

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

Dear Lord

We pray this week for openness to the season of Advent.

Give us a special sensitivity of heart to the beauty of the Christmas stories.

Lead us to contemplate the overwhelming message of Gabriel, the 'yes' of Mary and the serving of Elizabeth.

Help us to respond, like Mary, with a great generosity in these closing weeks of the year to all who cross our path.

Give us the joy of Mary in the knowledge that we too are your highly favoured ones.

We pray this in your name.

Amen.

Reflection

"The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and the blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades. This is a very real danger for believers too. Many fall prey to it, and end up resentful, angry and listless. That is no way to live a dignified and fulfilled life; it is not God's will for us, nor is it the life in the Spirit which has its source in the heart of the risen Christ." Pope Francis – *Evangelii Gaudium*

Kate Rayment

Mrs Kate Rayment commenced at McCarthy Catholic Senior High in 1990 as a part-time Music teacher. Across twenty-five years of incredibly generous service to the McCarthy community she has taught a broad range of subjects including Studies of Religion, Exploring Early Childhood and Maths in Practice in addition to Music, her real passion. She is responsible for many enduring features of the McCarthy community including Vinnies group, Creative Arts Evenings, Vocal Ensemble, Band and senior student attendance at First Friday Masses.

Kate has demonstrated leadership in many capacities during her career at McCarthy Catholic College including REC, Assistant Principal and most recently as Principal. In that role she has worked tirelessly to ensure that she is making a difference – through her practice, challenge, support, strength and leadership. Kate has worked to be an inclusive, transparent and available leader. In 2013 Kate commenced a Doctorate study looking to enhance the academic culture and improve the academic performance of McCarthy Catholic College and it is Kate's servant heart that is at the centre of this endeavour; her vision for excellent Catholic education. This drive continues to shape professional discussion and endeavour at McCarthy and student data from 2014 indicates significant and encouraging improvement.

Kate is an integral member of the St Nicholas parish community, demonstrating humble leadership through her work in and for the Pastoral Council. She actively initiates links in the relationship between Church and school, and works tirelessly to model true servant leadership through her commitment to conducting the St Nicholas Parish Choir and her involvement in all parish activities.

Kate is a naturally gifted leader and in 2014 was the recipient of the Spirit of Catholic Education Leadership Award. She holds a Bachelor of Education (Music) 1984; a Certificate of Systematic Theology 1996; a Master of Leadership and Management in Education 2001; and a Master of Arts (Theological Studies) 2006.

We sincerely thank Kate for her leadership, outstanding contribution and dedicated service to the college and the wider community. Above all, we will miss her guidance, faith, humility and friendship. We wish her and Michael every success in their new venture in Sydney.

Julie McGregor

Mrs Julie McGregor commenced employment at McCarthy Catholic Senior High School in 1990 and since then has contributed enormously to the rich fabric of the McCarthy community. She is an unassuming leader, quietly guiding others to follow her example and demonstrate the McCarthy mission – Receive. Worship. Serve.

Julie's enthusiasm for teaching positively impacts the students with whom she comes in contact, with students enjoying her vast repertoire of Maths jokes. Her love of Maths has witnessed the birth and debut of 'The Pi Song' on assembly and the sharing of her considerable baking skills as classes examine the properties of circles. Mathshelp, paperclip rewards and the "2 more marks" mantra have become part of the academic culture of McCarthy.

In 2007 Julie was appointed Pastoral Care Coordinator and since that time has led the Pastoral Care team, capably and sensitively supporting the welfare of students, their families and staff. Her strength, compassion, intuition and wisdom in this role have assisted many to deal with difficult and challenging circumstances with dignity, knowing that discrete support and advice was available twenty-four hours a day.

Diary Dates

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

Julie is a warm, thoughtful and caring person who has made an outstanding leadership contribution to McCarthy Catholic College. Her generosity of spirit, thoughtful mentoring and genuine care of others are all testament to her strength, which will be sorely missed.

We wish Julie and her husband Murray well in their retirement and look forward to seeing Julie at school in a casual capacity.

Julia O'Neill

Julia is an exceptional Catholic woman, who has been the Food Technology Assistant at the College since 2002. Previously, Julia volunteered at Rosary and McCarthy helping out in the book room and library.

