

Newsletter

Telephone: (02) 6761 0800

Postal Address: PO Box 3486 West Tamworth NSW 2340

Email: admin@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

Facsimile: (02) 6766 4557

Website: www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

McCarthy Office Hours: 7.30am – 4.00pm



Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

O God, in Whom we live, move and have our being, grant us sufficient rain, so that, being supplied with what sustains us in this present life, we may seek more confidently what sustains us for eternity. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Amen

Reflection

In this extended and increasingly difficult time of drought it is good for us as a community to pray for the rain we need and for those seriously affected by the drought; and to recognise and observe the need to preserve and distribute equitably the water reserves we have.

By its very nature water cannot be treated as just another commodity among many, and it must be used rationally and in solidarity with others. The distribution of water is traditionally among the responsibilities that fall to public agencies, since water is considered a public good... The right to water, as all human rights, finds its basis in human dignity and not in any kind of merely quantitative assessment that considers water as merely economic good. (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, 485)

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Advent

The season of Advent brings many opportunities as we all 'clean out' in preparation for the arrival of *the* most important 'visitor'. It is a time of repentance and renewal as we prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas. It is important that families use this time to build, prayerfully, for the much anticipated celebration of our Saviour's birth. Christmas can so easily be dominated by materialism and consumerism and leave us with a very brief sense of satisfaction and gratification. When given the preparation deserving of one of Christianity's great moments, Christmas can be fulfilling, meaningful and an extensive event in our family life.

Staffing

There will be a number of staffing changes for 2015 and these will be finalised over the coming weeks. At this point in time I am able to announce the following appointments:

- Pastoral Care Coordinator – Mrs Libby Molony
- Year 12 Coordinator – Mrs Kate Woolaston
- Year 11 Coordinator – Mrs Michelle Gale
- Mathematics Teacher – Mr Dane Kelly
- Mathematics/Technology Teacher – Mr Nicholas Fahey.

All five staff members are excellent educators and wonderful role models. Congratulations are extended to each one.

Building Update

The building works are progressing well, with footings and slabs poured on the main site, and wall frames now up on the Administration block extension. The work on the Administration block is expected to be completed by the end of January and the new structure is due for completion mid-2015.

Spirit of Catholic Education Awards Nominations

The 2015 Spirit of Catholic Education Awards will be held on Tuesday 10 March next year and nominations close for all categories of the awards (Early Career Teacher, Experienced Teacher, School Officer, Leadership, Volunteer Supporter and an Innovative Program) on Friday 5 December. Nomination forms are available on the CSO website or from the school. It is an important opportunity to recognise and celebrate the great work done by members of our school community so please take the time to complete a nomination for any person or initiative you deem worthy.

Year 10 Canberra Excursion

Students from our school will soon be undertaking an education tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational programs with a focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy.

The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion the Australian Government is contributing funding of \$30 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

Mrs Kate Rayment - Principal

Diary Dates

1 Dec:	Year 10 Excursion
1 Dec:	Year 9 Excursion
2 Dec:	Band Camp – Narrabri
9 Dec:	Reconciliation
11 Dec:	Year 10 Social Event
15 Dec:	Award Night
17 Dec:	Last day of Term 4 for students
19 Dec:	Year 12 BBQ Breakfast
19 Dec:	Term 4 concludes for staff
26 Jan:	Australia Day Public Holiday
27 Jan:	Term 1 2015 commences for staff
28 Jan:	Years 7, 11 and new students commence
29 Jan:	Years 8, 9, 10, 12 commence

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Masses

We have to date celebrated a total of twenty-four year group Masses in addition to our four whole school Masses during 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Monseigneur Wilkes and the priests who have assisted in this program for the ongoing concern and support of the faith development of our students.

Vinnies

To date the new St Agnes Executive have very smoothly moved to the helm and have held two very successful meetings. The team is presently organising activities to raise funds for the annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Students from the conference will be selling gold stars for the Christmas tree, personalised candy-cane Christmas wishes and will hold a Christmas themed dress-up muffi day towards the end of term.

Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinator

PASTORAL CARE

Condolences

Our prayers and sympathy go to Joshua Moore and family following the passing of his grandfather.

Transition to McCarthy

An Information Evening was held on Tuesday for the parents of new students coming to McCarthy in 2015. The following day students entering Year 7 attended an Orientation Day where they met others in their cohort, completed some testing, toured the school, met some staff and older students and were entertained by Music students. Present Year 7 students offered some advice based on their experiences this year. We look forward to welcoming them next year.

Theme for the Week

The students were reminded of the meaning of *responsibility* and its place in our Code of Conduct – Care, Courtesy, Respect and Responsibility. It is important to remember that we may not be responsible for all the things that happen to us, but we are responsible for the way we react to them.

Now is the Time to test your limits, support a cause, explore positive new worlds online, stick together and to let in the light. This was the encouragement offered in Mentor Group during Week 8.

'Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions.' Oliver Wendell Holmes (1841-1935)

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The past few weeks have been busy for the whole school community with students sitting exams, teachers marking the exams, students and teachers reviewing the exams and teachers writing reports. I am hopeful that students were pleased with their results in these last assessment tasks for the year and they were rewarded for the effort they made. Albert Einstein said that 'Insanity was doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.' This means if students want to improve on their results next time, they will need to do things differently and of course, what that 'differently' is, will vary for each student.

The reports for Years 7 through to 10 students will be arriving in homes towards the end of next week.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, our Year 11 students have begun their HSC work with many working towards their first assessment tasks. I must stress the importance of students attending school every day unless they are unwell. So much happens in a lesson that is difficult to catch up. Worksheets and information can be easily copied, however it is the conversation that could be the vital key to a greater understanding of a concept or outcome.

If any student in Year 10 or 11 is considering leaving school, please come and see me as the school must apply to BOSTES to obtain your Record of School Achievement.

Ms Suzanne Day – Teaching and Learning Coordinator

CAREERS NEWS

Year 9 - Resumes and Cover Letters

I have started meeting with Year 9 classes to hold workshops on the important skills of writing resumes and cover letters. Each student will receive a handout based on advice from recruiters to Careers Advisers, the Job Guide 2014 and endorsed websites like *JobJump*. A good resume will help get a student an interview for a job, a scholarship or a place at college. A poor one may cost them any chance of success. Once created, a resume can be "tweaked" for various purposes throughout a student's time at school and beyond. The requirements of writing a cover letter are quite specific and act as an introduction to a resume. Often employers use a good cover letter as a benchmark for evaluating potential employees. I will be visiting each class during the remainder of this term. This will enhance a student's job-readiness for full or part time work.

Work Experience

We have recently had some students complete work experience and it has been very pleasing to contact the employers and receive good reports. I congratulate these students as a lot of time, planning and paperwork is involved in the process. More information can be found online at: <http://mccarthy.nsw.edu.au/careers/work-experience/> A completed application to do work experience is the first step. Once this form is submitted and meets school policy, we then talk about employers and convenient dates and start the process.

ConocoPhillips Science Experience

Over the summer break, UNE will be hosting the ConocoPhillips Science Experience. This three day 'camp' is for current Year 9 and 10 students and designed to provide students who have an interest in Science with an opportunity to engage in a wide range of hands-on Science activities under the guidance of Scientists who love their work.

It is being held from 13-15 January 2015, at the UNE campus. Further information and registration application is available at www.scienceexperience.com.au.

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

PARENT INFORMATION

Association Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday 17 February 2015.

Family Fund Appeal – Christmas Hampers

The Family Fund appeal is asking for donations of items to be placed in Christmas Hampers. These hampers will be distributed to selected McCarthy families in need. Donations can be left at the school office before Friday 5 December. Thank you for your contributions.

Mango Orders

Thank you to those parents/friends who ordered mangoes. The delivery date will be advised.

Trivia Night

Thank you to those parents and friends who came along to the Trivia Night. It was a great evening. The winning team was Spotalicious who also won the best themed table.

Hamilton Island Holiday Raffle

The winner of the holiday raffle drawn at the Trivia Night, was Louise Henry. The winner of the iPod shuffle, drawn at last week's assembly was Jessica Rapley. Congratulations!

Camper Trailer Raffle

We are having a major raffle next year in lieu of Country Music Camping, the prize being a fully equipped Camper Trailer. Tickets will be selling on 14 January at BCF and 18 January at the markets to coincide with the Country Music festival.

CREATIVE ARTS EVENING

McCarthy Catholic College held the annual Creative Arts Evening on 17 November. It was a fabulous night showcasing gifted and talented musicians, dancers, Drama students and artists. HSC musicians and Drama students had the opportunity to demonstrate their skills. Visual Arts students created an exhibition of artworks ranging from self-portrait drawings, paintings, photography and sculptures.

The School Band performed several engaging pieces which received warm ovations from our McCarthy family and friends in the audience.

The night showcased many outstanding Elective Music students, Band members, Drama and Visual Artists.

Mrs Suzanne Perfrement



EUROPE

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 or email dmchugh@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au for a detailed copy of the itinerary.

Ms Denise McHugh

SPORT

Sport Awards Assembly

McCarthy Catholic College's inaugural Sport Awards Assembly was held in the school Hall on Friday 21 November.

Occasional Addresses were given by special guests Miss Megan Isbester (NSWCCC Most Outstanding Athlete in 2012) and Mr Bryce Lindores (World Champion Australian Paralympic Cyclist).

