

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

*Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your faithful
and enkindle in them the fire of your love.
Amen*

Reflection

As part of this week's reflection I recommend the following link to a short, two minute summary on the Feast of Pentecost celebrated in the Catholic Church around the world on May 24. The Christian Feast of Pentecost, celebrated fifty days after Easter, was appropriated into an existing Jewish tradition known as the Feasts of Weeks, a season of thanksgiving and memorial of the covenant. For Catholics it marks the end of the Easter season and celebrates the overwhelming experience of the Spirit on the first community of believers who, as well as receiving the Holy Spirit, received the courage, passion and strength they needed to inaugurate the mission of the Church, and thus this event is understood as the birthday of the Church. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5tr4pqWIo4>

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Charisms at McCarthy

May 5 is traditionally the date to commemorate Edmund Rice and his founding vision to support the poor and marginalised in Waterford, Ireland by his establishment of the Presentation and Christian Brothers. As McCarthy Catholic College has evolved and flourished under two founding charisms – the Dominican Sisters and the Christian Brothers, Edmund Rice Day is a significant date in our annual calendar.

I spoke at Assembly last week around what it means to some Catholic schools to be proudly called "a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice Tradition". I presented the four 'touchstones' from the Charter of Catholic Schools in the Edmund Rice Tradition which identifies the essence of the modern iteration of Edmund Rice Education.

I asked our students to reflect on whether McCarthy could critique itself against these four areas – Gospel Spirituality; Inclusive Community; Liberating Education; and Justice and Solidarity? While rhetorical at the time, it is a question that I hope to flesh out in practice in years to come as we aspire to not only invigorate our founding charisms but also promote our mission statement – Receive, Worship, Serve.

And in asking that question I also put the challenge to the whole school community as to how well we are living the mission and values of a broader Catholic ethos in Tamworth? While it will always be important to keep our Dominican and Edmund Rice charisms alive, the deeper question remains as to how well we are striving to enliven the Armidale Diocese Catholic Principles and Values in our educational programs and community outreach?

Such reflection can sometimes bring up issues that we do not necessarily want to confront but as a Catholic school committed to ongoing excellence, I encourage the spirit of self-reflection and informed discernment to be embraced as we continue to serve those in most need in our community.

Academic Excellence

Thank you to those families who were able to engage in the collaborative conversations that occurred last week during the Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews. Academic excellence is only nurtured in an environment where all stakeholders are committed to the same vision. For the student to achieve at their best, the school and family need to be working in partnership to provide an environment of respect and empathy for each other and where success is nurtured through mutual support of the student. I thank the Year 12 parents for exemplifying this support by their attendance and encourage parents of other year levels to keep abreast of the upcoming opportunities to meet with the teachers to foster a similar spirit of aspiration to academic excellence.

2016 Fees

As discussed in the previous newsletter, school fees are a necessary part of our mutual partnership to support Catholic education at McCarthy Catholic College. Our commitment as an Executive and School Board is to keep these fees at a sustainable level for families while ensuring that the sustainability of a progressive teaching and learning program is not compromised and that there is quality stewardship of school resources and plant into the future. That said, I believe it is important for families to be able to plan their budgets by being informed of any potential fee increases. Therefore, McCarthy will be attempting to align all future fee increases to the predictability of the national Educational Consumer Price Index. This index is quite different to the overall CPI and specifically takes into account a wide assortment of variables that directly impact on schools ie. technology, electricity, rates, paper, insurance, etc, etc. The current Educational CPI is 6.47%.

In consultation with the School Board, we have decided to raise the 2016 fees by 5.63%, deliberately below the Educational CPI, in an intentional effort to keep the fees as affordable as possible for families.

Diary Dates

29 May: Year 11 Exams continue
 29 May: NW Equestrian Expo - Coonabarabran
 29 May: St Nicholas' Deb Ball
 29 May: CCC Hockey - Grafton
 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
 9 June: HSC Geography Excursion
 10 June: Athletics Carnival
 12 June: Collection of Pies
 15 June: ICAS Writing
 15 June: Year 7 Vaccinations
 16 June: ICAS Spelling (Year 7)
 16 June: Tamworth Eisteddfod
 16 June: Board and Association Meetings
 17 June: School Photos
 17 June: Year 11 2016 Information Evening 6pm
 18 June: Diocesan Soccer – Inverell
 18 June: School Photos
 24 June: Whole School Mass
 24 June: Years 7/11 Parent/Teacher Interviews
 24 June: TVET Information Evening 6.30pm

Specifically, the 2016 fees are:

Years 7 – 10 \$2589 / year

Years 11 and 12 \$2700 / year

I trust that the early communication of this change will allow for a budget that will continue to be sustainable and that we can continue to work in partnership to provide excellence in Catholic education for your sons and daughters.