Julia's energy and enthusiasm are hallmarks of her service. She has always gone above and beyond in all areas of her job, often doing the little things that mean so much. She has assisted the Food Technology area, preparing ingredients in order that hundreds of students could complete practical cooking lessons. Julia has kept the kitchens immaculate for all to use, and managed endless washing. All of this has occurred with a ready smile and a joke or two along the way.

She has been a great teacher in many of life's basic skills. Julia will be sadly missed and we thank her for her work and contribution to school life at McCarthy. We wish her a very happy and active retirement.

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

In this, my final newsletter at McCarthy, it is time to thank the many, many people who have provided opportunities or who shared the load on the journey. Firstly, I thank the Most Reverend Bishop Kennedy and Bishop Matthys, all the clergy, and the Dominican Sisters and Christian Brothers, whose ministry has enabled McCarthy Catholic College to be of "service in developing the mission of the People of God and in promoting dialogue between Church and the community ..."¹ A thousand people at the college share in daily prayer and weekly Scripture. Staff and students participate in religious retreats; seasonal prayer groups; liturgy in parishes and at the college; reconciliation; First Friday Masses; and service, including raising substantial funds for Caritas, St Vincent de Paul and Catholic Mission. In addition, all students receive a comprehensive Catholic education through the Religious Education curriculum. McCarthy continues to be the largest fundraiser for Catholic Mission in Australia.

Secondly, I thank the staff members who, over the years, have demonstrated enormous commitment to Church, our students, families, their work, and each other. Never have I experienced a group of people in a work setting so willing to give of themselves to support local families and individuals in need. I thank in particular Sally Sparke and the Executive for their courageous efforts and the administration staff for their hospitality, care and commitment beyond their briefs.

I thank the parents who have entrusted the college with the education of their children. I especially thank those who have been actively involved in life at McCarthy through Board membership, participation in the parent Association and through volunteering in the canteen and clothing pool, fundraising and involvement in other areas of school life.

Finally I acknowledge the students, who make our school so special. Each and every visit to a classroom, walk through the playground and attendance at a student forum or display of work, reminds me of the very special nature of our school. The unity of effort and genuine commitment to the college motto - Receive, Worship, Serve - so evident at our weekly school assemblies is a memory I will carry throughout the remainder of my life. The respect, manners and happy nature displayed daily throughout the school leaves one with great hope for the future.

Staffing

This year we farewell a number of other staff members: Two retiring - Mrs Julie McGregor (25 years service) and Mrs Julia O'Neill (13 years service); two staff members who are moving out of Tamworth - Mr Dan Mitchell (6 years service) and Mr Andrew Burke (2 years service); and Mr Marco Cox, who is completing his twelve-month GAP year work in the IT Department. We wish each of them all the best for the future.

2015 Appointments and Changes:

Music/Languages teachers Mrs Suzanne Perfrement and Mrs Lisa Lane, and School Counsellors Mrs Tamara Shoemark and Mrs Clarissa Tebbutt will undertake job-share arrangements in 2015.

New Positions:

Principal – Mr Geoff McManus

Pastoral Care Coordinator – Mrs Libby Molony

Year 12 Coordinator – Mrs Kate Woolaston

Year 11 Coordinator – Mrs Michelle Gale

TAS Coordinator – Mrs Raelene Maxworthy

Mathematics Teacher – Mr Dane Kelly

Mathematics/Technology Teacher – Mr Nicholas Fahey

English Teachers – Mrs Shannon Monro and Miss Rebecca Hannan

Technology Teacher – Mrs Julie Kellahan

Food Technology Assistant – Mrs Linda Sinclair

Building Update

The building works continue to progress, with the builders amongst the few people in the region not praying for rain. By the time school resumes in late January, the structure of the new facilities will be very evident. The Administration block extension will be complete before the January long weekend.

¹ *The Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*, Congregation for Catholic Education, St Pauls Pub., 1999).

Award Night

The annual Award Night will be held this Monday, 15 December, in the College Hall. All families are invited to attend this event, the highlight of the school year. Congratulations are extended to all students who will receive awards and recognition of their outstanding achievements in academic and cultural endeavours and in leadership and service in our community.

