

Newsletter



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McCarthy Office Hours: 7.30am – 4.00pm

Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known, that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help or sought your intercession, was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.

To you I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful.

O mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petition,

but in your mercy hear and answer me.

Amen

Reflection

During the month of May, one of the two months dedicated to Mary by the Church, one of the ways we can honour her is by praying the Rosary.

The Rosary tells the story of the New Testament. Through the beads, we

follow and reflect on Mary and Jesus from the time Mary said 'yes' to be the mother of God's son, Jesus; to his death on the cross, his Resurrection and Ascension into glory.

Pope Francis has a deep devotion to the Rosary during May, "The Rosary is a prayer that always accompanies me; it is also the prayer of the ordinary people and the saints ... it a prayer from my heart." He suggests that May is a very fitting time to begin the habit of a daily Rosary.

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

NAPLAN

Across the country this week students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 participated in three days of NAPLAN tests. The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment that tests students' abilities in reading, writing, spelling and numeracy. The tests are considered controversial in some quarters, as some say they put too much pressure on students and are potentially being used to rank schools and private school selection.

ACARA – the organisation that coordinates NAPLAN has said the tests are not a test of content – rather a test of skills that are developed over time through the curriculum, and there is no pass or fail. Either way, tests – whether they do result in a pass or fail or not, can be a bit nerve-wracking if that mode of assessment presents a challenge. At McCarthy we have been emphasising the 'normality' of the NAPLAN assessment as a just another way of checking where a student might currently be sitting on the learning continuum. Just like any in-class assessment or exam that counts towards an end-of-semester report, NAPLAN is just another set of evaluations that help us to work out what we need to do next to help students improve their learning. In teenage language we have been encouraging students to "chill" to avoid over-anxiety. By all reports the students handled the assessment program calmly.

Social

Thank you to the wonderful students from the Student Leadership Council and McCarthy Environmental Council who coordinated and facilitated an enjoyable social for the students last Thursday night. The Disney theme was warmly embraced on a cold night and the music was roundly appreciated by all – even for an older staff member like me! The staff commented on the polite behaviour of all of the students. I publically thank everyone for a great night, particularly those staff who generously gave of their time to make the night a success.

Debate About Catholic School Funding

There is regular and ongoing debate in government and the media with regard to funding in schools and the Catholic system is certainly not immune to this argument. The Armidale Diocese Director of Catholic Schools, Mr Chris Smyth, writes in support of ongoing and appropriate funding for all Catholic schools in this short excerpt below:

As the recipients of about 80 per cent of the government funding per student that is allocated to government schools, Catholic schools continue to be highly effective and highly efficient options for parents and governments alike. Families are choosing Catholic schools in record numbers. Parents are looking for a well-rounded education – not just a school that has performed well in standardised testing. The goal of Catholic schools is to educate the whole child to the highest standards possible – academically, socially, spiritually and pastorally.

For almost 200 years, Catholic schools have provided quality schooling for families that choose a Catholic education. More than 300,000 Australian families are making that choice today. Many studies released over the past decade have found that Catholic schools perform as well as or better than other schools on a range of measures depending on the particular analysis.

Catholic schools have significant numbers of students with disability, Indigenous students and students from low socioeconomic status backgrounds, so are largely reflective of the overall school population.

As teachers and families who are proudly part of Catholic school communities we need to be active in supporting the significant role that Catholic schools play in supporting quality education at a reduced cost to the taxpayer. – Chris Smyth

Diary Dates

12-14 May: NAPLAN
 15 May: Year 8 Maths Day – UNE
 19 May: ICAS Digital Technologies
 19 May: Board & Association Meetings
 19 May: Ask the Careers Adviser Evening 6pm
 20 May: Careers Expo
 20 May: Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews 4pm
 21 May: 7/8 Girls' Netball Carnival - Tamworth
 25 May: Years 7 & 11 Half-Yearly Exams
 27 May: CCC Hockey – Grafton
 29 May: NW Equestrian Expo - Coonabarabran
 29 May: St Nicholas' Deb Ball
 1 June: Years 8, 9, 10 Exams commence
 3 June: Year 7 Excursion
 3 June: ICAS Science
 4 June: Cochrane Cup
 5 June: First Friday Mass
 8 June: Long weekend
 10 June: Athletics Carnival

Fees

Similarly, as Catholic schools only receive around 80% of the funding pool provided to public schools, Catholic schools need to supplement their income through a manageable fee schedule. Fees at McCarthy Catholic College have been kept as low as possible for a number of years to ensure equitable access for families to engage in Catholic education for their children. Thankfully, the current rates reflect some of the lowest fees for secondary schooling in the state.

