competitive and high scoring game, McCarthy went down by only 3 points. The final score was 46 – 43. The team was ably led by Tom Kelly who inspired all players to perform to the best of their ability. Our players were enthusiastic and showed excellent sportsmanship throughout the game. Our skills in Australian Rules Football are improving with every game. There were many examples of teamwork on the day with players hand-balling to one another and shepherding opposition players. Whilst the players were disappointed with the loss, we are heartened by the fact that we were highly competitive on the day, showing a real improvement in the understanding and delivery of the skills in Australian Football. Our team members were: Tom Kelly (captain), Will Keogh, Tom Keogh, Jake Vandeven, Matt Hughes, Alex Stuart, Doohan Honess, Evan Rice, Connor Robinson, Heath Booby, Kuzi Jaravani,

Kris Miller, Jac Maiden, Lachlan Glasson, Fergus Grady and Nick Penrose. Thank you to Mr Rob Meppem who drove the school bus and helped supervise the boys. During Term 3 there will be opportunities to play in the local Under 15s competition on a weekend as well as fortnightly games against Farrer on a Thursday after school. We are always looking for more players, so please come and join in the great game of AFL.

Mrs Sharon Stuart - AFL Coach

Coonabarabran Equestrian Expo 2013

Eight students; Ben Collett, Megan Reid (Year 12), Sam Collett, Natasha Achurch, Hannah Cochrane (Year 9), Lucy Herbert, Alex Watt (Year 8) and Georgia Achurch (Year 7), competed at the Coonabarabran Equestrian Expo from 31 May to 4 June. Over six hundred students, with seven hundred horses, from one hundred and fifteen schools competed in a range of events over the five days in Coonabarabran. We were exposed to rain, sleet, mud, very cold temperatures, wind and a little sunshine, however this did not dampen the McCarthy spirit. All students displayed excellent sportsmanship, a drive to compete at their best and great social skills in communicating with other schools.

Lucy Herbert was awarded 1st in her division of the One Day Eventing and Reserve Champion in the Preliminary Dressage. She also completed good rounds in the Six Bar Show Jumping. This comes following Lucy's success at the State Interschool Equestrian Riding event earlier in the year, where she did her school proud placing 2nd in the One Day Event and receiving numerous placings in show riding events resulting in being awarded the Reserve Champion Under 15 years Rider. In the Dressage competition she won one test and was 7th in the other. With these outstanding results, Lucy is in line for a place on the State team to compete at the Nationals at Perth in November.

Hannah Cochrane placed 7th in her One Day Event and also competed well in the Open Show Jump.

Megan Reid, Sam Collett and Ben Collett gave spectators a great demonstration in the new sport of Horse Ball and it will now be included in the program from 2014. This trio were also involved in a Team Barrel race placing 8th out of one hundred schools and only 2.90 seconds from the 1st place team.

Ben Collett was awarded 17 years Age Champion, Champion Rider 17 years, 2nd in The Warrumbungle Way competition, 4th in the Working Horse Challenge along with numerous placings in sporting events.

Sam Collett was awarded 14 years Age Champion, Champion Sporting Rider, 1st in the Warrumbungle Way Competition, 2nd in the Working Horse Challenge and, along with his brother Ben, 5th in Pair of Riders, and 1st in the highly competitive Polo Cross competition.

Both Natasha and Georgia Achurch placed 12th in their division of One Day Eventing and Alex Watt placed 14th.

Lucy Herbert, Natasha Achurch, Ben Collett and Sam Collett placed 1st in their ring in the Team of Fours event, and finishing in the top five for the event.

Well done to all students; records show this was our best achievement at this event, with McCarthy bringing home eight Championship rugs.

Mrs Julie Kellahan

NSWCCC Tennis

This week, the McCarthy Girls' tennis team; Emily Reid (Year 10), Darcie Martin, Emma Barnes and Jennifer Supple, travelled to Bathurst to contest the NSWCCC Tennis Championships. The girls defeated St Francis, Leeton convincingly in the first round but went down to Holy Spirit, Wollongong in the second round. This put the girls into a play-off for third position against Cerdon College, Merrylands. Congratulations to the girls who went on to claim the bronze medal.

Rugby League

McCarthy Catholic College's Open Rugby League team have participated in the Country Cup over the past few weeks. The team has played two games thus far. Our Round 1 game was against Oxley High School, where the boys went down 40 – 8 after just being able to field a team. Round 2 saw an improvement in some aspects of the teams game, but unfortunately the team went down 44 – 16 against Peel High School.

Ryan Prentice and Brayden Grehan lead the way, with Zak Johns and Jackson Rock improving throughout both games.

The match against Tamworth High School was postponed this week due to the wet conditions.

Basketball Meeting

Interested parents of McCarthy Catholic College Basketball players, intending to play in the Term 3 and Term 4 competition, are asked to attend a meeting at school in the staffroom on Monday 24 June at 6.00pm.