Thank You - 2014

Thank you to all our parent volunteers, especially Jenny Hatfield after 16 years volunteer service in the Clothing Pool and all our loyal Canteen helpers. Thank you also to members of the McCarthy Association and the Board for your faithful and dedicated service throughout 2014.

Year 12 Breakfast Barbecue

Students from Year 12 2014 are invited to a breakfast barbecue with staff on the morning of Friday 19 December from 7.00am. The barbecue will provide an opportunity for students to come together again to discuss results and future directions. Careers advice and support will be available to assist students with important decisions to be made once results are known. It is hoped that most students will be able to attend.

Senior Hats



Our senior hats have arrived and will be available for sale for \$40 from the school during the first week of school next year. During this year we investigated the possibilities available and consulted with senior students as to the type and style they preferred. It was decided that the fine felted merino wool hats would be most durable as they allow a degree of crushability. The Mackenzie was selected for the boys and the Martina was chosen for the girls. The students who have seen the samples of these hats are excited to wear them next year and we trust that the remaining students will see the sun protection they offer.



Return Dates

Dates for return to school in 2015 are as follows:

Tuesday 27 January – staff return

Wednesday 28 January – Students in Year 11 and all students new to the school commence (including Year 7)

Thursday 29 January – All other students return.

As we wait in prayerful anticipation for the coming of Christ this Christmas, we are reminded of the great things that can come from change. I will continue to pray that Christian discipleship and stewardship will remain at the heart of 'our' school. Thank you all and may God bless you and keep you safe this Christmas and always.

Mrs Kate Rayment - Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In Week 10 many students and staff took advantage of the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I would like to thank the Tamworth priests for making this opportunity possible.

On Friday 5 December, the new executive members of the St Agnes Conference were inducted at First Friday Mass at 7.00am at St Nicholas Church. At this Eucharist the six office bearers, Pippa Herden, Emily Reid, Chloe Hope, Lauren MacRae, Teanna Haywood and Cara Paterson, were read their responsibilities by Mr John Wallace, the Bailey of the Tamworth St Vincent de Paul Society; they were given a copy of the Rule and a lighted candle which symbolises the light of Christ which will illuminate the work of the conference during their term of office. The St Agnes Conference is currently working on fundraising for the St Vinnies Christmas Appeal in the closing weeks of the term.

As the end of the year approaches, I would like to thank all those who contributed to Religious Education at McCarthy this year, particularly the clergy. I wish everyone a holy, happy and restful Christmas.

Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinator

PASTORAL CARE

Farewell and Thank You

It is with mixed emotions that I am retiring at the end of the year. During my twenty-five years at McCarthy I have had the privilege of sharing chapters in many students' and families' life stories. I am grateful for the trust that has been given to me and appreciative of the opportunities I have had to hopefully help in some small way. I have been constantly amazed by the talents, generosity and resilience of our students, the care and compassion of our staff and the outstanding leadership within the school. Every day I have not only taught but have also learnt. I have been fortunate to work with wonderful Year Coordinators and Counsellors, and am confident that under the leadership of Mrs Libby Molony, McCarthy Catholic College will continue to be justifiably proud of its Pastoral Care. I will always feel a part of the McCarthy community and wish everyone all the best for the future.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Natasha and Georgia Achurch and their family following the passing of their grandmother.

McCarthy Awards

Congratulations to the following students who are recipients of the McCarthy Award for 2014:

Year 7: Lyndell Boschma, Lauren Hutchinson, Abigail Kelly, Briony Littlejohns, Augustine Mundeley-Turner, Madeline Neville, Ryan Thompson.

Year 8: Jessica Eggins, Maggie Fulwood, Madeleine Gale, Olivia Gale, Eleanor George, Shayla Groth, Olivia Jeffrey, Molly Johns, Sophie Littlejohns, Whitney Martin, Amy Mills, Charlotte Mills, Kate Pianta, Jamie-Rae Robinson-Barlow, Nicola Ross, Meg Sheppard, Isobelle Sullivan, Adelaide Tinson, Sarah Vella.

