

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer of St Dominic

May God the Father who made us bless us.
 May God the Son send his healing among us.
 May God the Holy Spirit move within us and
 give us eyes to see with, ears to hear with,
 and hands that your work might be done.
 May we walk and preach the word of God to all.
 May the angel of peace watch over us and lead
 us at last by God's grace to the Kingdom. Amen

A message from the Bishop

"Your voice is needed to help preserve marriage for future generations
 Later this year the Australian Parliament will consider a bill to redefine marriage.
 This is just the latest in over a dozen attempts to redefine marriage in Australia
 in the last decade.
 However the consequences of redefining marriage are significant.
 The only way we can preserve the natural, timeless and sustainable definition of
 marriage is for people to speak up.
 Sign the online petition to the Australian Senate to let our politicians know that this important bedrock institution of Australian
 society should not be redefined.
 Online petition can be found at <http://marriagepetition.acl.org.au/>

Yours in Christ.

Most Reverend Michael Kennedy – Bishop of Armidale

Diary Dates

6 Aug:	HSC Trials continue
7 Aug:	Whole School Mass
11 Aug:	ICAS Mathematics
14 Aug:	Diocesan Athletics – Armidale
14 Aug:	Tacky Tracky Day
18 Aug:	Board & Association Meetings
18 Aug:	AgQuip
24 Aug:	CCC Junior Basketball Finals
24 Aug:	HSC Drama marking
26 Aug:	School Social 6.30pm
27 Aug:	Young Drivers Expo (Year 11)
28 Aug:	HSC Industrial Technology marking
28 Aug:	Walkathon
1 Sept:	Year 7/8 Touch Carnival
7 Sept:	Year 11 Exams commence
8 Sept:	Year 12 Twilight Retreat
9 Sept:	Year 12 Graduation Mass 6pm
10 Sept:	Year 9/10 Science Investigation Awards
11 Sept:	CCC Athletics
15 Sept:	Board & Association Meetings

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Professional Development

Last Friday the teaching staff undertook professional development with Bishop Michael Kennedy to more readily understand and embed the Core Catholic Principles and Values into the curriculum at McCarthy Catholic College. The Bishop engaged the staff in a challenging workshop that emphasized the Primacy of God and Fidelity in Relationship. As a college committed to a distinctly Catholic education, the opportunity to engage with our Diocesan Shepherd and the principles in a reflective and collaborative context, allowed for our McCarthy staff to gain a deeper understanding of the framework for further contemplation and implementation across the school curriculum.

HSC Trials

As Year 12 students finalise their Trial HSC exams in preparation for their formal HSC exams early next term it is timely to remember that there are many ways to achieve goals. The HSC is not the only pathway to tertiary qualifications. However, it is the easier path! Some people use that idea of multiple pathways to suggest that success will come anyway without taking the traditional path. Maybe so, but the common factor in all stories of success is - "WORK HARD". The author Laurie Notaro writes well of this need - *"If you really believe in what you're doing, work hard, take nothing personally and if something blocks one path, find another path. Never give up."*

While there may be some stress associated with trials, exams and assignments, manageable stress comes when the hard work has been done BEFOREHAND ie know your content, know your process strategies = perform well in the exam. Unfortunately, the unmanageable stress comes when the work is left to the LAST MINUTE. ie. cramming, no idea how to start = perform poorly in the exam. Consequently, while most of our Year 12 students are honing their skills and knowledge to perform well in the HSC next term, I am sure there are some that would have wished they had worked harder earlier! There is a message there for all students, no matter which year level or academic ability. Success is built on hard work. End of story.

Walkathon

Arrangements are moving at speed for the Walkathon on August 28. I strongly endorse the great work being done by the SLC and Mr Luke Adams to prepare for another wonderful event that supports Catholic Mission and the outreach that this organisation has given internationally to poor communities that are in dire need of financial and material support. As a school which has raised on average over \$25,000 per year due to the hard work and generosity of students, families and local businesses, I encourage you all to get behind this wonderful event in 2015. If every McCarthy student could raise \$30 each our outreach to those less fortunate would be in excess of \$27,000.

Camper Trailer Raffle

Time is running out to purchase a ticket. Only five weeks to go until the big draw for the \$10,000 Camper Trailer. Buy a ticket soon to avoid disappointment!

On-Line School Results Survey – August 3 - 14

As part of our ongoing commitment to continuously improving the school, we believe it is critical to seek each parent and guardian's opinion on a range of issues relating to McCarthy Catholic College. Your feedback is very important to us as we continue to build a successful school and strengthen our reputation as an 'educator of choice'.

As such, the CSO Armidale have engaged the professional services of MYP Corporation (MYPCorp) to undertake a strictly private and confidential School Results Survey on our behalf. The survey should take approximately 10 - 15 minutes and will need to be completed online between August 3 and August 14. There are no right or wrong answers and we ask that you respond honestly to each statement. Please note that this survey will be confidential. No member of the Executive team at McCarthy will have access to your individual responses. We will be provided with a summary of collated results only. MYPCorp will undertake the following process to ensure anonymity:

1. Parents and guardians will be emailed individual survey logins.
2. Results will be collated externally.
3. A summary of collated results will be provided to the school Executive team.

