

# Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

## Prayer

### Hail Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,  
hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope.  
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve:  
to thee do we send up our sighs,  
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.  
Turn then, most gracious Advocate,  
thine eyes of mercy toward us,  
and after this our exile,  
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!  
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.  
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.  
Amen

## Reflection

October is one of two months in the Church's year devoted to Mary. No one really knows how or why the tradition of praying the Rosary during the month of October came about, but it is a good opportunity to remember the events in Jesus' life and the role of Mary his mother (and ours), the first disciple in God's plan of salvation. The Rosary is made up of the Apostles Creed, the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be and the Hail Holy Queen. The whole Rosary covers twenty mysteries, five joyful, five luminous, five sorrowful and five glorious; which together cover the main events in the life of Jesus.

## PRINCIPAL MATTERS

### Higher School Certificate

The 2014 HSC written examinations commenced on Monday this week. They will run until Wednesday 5 November. On behalf of the school community I wish Year 12 students all the best for the examinations. Results will be released on Wednesday 17 December.

### School Captains 2014-15

The school leaders for the next twelve months were announced at the Year 12 Formal Assembly in the final week of last term. It is with pleasure that I pass on those names to the broader school community. It is a very strong senior SLC group, led by captains Bridget Galvin and Isaac Carr and vice captains Vindhya Dayaratne and Nicholas Sanderson. SLC members are Taylor Ambrose, Megan Murphy, Mikayla Thompson, Beau Alderton, Patrick Goodwin and Connor Wieland. I am confident that these students will provide outstanding leadership to the school community.



### Building Update

Excavation has commenced in preparation for the foundations for the new building and minor works have commenced in the Administration block.

### Staff Matters

Mrs Julie McGregor (Pastoral Care Coordinator and Mathematics teacher) is retiring at the end of this year after 25 years of dedicated service. Julie has taught a range of subjects, including Mathematics (Advanced and General), Biology, Life Management Studies and General Studies. She will remain involved with the college as a member of the casual teaching staff.

Mr Dan Mitchell (Year Coordinator and Technology, Religious Education and HSIE teacher) will be moving to Newcastle with his family at the end of the year. Mr Mitchell has been a member of the permanent staff at McCarthy for the past 6 years.

Mrs Thompson continues to recover and is gradually returning to a full-time teaching load. She has now returned to teaching most of her original class allocations.

Teacher vacancies will be advertised during the next few weeks.

### Pupil-Free Day

Day 1 of term was our staff annual Religious Education professional development day. The day was spent learning more about our local indigenous community and, specifically, the Gomeri people. It was a very interesting and informative day. A more detailed report is provided in the Religious Education section of this newsletter.

### Sports Award Morning

The annual Award Night will be held on Monday 15 December. This year, the sports awards will be presented during a separate event, to be held on Friday 21 November at 9.00am.

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The first day of Term 4 was specifically devoted to the spiritual development of McCarthy staff. The main purpose of the day was the development of our knowledge and understanding of Gomeri history and culture. We were led by local Gomeri elder, Len Waters to two local sites, the Botanic Gardens and Wonooka (Moore Creek). Len informed the staff of local Gomeri Dreaming stories, customs and spiritual practices; and later in the afternoon, Tom Flanders gave the staff a young Aboriginal person's perspective of the personal value of knowing culture and language.

*Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinator*

## PASTORAL CARE

### Condolences

Our prayers and sympathy go to Isobel Paff and her family following the passing of her grandmother.

### Vaccinations

All of Year 7 and Year 9 boys will receive Round 3 of the vaccinations on Friday 31 October. Students are asked to wear sports uniform, to have breakfast and to bring a water bottle. Vaccinations will only be given to those students who have submitted the appropriate forms.

### “Surviving Your Adolescents” Free Seminar for Parents

Surviving Your Adolescents – Learn how to manage and let go of your 11 – 22 year old.

This FREE course covers:

- What is normal adolescent behaviour
- How to manage teen risk-taking
- The Four Cardinal Sins (what not to do)
- The relationship between parent-teen communication and adolescent safety
- The four ways to improve your relationship
- How to respond to emotional blackmail.

**When:** Wednesday 29 October from 5.30pm – 8.30pm.

**Where:** McCarthy Catholic College, Room A4.

**Registration:** Please phone the Family Relationship Centre through Centacare on 6738 7200 before 22 October as numbers are limited.

### Theme for the Week

The term started with a reminder to follow the advice of Matthew and to treat others as we ourselves would like to be treated. Issues relating to *Justice and Fairness* were discussed and students were asked to consider how they could promote justice in the school/wider community.