Year 9: Anna Crisp, Natasha Favalaro, Breanna Fox, Jaydon Merrick, Katherine Sleiman, Jasmine Tan, Gio Sancho.

Year 10: Hayden Davy, Olivia Dillon, Matilda Shumack, Patrick Sparke, Phoebe Thornberry, Gabrielle Vella.

Year 11: Vindhya Dayaratne, Bridget Galvin, Pippa Herden, Meg Hobson, Viivi Kaariainen, Lauren MacRae, Nicholas Sanderson.

Theme for the Week

Over the last week and a half, we consider the Spirit of Giving and then Christmas in the light of our motto:

Receive - receive gifts, food and good wishes with gratitude and look for opportunities to do new and good things

Worship - celebrate the birth of Jesus at your church and at home

Serve - remember those less fortunate and try to do something for them (donate, visit, share); remember to help those people who are making your Christmas a good one (offer to help prepare, cook, clean, wrap)

I would like to express my appreciation to students and families who have contributed so generously to the Christmas hampers, the Dehm family who have prepared them and to the St Vincent de Paul Society and Lowes for their wonderful contributions.

Thank you to everyone who has developed good relationships and cared for others in our McCarthy community. May you and your families have a happy, holy and healthy Christmas.

'You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give.' Kahlil Gibran (poet, artist, writer)

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Coordinator

TEACHING AND LEARNING

It is difficult to believe that we are nearing the end of Term 4. I would like to acknowledge and thank the teachers and Coordinators for their invaluable support as I carried out the role of relieving Teaching and Learning Coordinator. My aim this year was to clarify the teaching and learning processes so they became more familiar to all involved.

Years 7-10 reports were posted this week. Please contact the school if you have not received your child's report.

In the last few weeks the Teaching and Learning team has worked on the 'N' Determination warning letter process to ensure our Stage 6 students have every opportunity to be successful and that support mechanisms are clear. There is now a flowchart to help staff and students understand the process. Students and staff will be familiarised with the flowchart in the early weeks of the new term.

I urge students to have a relaxing break over the holidays and to come back refreshed and revitalised. However, our Year 12 students also need to be mindful of any assessments they may have due in the first few weeks of 2015. These holidays are a good time to take stock of what has worked and what has not worked in their Year 12 subjects. It is not too late to modify work habits to ensure a stronger result this time next year. Year 12 students must remember that they are now one third of the way through their courses and any positive change in their work or study will be an asset. If studying a practical subject, these five weeks are a fantastic time to experiment and plan so as to produce an improved major project. Remember that students can email teachers with questions and for feedback. Some teachers may be unavailable at the time of the email but it will be there waiting for them to reply when they are able.

I wish everyone a peaceful and joyous Christmas, along with restful and safe holidays.

Ms Suzanne Day – Teaching and Learning Coordinator

CAREERS NEWS

Information for Parents of Year 10 and 11 Students

It is estimated that 80-90% of students get where they want to go with the help of someone, like a parent or other support person.

This video below will tell parents how they can help their child achieve their goals <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4AJd1Yj-vn8>.

As a parent/support person they can register with JobJump at <http://www.jobjump.com.au/>, to find out the latest news and help their child get where they want to go. Type in the name of our school which is **McCarthy Catholic College**. The school password is: **brumbies**. Relevant career, course and subject information will be emailed to parents.

Macquarie University Global Leadership Entry Program

On November 27, I attended the Orientation Ceremony with Alex Leonard (Year 12) who successfully applied for this program earlier this year. After an interview and selection program, Alex was one of the students from across NSW to be selected for this program in its inaugural year and will be doing a Bachelor of Commerce at Macquarie University in 2015. Congratulations Alex.



Year 12 HSC Results and Farewell Breakfast Barbecue

The last week of the school year will see the annual Award Night on Monday 15 December, HSC results released on Wednesday 17 December, ATARs coming out on Thursday 18 December and finally on the last official day of the school year, we will be hosting our annual Breakfast BBQ. This will be the final chance for Year 12 students to gather as a Year group. Bacon, eggs and sausages will be provided for the students. We will start from 7.00am so students working can attend before heading to work. Mrs Molony, the rest of the staff and I look forward to catching up with students. I will be available on these days to answer any questions or give advice and possible options once students receive their results.