Annual fee increases are made in consultation with the School Board and are usually in line with or below the Educational CPI. The Board is in the final stages of settling the fees for 2016 which will be fully communicated in future correspondence.

Reports and Parent/Teacher Interviews

Ms Day writes in more detail later in the newsletter with regard to the Year 12 reports, Parent/Teacher interviews and upcoming Half-Yearly Exam periods for Years 7 to 11. The ensuing reports will provide an excellent framework for family and teacher discussions to assist with potential improvement strategies. I encourage all families to enter into this partnership with the teachers to facilitate enhanced academic growth for the young women and men of McCarthy.

Round 2 – Enrolment Applications

Round 1 applications for enrolment in 2016 have now closed. For those families wishing to apply for the second and final round, applications close on Wednesday 24 June.

Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with a Disability

As outlined in the letter given to students last fortnight from Mr Chris Smyth, McCarthy will be complying with the Commonwealth Government directive to collect data on students with a disability in accordance with the Disability Standards. This will take place later this term. Parents not wanting their child recorded for the data collection must contact the school prior to the data collection date, Friday 12 June.

May your God go with you.

Mr Geoff McManus – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**Prayer and Liturgy**

During the month of May a number of teachers and students have been gathering to pray the Rosary together during lunch time on Fridays. A small box for prayer requests has been placed in the office and on Fridays the Rosary is said for these and any other personal intentions of McCarthy staff, students and their families.

Vinnies

The St Agnes Conference have begun preliminary discussions and organisation for this year's Winter Appeal which has as its theme "Get Involved and Rebuild Lives." The members have also begun some reflective work on the founders of the St Vincent de Paul Society. At last week's meeting, junior members, Michelle Coates, Imeshi Dayaratne and Safia Arranz, gave a short PowerPoint presentation on the life of St Vincent de Paul.

Alternative to Schoolies

Post HSC in Term 4, a group of six Year 12 students and two staff will participate in the Catholic Mission's Getting Involved Globally (GIG) program to Fiji and Kiribati. The immersion program has been developed by Catholic Mission as an alternative to the regular post HSC celebratory 'schoolies'; and will offer students the chance to celebrate with their peers while at the same time immersing themselves in a different culture by spending time in a Kiribati village, staying with families, visiting schools, health centres and spending time with the local people.

Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinator

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Congratulations to Mrs Shannon Monro and Mrs Jo McHugh who have had their BOSTES Teacher's Institute submission approved. The submission articulates professional understanding and practice - and involves considerable preparation.

Congratulations also go to Mrs Sharon Stuart who has recently completed her Masters of Educational Studies - with a specialisation in boys' education.

Well done to Shannon, Jo and Sharon. They demonstrate the importance and value of life-long learning.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

PASTORAL CARE**Welcome**

We welcome Romar Barril (Year 11) and his family into the McCarthy community.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mrs Jennifer Madden and her husband Graham on the safe arrival of Lila-Rose recently and to Mrs Melissa Bearup and her husband Glenn on the safe arrival of Elijah Patrick last week.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers go to Kristen Vickery and Jake Reynolds and their families following the passing of their grandfathers and to Lauren McRae and her family following the passing of her grandmother.

Year 7 Vaccinations

The second round of vaccinations for Year 7 students will be on Monday 15 June. Students are to wear their sports uniform on this day and ensure they have an adequate breakfast.

Head Lice

We have had reported incidents of head lice within the school.

Please regularly check your child's hair for nits/lice using methods recommended by NSW Health.