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 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

Vinnies

At the most recent meeting of the St Agnes Conference, the Executive reported on the very successful bake sale held recently as part of the group's fundraising for the Winter Appeal. A total of \$375.00 was banked and the Executive would like to thank all those who assisted. The Executive also inducted twenty-nine new members and presented them with their St Vincent de Paul badges. The badge features the Society's very recognisable triple hands logo symbolising the hand of Christ blessing the cup; the hand of love offering the cup; the hand of suffering receiving the cup. The Executive is planning a second induction during Term 3. At two recent meetings, the students have listened to short presentations, one on St Vincent de Paul, by Imeshi Dayaratne, Michelle Coates and Safia Arranz. A second presentation on Blessed Frederick Ozanam was given by Jaydon Merrick at the last meeting.

Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinator

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

House Merit Award

The upcoming Athletics Carnival is a perfect opportunity for ALL students to earn valuable House Points - available for participation and house spirit, as well as sporting prowess. Currently Chisholm House is in the lead, followed closely by Edmund Rice. Make sure you have fun and get involved.

School Photos

School Photo day is Wednesday 17, Thursday 18 and Friday 19 June. All students have been issued with a MSP Photography envelope via Mentor Groups. Please take the time to read the relevant information on the MSP Photography payment envelopes and remember these helpful points:

- Please do not seal envelopes inside each other. You can pay for all children in one envelope however each child needs to have their own envelope on photo day.
- Family envelopes are available at the school office upon request.
- Please enclose the correct money as no change is given.
- For all enquiries please feel free to contact MSP Photography 6772 3519 or newengland@msp.com.au or www.msp.com.au

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

PARENT INFORMATION

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday 16 June 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. **All raffle tickets that have been sold should be returned to school as soon as possible.** The student who has sold the highest number of raffle ticket books this term will be in the running for a seller's prize as well as free lunch orders from the canteen for a week donated by Mrs Balderston. 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

PASTORAL CARE

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers go to Jacob Barnes and his family following the passing of his grandfather and to Mrs Deborah Fulwood following the passing of her father.

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.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Year 7 and 11 have been involved in their Half-Yearly Examinations this week with Year 11 students finishing on Monday afternoon, 1 June. Year 11 students return to regular classes on Tuesday 2 June.

Yet again, Year 7 students have conducted themselves admirably and Year 11 appeared to have coped with the slight change of procedure regarding mobile phones. Instead of bringing the phones into the hall and placing them on the stage, the students are to leave mobile phones in their bags. We have strongly advised students to leave their bags in the hall foyer for security, rather than leaving them around on the terrace.

Next week, Years 8, 9 and 10 begin their examinations. The students will have received their exam timetable and there is a copy of these schedules on MOODLE. Normal classes will operate except when an exam is scheduled. At this time, the students will assemble on the terrace in appropriate classes, ready to enter the hall.

The usual procedure is to be followed in regards to a student being unable to sit for an exam, with a telephone call to the office prior to 9.00am notifying the school of your child's absence. A completed 'blue form' will be required on their return so that an alternate date can be negotiated for the exam.

Ms Suzanne Day – Teaching and Learning Coordinator

CAREERS



Careers Expo

Last week, over four hundred McCarthy students in Years 10, 11 and 12 visited the Careers Expo held at the TRECC. This was beneficial for students to see first-hand the huge variety of career and course options available. Feedback has been positive, with students reporting it as a great chance to gather information and be informed of all the possibilities that exist in Tamworth and beyond.

Year 10

After their Half-Yearly Examinations, classes in Year 10 will have two periods devoted to explaining and exploring career options, decisions facing them this year and providing information to guide their selection of subjects for those continuing on to Year 11 at McCarthy. This is the first step in the process. Students will be issued with a Year 10 Careers booklet, a School Prospectus with subject offerings for 2016 and an *Expression of Interest in Subjects* form for those students continuing on to Year 11. It was good to meet some Year 10 parents at the recent *Ask the Careers Adviser* evening and I look forward to assisting students and parents in coming months.

Year 12

Students are encouraged to either create or update their resume this term so that when it is needed for scholarships, job applications, or college applications they will not have to start from scratch.

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



TAS

This term in TAS (Technology and Applied Studies) has been a busy, yet enjoyable one. Years 7 and 8 students in Mandatory Technology have been designing and developing some highly creative projects from our specialist areas. We have some pictures below from our classes who have been making board games, monsters, wooden toys and healthy lunch boxes. We encourage all students to make sure they have the right equipment for their projects and to bring in their own containers for food products in the interest of the environment.

Year 9 and 10 subjects are working well and have been busy designing and making their projects and folios. We wish them all the best in their Half-Yearly Examinations.

Mrs Raelene Maxworthy – TAS Coordinator



MCCARTHY ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL



Over the past holidays a number of McCarthy Environmental representatives gave up their time to get their hands dirty in their community. These students happily sacrificed their break to volunteer at the Botanical Gardens and the youth centre; planting trees, potting plants and digging up dirt; knowing that what they give back is love in motion - love for their environment, their community and for those that will come after them.