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

ENGLISH**HSC English Textbooks for Term 1 2015**

We are working with Collins Booksellers to make copies of the HSC texts for the Area of Study available to students before the end of term. It is advisable that students read their text prior to the commencement of Term 1 in readiness for their HSC year of study. Advanced English students will be studying Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and Standard English students, *Away* by Michael Gow. The books will be priced at \$12 and \$21 respectively. The textbooks will be available for sale on a date yet to be advised, as we are still awaiting delivery. The lunchtime book sale will be cash only and students are asked to bring the correct change. Please note: English textbooks will not be available for purchase from the school office in 2015.

Mrs Katrina Sullivan – English Coordinator

MATHEMATICS

We thank parents and caregivers for supporting our students with their Mathematics in 2014. We have seen many successes and individual bests. As students move into their next stage of Mathematics in 2015 we encourage them to be attentive, persistent, resilient and to always work to the best of their ability.

For students moving into Year 9 next year, there will be some second hand textbooks available. We will organise a sale day in Week 2 of Term 1 2015. Students moving into Year 8 and Year 10 will have to purchase new textbooks in line with the new Australian Curriculum. A letter will be sent home, via students, before the end of term with the details of the required new text. Students moving into Year 11 will need to purchase the textbook relevant to their course.

It is with great pleasure that I commend all students who participated in the Australian Mathematics Competition and the ICAS Mathematics Competition this year. We were very pleased with the number of students who competed and very proud of their successes.

The following students received a Credit in the Australian Mathematics Competition:

Sebastian Diss, Edward George, Augustine Mundeley-Turner, Maggie Fulwood, Eleanor George, Kate Pianta, Isiah Darcy, Harrison Diss, Finlae Evans and Lauren MacRae. A Distinction was achieved by Douglas Pianta.

The following students received a Credit in the ICAS Mathematics Competition: Sebastian Diss, Joseph Doherty, Edward George, Julia Hannaford, Lauren Hutchinson, Sara Lui, Diaz Martyn, Augustine Mundeley-Turner, Libby Painter, Maggie Fulwood, Harper Galvin, Amanda Leone, Isiah Darcy, Harrison Diss, Finlae Evans, Nicholas Ryan, Beau Alderton, Vindhya Dayaratne, Lauren MacRae and Connor Wieland.

The following students received a Distinction in the ICAS Mathematics Competition: Briony Littlejohns, Madeline Neville and Jack Hannaford.

Mrs Jane Ashcroft – Mathematics Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

2014 has been a busy year for the Association. A relaxing Wine and Cheese Night, fun filled ten-pin bowling social night, yummy pie and mango drives, beautiful Christmas hampers and our fantastic annual Trivia Night hosted by Rebel from 92.9, have again proved popular. Thank you to all those families who have supported these events.

This year the Association also held a raffle with the main prize, a holiday to Hamilton Island. Congratulations to Louise Henry who won the raffle, we hope she enjoys her family holiday. Thank you to all the families who purchased and sold tickets in this year's raffle. Without your support we would not be able to raise the funds to make improvements to the college or to provide extra resources for the students and staff.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Association members and the Executive committee for their hard work, commitment, honesty, loyalty and support during the year. Their contribution to the Association has helped us improve the college for the students and staff for many years to come.

To the wonderful teachers leaving this year; we wish them every success in their new adventures and thank them for their dedication to the students and families of McCarthy.

With great sadness, we also farewell our much loved and respected Principal, Mrs Kate Rayment. Her leadership, guidance, knowledge and support of the Association, McCarthy families, staff and the student body has been invaluable. Kate's hard work and contribution to our college is deeply appreciated. We wish Kate and her family every happiness and our best wishes and congratulations on her new appointment.

On behalf of the McCarthy Catholic College Parent Association I would like to wish everyone a happy and holy Christmas and a prosperous and safe New Year.

Mel Nicholson
President McCarthy Association

Association Meeting 2015

The next meeting will be Tuesday 17 February 2015.

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.

DRAMA

Congratulations go to current and former Drama students of McCarthy Catholic College, Jaydon Merrick (current Year 9 Drama student) and Jessi Le Brocq (2006 graduate) for their recent achievements.