(<http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/publichealth/environment/headlice/treatment.asp>)

If you find any eggs or lice please commence treatment as recommended. Daily saturation with thick hair conditioner and combing using a fine tooth comb is effective in getting rid of head lice and eggs. Students should have long hair tied back and should not share hats. Further information is available on the website listed above.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday 19 May at 7.15pm. Everyone is most welcome.

Family Fund Appeal – Pie Drive Fundraiser

Pie Drive order forms have been distributed to students. Spare forms are available at the office. Closing date for the orders is **Friday, 5 June** to the school office. Cheques to be made out to McCarthy Catholic College in an envelope marked "Attention Pie Fundraiser". Pies are to be collected on **Friday, 12 June** from N Block (the demountable situated in the bottom carpark). Contact Lynda Dehm on 0411287090 for further information.



Camper Trailer Raffle

This year the McCarthy Association will be raffling a MDC Extreme Explorer V3 Camper Trailer plus inclusions valued at \$10,000. Tickets are \$2.00 each and will be drawn on Thursday 17 September 2015. The ticket books are available at the office for students to collect. The funds raised will be used to benefit ALL students at the school. Click on the link:

https://learning.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au/pluginfile.php/10768/mod_resource/content/1/Camper%20Trailer%20Raffle.pdf

Attention Business Owners: Can you help us promote our Camper Trailer Raffle and sell tickets? We will provide an A4 coloured flyer in a perspex counter stand, a money tin and raffle ticket books. Please contact Louise Henry at henlou@bigpond.com

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews

Year 12 reports have been finalised and posted. At McCarthy, we use an online booking system for Parent/Teacher interviews. Interview times are scheduled from 4.00pm until 6.30pm on Wednesday 20 May 2015 and the booking system will be open from 12 noon on Friday 15 May 2015 and close on Wednesday 20 May at 12 noon. The maximum duration of each interview is 10 minutes. To access the booking system you will need to go to the McCarthy website, www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au. On this page you will find a link to the Parent Teacher Interview Booking System. Should you have any queries/questions/concerns please contact the school.

NAPLAN

Years 7 and 9 joined the rest of Australia to complete their NAPLAN testing, this week. It is very pleasing to report that all of the students were mature as they waited, moved in and completed the tests in the hall. Year 7 should be particularly proud of themselves as these were their first formal examinations at secondary level and their conduct was impeccable.

Half-yearly exams are approaching for Years 7 and 11 in Week 6 and Years 8, 9 and 10 in Week 7. Please understand the importance of all examinations. As you know, the secondary school exit credential in New South Wales is the Higher School Certificate where, in Term 4, students sit for their final secondary school examinations. At McCarthy, we believe our students are well prepared for these exams as we begin the examination procedure from Year 7. This year, we continue with our emphasis on students sitting for all examinations at the published designated time.

If your child is unable to attend a timetabled exam then a 'blue' form needs to be completed. The 'Notification for Extension and/or Special Consideration of Assessment Task', blue form should be completed prior to the absence if it is known your child will be away. The blue form is important as it places the responsibility on the student to organise an alternate time for the task.

If your child is unwell when an exam is timetabled, then a telephone call to the school prior to 9.00am is required. A medical certificate should be supplied if your child is in Year 11 or 12.

If your child does not complete a blue form then it is likely that your child will receive a zero mark for the exam/s they have missed. I must emphasize that it is their responsibility to organise when the exam is to be rescheduled. The blue forms have been modified so that this information is to be filled out before submission. The best time to complete a missed exam is when another Year group is rostered for an exam as this ensures absolute exam conditions.

It is never too early for students to begin revising and studying. Hopefully, your child will have organized their class notes and they may even have summarized these notes which will make their study easier.

Ms Suzanne Day – Teaching and Learning Coordinator

CAREERS

Next week sees several major career-related events aimed at both students and parents.

Tamworth Careers Expo - Wednesday 20 May

All students in Years 10, 11 and 12 will be bussed to the TRECC to have the opportunity to talk to, and collect information from, representatives from universities, TAFE, private colleges, employers, Defence Force, Police, Ambulance and many more. It is a great chance to see what is available in terms of courses and careers both in Tamworth and beyond. Cost will be \$2 and payable as students get on the bus.