Congratulations to the following Award winners:

College Awards

Encouragement Awards: Billie Mitchell and Morgan Pennefather

Gold Award: Under 14 Rugby Union team

Coach of the Year Award: Mr Andrew Burke

Outstanding Achievement Award: Daniel Morris

Andrew Davy Award for Most

Outstanding Sporting Performance: McCarthy Year 7/8 Girls' Basketball team

Half Blue Awards: Under 16 Girls' Hockey team, Year 7/8 Girls' basketball team, Year 7/8 Boys' Basketball team
Jarrod Chester, Chloe Coe, Jayden Gimbergh, Ella Heeney, Sophie Heeney, Brodii Ingram, Darcie Martin, Kate Pianta

Blue Awards: Jack Cruickshank, Samuel Ellicott, Isaac Farmilo, Ella Heeney, Sophie Heeney



College Half Blue Awards: Jye Paterson, Toby Whale

Female Sportsperson of the Year: Ella Heeney

Male Sportsperson of the Year: Isaac Farmilo

2014 Pierre de Coubertin Award: Isaac Farmilo

Sports Carnivals Honour Shield: MacKillop

Certificates of Appreciation and gifts were presented to Sharon Stuart (AFL), Kate Chillingworth, Matt Hobson, Pat Hobson, Paul Hobson, Luke Krug, Frances Mumford, Wayne Northey, Darren Paff, Neil Wood (Basketball), Maureen Alderton, Tim Godden, Natalie Paterson (Cricket), Ronny Rindo (Football), Andrew Davy, Geoff Denton, Ian McKenzie (Hockey), Julie Kellahan (Horse Sports), Jane Burt, Donna Forrest, Ashleigh Jones (Netball), Andrew Burke, Damian Kenniff, Rob Meppem, Bernie Williams (Rugby League and Rugby Union), Kim Coe (Touch Football) and Julie McGregor (Waterpolo).

Sport House Captains for 2015

Chisholm House: Amanda Mulcahy and Ryan Whitbread

Dominic House: Teanna Haywood and Paul Murphy

Edmund Rice House: Chloe Coe and Nathan Climpson

MacKillop House: Sophie Heeney and Cameron Sing.



Mr Matt Feltrin – Sports Coordinator

Netball AGM

The McCarthy Netball Club held their Annual General Meeting on Monday 17 November. The meeting was well attended and the following office bearers were elected:

President: Liz Robinson

Vice-President: Janine Mills

Secretary: Lesa Sellers

Treasurer: Darren McKinnon

Committee members: Marie Goodwin, Rosemary Chatwood and Leanne Green.

Downie Shield Cricket

The McCarthy Open Boys' Cricket Team travelled to Walcha on Tuesday 18 November to play MacKillop College, Port Macquarie in the second round of the Downie Shield. McCarthy began well with a third wicket partnership of 84 between Matt Hughes (44) and Keytan Hislop (42) taking the score to 2 for 115. A late order collapse restricted the final score to 132. In reply, MacKillop reached 1 for 33, before Jye Paterson (4/9) and Jack Davison (3/15) combined to turn the game bowling MacKillop out for 118, giving McCarthy a 14 run victory. McCarthy took a number of very good catches, highlighted by Jack Davison's one handed caught and bowled just above the ground. McCarthy now progress to Round 3 where they will meet All Saints College, St Mary's Campus, Maitland.

Team: Cameron Clout, Liam Dunn, Jack McSweeney, Jye Paterson, Beau Alderton, Keytan Hislop, Matt Hughes, Jack Murrie, Harrison Tibbles, Toby Whale, Tom Kelly and Jack Davison.

Thank you to Mr Wayne Northey and Mr Denton for accompanying the students to Walcha.

Women's National Gymnastics Club 2014 Championships

Over ten days, clubs from Australia competed to be named the 2014 Women's National Club Champion in Geelong, Victoria. Tamworth Gymnastics Club sent two teams (Level 4 and Level 5) consisting of five gymnastics in each team.

Amber-Jade Kuczer and Alysha Baker (Year 11) from the Level 5 team placed 5th in vault on individual apparatus and 12th in Australia for the overall all around standing after two days of competition from Monday 10 to Tuesday 11 November.



McCarthy Catholic College**Family Fund Appeal**

Christmas Hampers

Get Into the Christmas Spirit of Giving

The Family Fund appeal is seeking your assistance once again, in donating items that can be placed in Christmas Hampers. These hampers will then be delivered to selected McCarthy families.

Ideas for Hampers include:

- *Christmas pies, biscuits*
- *Bags of sweets, soft drinks, packets of chips*
- *Pasta packets, pasta sauces*
- *Toiletries, toys, gifts*
- *Christmas cards, wrap, decorations*
- *Tinned food*
- *Chocolates and so on.*

Donations can be left at the School office .

To allow hampers to be delivered in time please leave donations by

Friday 5 December 2014



**Should you require further information please contact
Lynda Dehm**

0411 287090

Please ensure used-by dates have not expired. Thank you