Jaydon achieved the highest mark in the New England region for his Speech and Drama exam (Mrs Christmas being his tutor) and Jessi was offered an acting position with the prestigious Howard Fine Studios in Melbourne, for 2015. Their hard work is truly paying off.

Ms Felicity Sawtell

ENVIRONMENT CLUB

Another busy year comes to an end for the students and staff involved in McCarthy Environment Club. The inaugural Clean Up McCarthy afternoon was a great success with all Mentor Groups collecting substantial loads of rubbish. The production of T shirts designed by Miss Harvey proved to be a great publicity campaign promoting global environmental issues. The continuation of the paper recycling from classroom and administration blocks continues, with great quantities of paper and cardboard being collected each Tuesday by Challenge Enterprises. Next year we hope to improve the style of bins to improve collection and ensure less wastage. The Club would also like to have a greater educational voice in promoting global environmental and sustainability issues to staff and students.

Mrs Sharon Stuart

BAND NEWS



On Sunday 30 November, the McCarthy College Jazz Band, Concert Band, Brass Ensemble and Saxophone Quartet performed at the St Joseph's Fete. It was a lovely day and the students represented McCarthy admirably. We appreciated the invitation to perform.

Last week, nine members of the McCarthy bands and Mrs Lane spent three days in Narrabri. They attended the annual Bandlink Workshop. The students appreciated playing in a one hundred piece band and being tutored by professionals on each instrument. A highlight was a nice cool dip in the pool each afternoon after six hours of rehearsal.



Mrs Lisa Lane – Band Coordinator

AGRICULTURE

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you on behalf of myself and each student in the McCarthy Show team. Thank you to all who have supported the Agriculture department in some way over the past year be it by donations of product or animals or time, or through the support of excursions and supervising at shows. Thank you especially to those who have agisted our cattle this year as without them we would not have been able to maintain our school stud. On behalf of the Show team, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and safe and happy holidays and the team and I look forward to getting back in cattle work in the New Year.

The Agriculture department still has Isa Brown layers for sale. Please contact the office for details.

Miss Leanne Sjollema – Agriculture Teacher

CANTEEN

Volunteers are our canteen's most precious resource and during 2014 we were fortunate to enjoy the dedication and commitment of thirty-four volunteers. Some helped out weekly, fortnightly, monthly, once a term or whenever they could just pop in. Without our volunteers our canteen would not exist. A volunteer's recognition dinner was held on 3 December where some staff and senior students provided an evening with a Christmas banquet, music, carols and festivities. It was a merry evening and an opportunity to express our gratitude to our generous volunteers.

Helping in our canteen is a terrific opportunity to meet with other parents and staff, experience a day in the life of McCarthy and gain food handling experience and give students a thrill to see parents/guardians/grandparents in the canteen. If anyone is interested in joining us in 2015, please do not hesitate to contact me on 67610856 or rbalderston@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

Thank you to the volunteers for their support of our canteen during the year. May Christmas bring special blessings to you and yours and health and happiness in the New Year.

Mrs Raelee Balderston – Canteen Supervisor

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 Thank You**

2014 has been a highly successful year for sport at McCarthy. While the school celebrated the achievements of these students at the inaugural Sport Awards Assembly, it also recognises the efforts of all McCarthy students who have represented the school or various clubs at regional, state and national level in a host of sports. McCarthy is very proud of the achievements of our sporting teams and individuals.

Thank you to staff, parents, ex-students and friends who have volunteered countless hours to sport in 2014. McCarthy appreciates their assistance with coaching, training, refereeing, travelling, scoring, managing teams, washing guernseys, administration and generally supporting our students.

Congratulations to all involved on a very successful year in sport.

Mr Matt Feltrin – Sports Coordinator

Australian All Schools' Athletics Championships

Congratulations to Kate Pianta who won gold in the Under 14 girls' long jump winning by 29 cm, jumping 5.58m (only 5cm off the meet record) and bronze in the girls' 4 x 100m relay at the Australian All Schools' Athletics Championships in Adelaide on 5 December.