Ask the Careers Adviser Evening - Tuesday 19 May 6.00pm – 7.00pm

This event is for all McCarthy parents and guardians of students in Years 7-12 and will cover:

What careers services does McCarthy offer?

Who can do work experience and when? What is a School Based Apprenticeship? What is TVET?

What can you do to help if your child does not know what they want to do?

What can you do to assist your child to:

- successfully get into university?
- successfully gain an apprenticeship or traineeship?
- choose the subjects they need for the HSC?



To ensure there are enough resources to be given out on the evening, can you please let us know if you will be attending via email or the RSVP slip in the newsletter.

On Friday 2 May, twenty Year 12 students travelled to Armidale and attended the UNE Open Day. They had the chance to eat breakfast in a college, tour residential colleges as well as the university, attend information sessions and talk first hand to lecturers in all the courses offered by UNE.

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

SPORT

NSWCCC Swimming

15-16 Girls' Medley Relay team

The following students competed at NSWCCC Swimming Championships at Homebush on 4 May: Annie Hobson, Benjamin Fox, Edward George, Eleanor George, Jayden Gimbergh, Molly Johns, Jake Mitchell, Tarryn Rizzi, Zac Rizzi, Mikaela Short, Amelia Summers, Eloise Turner, Benjamin Wallace.

Congratulations to Mikaela Short and Jayden Gimbergh on their outstanding results.

Mikaela (12 year girls): Gold – 50m freestyle, gold and new record – 50m butterfly, gold – 50m breaststroke, gold and new record in 50m backstroke, gold and new record – 100m freestyle, bronze in junior girl 100m backstroke.

Jayden (16 year boys) won the bronze medal in the 50m backstroke. Mikaela and Jayden will compete in the All Schools Swimming Championships on 18 May. We wish them well.

NSWCCC Netball

Shayla Groth and Charlotte Mills travelled to Homebush on 5 May for Netball trials for selection in the NSWCCC 15 years Netball team. There were one hundred and thirty girls who trialled and although the girls were not selected they enjoyed the experience. On 6 May Nevada Mansfield trialled for the Opens NSWCCC netball team where ninety-two girls trialled. Unfortunately, Nevada missed out on selection.

NSWCHS Triathlon

On 27 – 30 April, Sophie Heeney travelled to Penrith as a member of the NSW Triathlon team to compete in the SSA National Championships held at the Sydney International Regatta Centre. NSW had mixed results in the team events however, she placed 9th overall in the individual event.

Bill Turner Cup

McCarthy recently played Round 2 of the annual Bill Turner Cup under 15 boys' state-wide competition against Calrossy at Gipps Street fields.

Calrossy opened the scoring with two goals in the first half. The second half saw McCarthy scoring two goals (Conor Lang and Scott Flanagan) and levelling the game 2 – 2. Calrossy, however, scored a third goal through a long range free kick to secure the match 3 – 2.

Scott Flanagan, Joseph Doherty and Riley Carr played outstandingly and the entire team displayed excellent sportsmanship.

Thank you to Mr Herden for driving the school bus.

Team: Steven Abel, Matthew Bruce, Riley Carr, Samuel Cohen, Joshua Cornthwaite, Liam Daye, Joseph Doherty, Matthew Gambrill, Nicholas Grady, Ryan Houlihan, Conor Lang, Andrew Myers, Tom Rindo, Rowan Statham.

Mr Ronny Rindo

Diocesan Cross Country, Tennis and Golf**Cross Country**

On Friday 1 May the following students travelled to Gunnedah to compete in the Diocesan Cross Country trials: Kyle Nicholson, Ella Heeney, Sophie Heeney, Olivia Clarke, Matthew Gambrill, Madison Roach, Eleanor George.