In Week 2 aspects of cyber awareness and safety were discussed. Students were encouraged to always think carefully before they post/send, to use blocking appropriately and to report any concerns to an appropriate authority. They were reminded that over 40% of employers conduct online checks of job applicants.

*“There are two kinds of injustice: harming another and failing to protect another from injury when we can.” (Cicero)*

*Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator*

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

### HSC Exams

The HSC examinations have begun. Eighteen days of morning and afternoon exams are timetabled for the next four weeks. The students were very positive before the exam and it was pleasing to see that many remained positive afterwards. Students are reminded to attend all scheduled exams and if in doubt, it is better to turn up, inform the HSC Presiding Officer of any issue, complete the exam and fill out an “Application Due to Illness or Misadventure” form.

### Year 11

Year 11 students are about to begin their HSC studies. Some students have decided to drop either a course or a level. Mrs Susan Barrett provided the students with a very informative presentation regarding this issue. If your child is still keen to adjust their pattern of study, it is imperative that they follow the correct procedure. A green ‘Change of Subject or Course’ form, available from the office, should be filled out. Several signatures are required on this form: the teacher of the dropped subject, Mrs Barrett as the Careers Advisor, your signature and mine. We insist on this process to ensure students are making appropriate decisions and the necessary adjustments are made to BOSTES. Students are reminded that they must attend all of their Year 11 classes until they receive their modified timetable via Mentor Group. These changes will begin in Week 4.

Year 11 reports will be posted home at the end of the week with Parent/Teacher Interviews on Wednesday 22 October from 4.00pm – 6.30pm. This evening will be in the library due to the HSC exams.

### 2015 Subject Selection

The process of subject selections for next year is continuing as we endeavour to accommodate students into their chosen pattern of study.

### Enrol Now for Literacy and Numeracy Tests

Students intending to leave school before completing the HSC have the option of taking online Literacy and Numeracy tests from 23 to 29 October, 2014.

The tests are prepared and marked by the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW (BOSTES).

Students completing the test will receive reports detailing their skill in literacy and numeracy. Discussions with employer groups reveal that the ability to provide tangible evidence of these skills is highly regarded when they are making a decision to employ.

The test consists of a range of short-answer questions that relate to aspects of everyday life such as reading a recipe, preparing a quote and providing directions to a location.

If your son or daughter is interested in taking online Literacy and Numeracy tests, it is important they notify me by Monday 20 October so they can be enrolled.

*Ms Suzanne Day – Teaching and Learning Coordinator*

## PARENT INFORMATION

### Association Meeting

The next meeting is Tuesday 21 October 7.00pm for 7.15pm start in the Staff Room.

### Trivia Night

You are invited to attend the MCC Association's Trivia Night on Friday 14 November. The fun night commences at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start in the hall. Cost is only \$10 per head payable on the night. Please bring gold coins, drinks and nibbles and remember that it is an over 18 only event. Prizes include the best dressed table/team, the winning team and bonus spot prizes will be awarded throughout the night.

### Hamilton Island Holiday Raffle

Thank you to families who have sold books of raffle tickets. Books of 10 tickets can be collected from the office to sell. Please return tickets and money to the office as soon as possible.

## CAREERS NEWS

This is a big term for many students with various decisions to be made and many activities and opportunities available to students. Recently students in Years 10 and 11 were told about one such activity through the morning notices being the 4 day residential **UNSW Minerals Summer School (UMSS)** to be held in January 2015.

For Year 12 students, even as they sit the HSC examinations, information continues to arrive that may be of interest and use to them. The school is also offering them the chance to do the RSA and RCG courses at school during November and details have been given to them.

Year 11 students have been given a talk on *Reports, the HSC, Scaling and ATARs* and I also held a lunchtime presentation on *Choosing the Right Subjects for University Courses* earlier this week. This was open to both current Year 10 and 11 students and focussed on Assumed Knowledge subjects and the implications for students choosing to study Engineering, Science, Psychology, some Health courses, Economics and also teaching at university.

In coming weeks, I will also be holding Lunchtime Career Forums on Early Entry schemes and Bonus HSC Marks for Year 11 students.

*Mrs Susan Barrett – Careers Advisor*  
[careers@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:careers@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

### Expressions of Interest – Europe Cultural Tour (Adults) September/October 2015

After a number of inquiries in regard to the possibility of tour of a Europe for adults, I have organised a very interesting tour that focuses on the best of Italy, Switzerland, and Germany. We explore: the wonders of Rome, the unique beauty of the Amalfi Coast and the Cinque Terre, the magnificence of Venice and Florence, the best of Italian hillside villages and Tuscany, the wonder of the Swiss Alps, the magic of Vienna, Prague and the Romantic Road, just to mention a few of the highlights.