Sam Ellicott finished a credible 9th in the 400m.

Berg Shield Cricket

McCarthy's Year 7/8/9 cricket team travelled to Inverell on Thursday 27 November to play Holy Trinity in the second round of the Berg Shield knockout competition. Holy Trinity won the toss and batted. They made 5/132 off their 30 overs. Best bowlers for McCarthy were Jye Paterson (2/9) and Jack Murrie (1/22).

McCarthy's chase started badly, losing a wicket in the first over, before Jye Paterson (31) and Lachlan Glasson (18) combined well. In the second half of the innings, Toby Whale (37) and contributions from a number of other batsmen saw McCarthy get the win in a tight finish. McCarthy finished on 6/133 with 8 balls remaining in their 30 overs.

McCarthy's third round game will be against St Paul's, Port Macquarie in Walcha today.

Good luck to our Downie Shield team tomorrow as they play All Saints, Maitland in Tamworth.

Water Polo

Jayden Gimbergh travelled to Homebush on 17 November to trail for the NSWCCC Boys' First Under 17 team. He was selected and will return to Homebush on 2 March 2015 to play against CHS and CIS teams for selection in the NSW All Schools' team. Abby Rae travelled to Homebush on 18 November to trail for the NSWCCC Girls' First Under 17 team. She was selected and will return to Homebush on 2 March 2015 to play against CHS and CIS teams for selection in the NSW All Schools' team.

AFL

The Northern Inland Academy of Sport (NIAS) have announced a development squad for AFL for the next 12 months. Target players are boys from Years 7 -9 and who would like to commit to the sport. This is a great opportunity to attend training camps with AFL players in other sporting zones and attend development academies. Expression of interest close on Friday 12 December and they can be made online at www.nias.org.au For more information contact Mrs Stuart at school.

Tamworth Regional Sports Awards

At the Tamworth Regional Sports Awards last month, Isaac Farnilo was awarded the Young Sports Star of the Year Award. The Tamworth Thunderbolt U14 Girls' Basketball team won the Junior Sports Team of the Year Award.

NIAS Sports Awards

Congratulations to Isaac Farnilo who was named the Male Athlete of the Year at last week's annual NIAS Sports Awards for his efforts in Hockey. Jayden Gimbergh won the NIAS Chairman's Award for success in Water Polo and Swimming.

Other Award winners included:

Lonestar Athlete: Daniel Morris (BMX)

Coaches' Award (Hockey): Matt Johnson

Most Improved (Junior Bull Riding): Nick Penrose

Most Dedicated (Netball): Dana Dehm

Coaches' Award (Water Polo): Billie Mitchell.

Christmas Mass Times

St Nicholas Parish East Tamworth

St Nicholas Church

Wednesday 24	Children’s Mass	7.00pm
Wednesday 24	Midnight Mass	
Thursday 25	Christmas Mass	9.30am
No Evening Mass on Christmas Day		

St Mary’s Church

Wednesday 25	Christmas Mass	7.30am
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St Michael’s Catholic Community Church

Kootingal

Wednesday 24	Christmas Eve Mass	6.30pm
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Dungowan

Thursday 25	Christmas Mass	8.30am
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Nundle

Thursday 25	Christmas Mass	10.00am
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St Patrick’s Parish West Tamworth

Wednesday 24	Children’s Mass	5.30pm
Wednesday 24	Christmas Vigil Mass	8.00pm
Thursday 25	Christmas Mass	9.00am

St Edward’s Parish South Tamworth

Mary Help of Christians

Wednesday 24	Children’s Mass	5.30pm
Wednesday 24	Christmas Vigil Mass	10.00pm
Thursday 25	Christmas Mass	7.30am
Thursday 25	Christmas Mass	9.00am
No Evening Mass Christmas Day		

St Brigid’s Parish Quirindi

Quirindi

Wednesday 24	Christmas Vigil Mass	8.00pm
Thursday 25	Christmas Mass	9.30am

Willow Tree

Thursday 25	Christmas Mass	7.30am
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St Michael’s Parish Manilla

Manilla

Wednesday 24	Christmas Vigil Mass	7.00pm
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Attunga

Thursday 25	Christmas Mass	9.30am
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