Congratulations to: Kyle Nicholson (2nd 13 Boys), Matthew Gambrell (3rd 15 Boys), Madison Roach (5th 13 Girls), Ella Heeney (1st 15 Girls), Eleanor George (4th 15 Girls), Sophie Heeney (1st 18 Girls). These students have qualified for NSWCCC Cross Country at Eastern Creek on 12 June.

Mrs Kate Woolaston

Golf

The Armidale Diocesan Golf Championships were held at Gunnedah Golf Club. Harry Mills, Nicola Ross, Luke Miles and Jackson Sweeney, played in the individual stroke competition, with the two best combined individual scores making up the team format. McCarthy finished second by two strokes to St Philomena's School. Thank you to Mr Ritchie for driving the bus.

Mr Marcus Chittick

Tennis

McCarthy entered four teams into the knock-out tennis competition; Darcie and Zoe Martin, Sophie and Emily Reid, Holly Supple and Madeleine Bennett, Laura Jeffery and Hope Taylor. Unfortunately, two teams were eliminated in the first round, however, the Martin and Reid girls progressed to the semi-finals. St Mary's Gunnedah 1 team defeated Sophie and Emily Reid in the semi-final and went on to defeat Darcie and Zoe Martin in the final in a close fought match.

Mr Gerard Ritchie

Diocesan Basketball

On Thursday 7 May the Armidale Diocesan Basketball Championships were held at the Sports Dome in Tamworth. McCarthy were represented by five teams, Junior Boys 1, Junior Boys 2, Junior Girls, Intermediate Boys and Intermediate Girls.

The teams had a lot of success with most being undefeated for the day. Four teams will now progress to NSWCCC Championships in Penrith in August.

Thank you to Rhys and Kate Chillingworth, Neil Wood, Paul and Matt Hobson, Fran Mumford and Pippa McMahon for their help and assistance with coaching. A special thanks to Pat Hobson for her support of McCarthy Basketball and to Jessica Collier, Tahnee Reid, Ricky Ward, Max Chillingworth, Dominic Sills, Tom Kelly, Hayden Davy and Connor Murphy for refereeing at the tournament.

Teams:

9/10 Girls – Lily Darcy, Hannah Page, Stacey Thrift, Bronte Chillingworth, Emily Donaldson, Jesse Kelly, Claire Salter, Alix Sills, Kate O'Connell, India Dietrich.

7/8 Girls – Elloise Fuller, Ruby Murphy, Bianca Watson, Grace Whale, Krystal Booby, Josie Chick, Emma Higgins, Sienna Kennedy, Miah O'Sullivan, Grace Salter, Brianna Zwolsman.

9/10 Boys – Kane Butler, Matthew Gambrell, Nathaniel McGrath, Connor McRae, Riley Murphy, Matthew O'Toole, Toby Whale, Jude Malaga, Jake Pendergast.

7/8 Boys – Team A: Alex Groth, David Murrie, Tom Sheppard, Jack Connell, Sam Ellicot, Cooper Kelly, Nathan Watson.

Team B: Liam Ball, Tom Lange, Ethan Russell, Jim Zell, Luca Barden, Izack Fuller, Caleb Lavu Lavu, Brock McMahon.

Gymnastics

Julia Hannaford attended the NSW Gymnastics Championships on 11 and 12 April where she gained selection in the eight person state team. The team will compete at the Australian Gymnastics Championships from 18-23 May at Hisense Arena in Melbourne. Julia will perform in all four apparatus'; vault, bars, beam and floor which will contribute to the team and individual results. We wish her well.

Water Polo

Last month, Jayden Gimbergh was invited by Water Polo Australia to attend the Water Polo Australia Talent Development Camp where he participated in training sessions with the Australian born 99 squad. The training was provide by WPA national coaches.

During the recent school holidays Jayden was drafted to play for ACT to attend the 18s National Club Championships in Adelaide.

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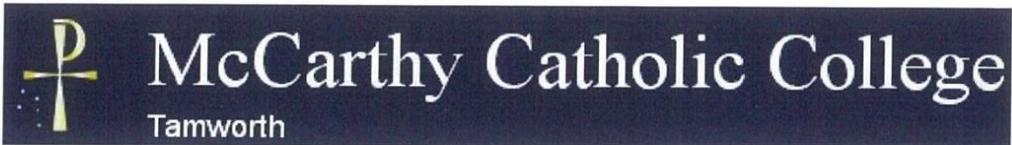
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Ask the Careers Adviser..