The tour includes airfares and all transfers, a tour guide for the whole trip, admission fees and local tour guides for all the main attractions eg the Vatican, all breakfast and most dinners, 4 star plus hotels. If you are interested in this trip, please contact me on ph: 0419418806 and we can explore our options further.

*Mrs Denise McHugh*

## SPORT

### NSW All Schools Track and Field Championships

Kate Pianta, Ella Heeney and Samuel Ellicott travelled to Sydney to compete in the NSW All Schools' Track and Field Championships at Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre on 10 October. Over 1200 athletes competed at the event. Kate placed a credible 4<sup>th</sup> in long jump, 6<sup>th</sup> in high jump, 7<sup>th</sup> in 200m and 8<sup>th</sup> in 100m. Congratulations to Sam who won the silver medal in 400m, 4<sup>th</sup> in 200m and 10<sup>th</sup> in 100m; and Ella who won the silver medal in 800m. Sam will compete at the Australian Championships in Adelaide in December.

### Australian Touch Championships

Brodii Ingram and Chloe Coe were selected in the NSWCCC Touch team after trialling at Wagga Wagga in June. The girls travelled to Caloundra and competed in the 2014 Touch Football National Youth Championships from 15 – 19 September. Seventeen teams from across Australia competed and NSWCCC had wins against sides from Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australian and South Australia before being defeated by the Brisbane City Cobras in the quarter finals. The NSWCCC team finished 5<sup>th</sup> overall. Well done girls.

### Hockey

Congratulations to Dana Constable and Isaac Farmilo who have been selected in the Hockey Australia 2014/15 National Futures' Group. This identifies Dana and Isaac as an "Emerging International Athlete". They will attend the National Futures' Camp in December on the Gold Coast. We wish them well.

### Basketball

Brianna Zwolsman, Krystal Booby, Josie Chick, Miah O'Sullivan, Grace Salter and Sienna Kennedy competed in Basketball Australia's Under 14 Girls' Club National Tournament in Brisbane during the school holidays as members of the Tamworth Thunderbolt U14 Country Premier League team. The girls played three matches in their pool winning against NW Tasmania Thunder but losing to South Australia Mavericks and Bendigo Braves. This placed them in the Shield Division where they had wins

against SW Tasmania, Manly Sea Eagles and Rockingham Western Australia. They were defeated in the semi-final against Wellington and, unfortunately, lost to Ipswich in a play-off for the bronze medal.

The girls were the first Tamworth team to qualify for the tournament and should be very proud of their achievements.

#### Water Polo

Congratulations to Jayden Gimbergh who was selected to play for Drummoyne Water Polo Club at the Under 16 National Club Championships in Hobart from 30 September – 5 October. His team competed well to win the bronze medal.

#### NSW BMX Championships

Daniel Morris competed at the NSW BMX Championships at Macarthur BMX Club in Elderslie, Sydney winning both the state series and the title for the 15-16 boys' cruiser. He placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state series for the 16 boys and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the title for 16 boys.

#### NSW Junior Gymnastics Championships

Hannah Dowden (Level 4 – 13 Years +), Alysha Baker and Amber-Jade Kuczer (Level 5 – 13 Years +) are busy preparing for the NSW Junior Gymnastics Championships, which will be held in Sydney on the 25 – 26 October in Sydney. We wish the girls well.

# McCarthy Association - FUN RAISER

## You are invited to attend

- Date** Friday 14 November 2014  
**Time** 7.00pm for 7.30pm start  
**Venue** McCarthy Catholic College Hall  
**Who** Over 18s only (this isn't a kid's night)  
**Bonus** Only \$10 per head (payable on the night)  
**Bring** Your gold coins, own drinks, nibbles



Prizes

Best dressed table/team

Winning trivia team

Spot prizes will be awarded throughout the night

To register please choose an option below:

1. Phone the school with your table name on 6761 0800
2. Email [admin@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:admin@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)
3. Return the slip below to the school office

**by Monday 10 November 2014**

**So Register Your Table of 8 People NOW**

### McCarthy Trivia Night Friday 14 November 2014

Please register a table of 8 for the following team.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

If you don't have a table of 8 but would like to come, please register and let the girls know that you don't have a full table. We will put together a table for you.