Our success in the holidays inspired us to get in touch with John Tucker from Landcare, a man who had a passion for the environment and made sure we had lots of work to do! Last Friday, the



Environmental Council hosted him as a guest speaker so that others who shared an interest in reaching out could hear about the volunteer opportunities in their community. There was a healthy attendance, the meeting was informative and some great prizes were won for participation. After more than 25 years of volunteering, one could not help but be inspired by the work John Tucker has done and learning that, as Elizabeth Andrew would put it, "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time - they just have the heart."

We hope to continue to volunteer as a group and as representatives of McCarthy in service to the community.

Lauren Challens – McCarthy Environmental Council Administrator

SPORT



Athletics Carnival

The McCarthy Athletics Carnival will be held on Wednesday 10 June at Tamworth Regional Sporting Complex. Students received a note regarding the arrangements for the carnival this week. All students are expected to attend and compete wearing their sports uniform.

NSW All Schools Swimming

Congratulations to Mikaela Short who won a gold and three silver medals at NSW All School Swimming Championships at Homebush on 18 May. She set a new record for 100m backstroke and placed second in 50m backstroke, 50m butterfly and 100m butterfly. Mikaela also made the finals of the 50m and 100m freestyle.

Mikaela will now compete at the Pacific School Games on 20 – 29 November 2015 in Adelaide.

Jayden Gimbergh competed in the 50m freestyle after winning this event at NSWCCC but was unplaced at this carnival.

NSWCCC Basketball

Congratulations to Max Chillingworth who was selected in the NSWCCC Open Basketball team this week.

He will now compete against CIS and CHS teams for selection in the NSW All Schools' team on 1 June to qualify for the Pacific Schools Games in Adelaide later in the year.

Rugby Union

Angus Lang travelled to Eastwood on 18 and 19 May to trial for selection in the NSWCCC Rugby Union team. Ninety-five boys trialed and were divided into six teams. A squad of twenty-three were selected and Angus was chosen as a shadow reserve.

Country Cup Rugby League

The Under 13s and Under 15s McCarthy Rugby League team competed in the Country Cup on Wednesday 20 May. The boys played in a round robin format against Oxley High School, Peel High School and Farrer. The 13 boys played well and were unlucky not to record a win. All boys represented the school in a distinguished manner with Blake Ginman, Liam Ball, Nicholas Pannowitz and Corey Aitken contributing in all areas.

The Under 15 team were defeated by Farrer in the first round match but proved too strong in the second round against Oxley High easily winning the game.

In future when we compete in a Gala Day, emphasis needs to be placed on training sessions and students handing notes in on time.
Under 13s team: Oscar Dietrich, Bailey Rock, Blake Ginman, Alex Broomham, Ethan Russell, Ben Wallace, Wil Bower, Cameron Lane, Hamish Sparke, Kyle Nicholson, Corey Aitken, Nicholas Pannowitz, Bailey Young, Liam Ball and Noah Cook.

Under 15s team: Toby Whale, Scott Flanagan, Mackenzie Ashcroft, Dylan Reilly, Jack Cutcliffe, Jayden Tiberi, Mitchell Bird, Barry Lane, Conor Lang, Caleb Stevens, Zac Clark, Lachlan Shaw, Adrian Engelbrecht, Rowan Statham, Riley Ryan, Riley Carr, Jesse Collins, Connor McRae and Joel Parry.

Mr Damian Kenniff and Mrs Shannon Monro - coaches

Football

Congratulations to Tyla Endemi who was selected in the Newcastle Jets Emerging U15s Football team that compete in the NSW Women's Premier League competition. She has also been fortunate enough to be selected in the Northern NSW State team to play at the 2015 FIFA National Youth Championships in July. Tyla was also selected in the Bathurst/Wilcannia Forbes and Armidale Diocese Football team recently but unfortunately had to withdraw due to training and travel commitments.

Gymnastics

Congratulations to Julia Hannaford who won an individual bronze medal in the vault and beam in Melbourne at the Australian Gymnastics, a team (NSW) silver and an individual 5th placing in the overall competition.

Hockey

Ehren Hazell represented Tamworth at the U18 State Championships in Sydney where Tamworth reached the semi-finals. At the completion of this tournament, Ehren was selected in the NSW U18 squad for 2016.

He was a member of the NSW U15 Indoor Team which competed at the U15 National Indoor tournament in Melbourne in January and a member of the NSW AAP (Athlete Acceleration Programme) squad and travels to Sydney frequently for training.

In April, Ehren represented the NSW U18 Blues team at the National Championships in Melbourne as a 16 year old. In an attempt to reach his potential as a player, Ehren frequently travels to Sydney to play in the Sydney Cup for the Norwest Strikers Club on Saturday, returning to Tamworth to play first grade for his club side Workies/Services.

Ehren has been selected to trial for the NSW 16 All Schools' team in early June to compete at the 16s National All Schools' tournament.

Water Polo

Jayden Gimbergh has been selected in the NSW Blues Water Polo team to compete at the Trans-Tasman Challenge against the New Zealand Water Polo team and other Australian states in July. Jayden is the only country player selected and faced disadvantages due to the lack of local high level competition and training.