For Parents and Guardians of all McCarthy students

What careers services does McCarthy offer?

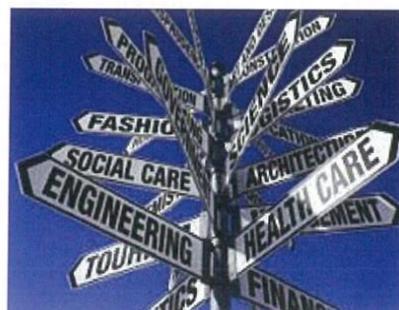
Who can do work experience and when?

What can I do to help if my child doesn't know what they want to do?

What can I do to assist my child to:

- successfully get into university?
- successfully gain an apprenticeship or traineeship?
- choose the subjects they need for the HSC?

On Tuesday 19 May, McCarthy Careers Adviser Mrs Susan Barrett will give a presentation and answer questions starting at 6pm in the McCarthy staffroom before the McCarthy Association meeting begins at 7pm.



✂.....✂

RSVP: Please return this slip to the office by Friday 15 May or email your RSVP to : careers@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

I will be attending the talk:

Name _____ Parent/guardian of _____ (Year __)

My question is (optional):



McCarthy Catholic College Family Fund Appeal
PIE DRIVE FUNDRAISER
(Thompson Pies)



It's time to purchase your pies for winter and assist the school in the process

How: Complete attached order form and return with money to front office (Cheques, payable to McCarthy Catholic College).

- + Ask friends
- + families
- + work mates

Return order forms Friday 5 June 2015 to the school office and money: ("Attention Pie Fundraiser" on envelope)

Delivery Date: Friday 12 June 2015

Where: Pick up from McCarthy Catholic College, "N" Block (building in old car park)

All pies etc are made fresh, individually wrapped and delivered the morning of the 12 June 2015 in a refrigerated truck.

Why order: You will be assisting the Family Fund Appeal Committee to raise funds to assist families of the school. All funds distributed through Pastoral Care as needs arise.

If you are able to assist with this fundraiser, please contact Lynda or the office, as your assistance on the day will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance.

Contact numbers:

Lynda Dehm: 67671023

0411 287090

McCarthy Office: 67610800



PIE DRIVE FUNDRAISER

McCarthy Catholic College Family Fund Appeal
Raising funds for students within the school

and **Thompson Pies**

Over 48 years supplying fresh products in Newcastle, Hunter and Central Coast



Student Name:..... Mentor Group:..... Contact name & Mobile:.....

Name & Phone No.	Family Size Pie					Cakes and Slices							Gourmet Pies (Packs of 4 – 200gms)					\$ Total			
	Plain Meat \$7.30	Curry Pie \$8.00	Steak Pie \$8.00	Pepper Steak \$8.00	Momay Chicken & Veg \$9.00	Family Quiche \$9.30	Cream Lamination (x6) \$7.60	Family Apple pie \$7.60	Plain Lamination (x12) \$12.00	Family Apricot Pie \$7.60	Apple Pies (x4) \$8.20	Brownie slice (pkt 6) \$7.00	Potato Pie \$8.00	Sausage Roll Pkt 6 \$7.60	Pepper Steak \$11.00	Steak, Cheese & Bacon \$12.60	Curry \$11.00		Momay, Chicken & Veg \$11.00	Steak \$10.60	
Total Order																					

Please return your ORDER and MONEY to the office by: Friday 5 June 2015

Mark to: McCarthy Catholic College "Attention Pie Fundraiser"

Delivery date: Friday 12 June 2015

Collection from: McCarthy Catholic College (N Block, bottom car park)

Collection times available (PLEASE CIRCLE YOUR PREFERENCE): 12.00-1.30pm 1.30- 3.30pm 3.30 -5.00pm or Contact 0411287090 for earlier time