On the survey start date, survey instructions and a personalised login link will be emailed to all parents. You will continue to receive friendly reminders during the survey period until you have submitted the survey. Thank you, in anticipation of your response, for your contribution to improving our school.

May your God go with you.

Mr Geoff McManus – Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Thank you to the Year 11 and junior SLC representatives who have stepped up while Year 12 students are completing their trial HSC examinations. It is very encouraging to see their initiative and leadership, especially when it involves service, leadership and the donation of time. In the next few weeks, Year 11 students will elect the next group of senior SLC representatives and from this group the School Captains and Vice-Captains for 2016 will be elected.

The SLC will host a school social on 26 August - details related to themes and ticket sales will be shared through Mentor Groups.

NAPLAN results are due for release on 18 August. Parents will receive an individual report of their child's results. The school will use results diagnostically to evaluate and adjust teaching programs.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

PASTORAL CARE**Winter Uniform**

Please ensure that correct winter uniform is being worn at all times. If students are in need of a school jumper, please come and see me.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

The Tenpin Bowling social night was cancelled due to lack of numbers. It will be rescheduled when the weather is warmer.

Thank you to Mel and John Nicholson, from Nicho's Home Maintenance, for their generosity and support of our camper trailer raffle.

We still need more help selling raffle tickets – please contact Louise Henry (0402 111 258) if you can volunteer for a few hours. Tickets will be on sale at Shopping World on Saturday 8 August (this Saturday) from 9.00am until 4.00pm and Saturday 15 August at Bunnings from 12pm – 2.00pm.

Booksellers Prize

All books sold/part sold and returned by 11 September will be in the running for the Term 3 Booksellers Prize.

Save the Date

Trivia Night on Friday 13 November. More information to follow soon.

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday 18 August at 7.15pm. Everyone is most welcome.

CAREERS**Year 12**

Many universities and colleges will be hosting open days in the coming weeks. Visiting campuses is an invaluable way of helping students make choices and a good chance for parents to see these places as well. Every day more and more information is starting to arrive about jobs, scholarships, courses and events. I encourage students to check their emails several times a week and I also encourage parents to subscribe to Careers Alert email service to be kept in the loop. Go to:

<http://www.mccarthy.careersalert.com/> and click on Email List at the top of the screen to subscribe.

University Information Evening

It was very pleasing to see over eighty students and parents at the annual University Information Evening with representatives from three universities also in attendance. Decisions and conversation about future options involve both students and parents using reliable information. Many myths and misapprehensions still exist (eg about ATARs and Independent Youth Allowance).

UAC

On Wednesday 12 August, after the Trial HSC exams, all Year 12 students will be given a copy of the UAC 2016 book and updated information about applying to university, early entry schemes and a workshop for students who will be seeking full-time jobs after the HSC.

Women in the Defence Force Workshop - 10 August

Next Monday a workshop will be held at school for Year 10 and 11 girls interested in joining the Army, Navy or Air Force. Interested students must give their names to me by Friday to attend.

Australian Air Force Cadets

The Australian Air Force Cadets (AAFC) is a voluntary youth organisation administered by the (RAAF). 310 (City of Tamworth) Squadron, with over forty cadets and four adult staff members, provides quality training and experiences to young people from the Tamworth region.

310 Squadron will be holding information sessions on 11 and 18 August 2015 from 7.00pm at 6 Rentell Street, Tamworth Regional Airport. Prospective cadets and their parents or guardians are invited to attend one of these sessions to learn more about the AAFC. Enrolment is open to Australian citizens and Australian residents aged between 12.5 and 18 years.

For more information about the AAFC, please visit www.aafc.org.au

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



Proposed Europe 2016 excursion - update

An information evening was held on Tuesday 28 July for members of the McCarthy community who are interested in finding out about details of the proposed trip, what is involved, prospective itinerary, dates and costs. It looks a very exciting itinerary and includes some places the school has been to before and some new exciting new places and experiences.

We are at the expression of interest stage and any student, parent, teacher and other members of our community to hand these in by Monday 10 August to either the Library or the Office so we can see if we have the numbers.

GEOGRAPHY

Local Geography Students Excel in Australian Geography Competition

Geography students from McCarthy tested their geographical skills and knowledge against students from all around Australia in the 2015 Australian Geography Competition.

Geography teacher, Mrs Tracey Bradbery, was pleased with how McCarthy students performed with a number performing to a very high level in the competition. Georgia Barnes, Connor Murphy and Nicholas Sanderson all gained High Distinctions. Two other students gained Distinctions and five students gained Credits.

Geography develops a student's understanding of the spatial and temporal relationships of people and place. It helps students appreciate the complex nature of local, regional and global social, economic and environmental interactions.

Leard State Forest Excursion

Earlier this year the Year 11 and 12 Geography classes completed field work at the Leard State Forest as part of their Senior Geography Project and Ecosystems at Risk Course requirements. Leard State Forest is currently mined and the open box woodland ecosystem is under threat.

The day was hosted by an Ecologist and Environmental Lawyer. We were fortunate enough to be "Welcomed to Country" by Uncle Neville. Uncle Neville spoke with the group about the indigenous history of the area, and the sacredness of the artefacts and sites within the forest.

Thank you to Mr Hobbs for driving the bus and getting us through the day with all its unexpected surprises.

Hunter Valley Excursion

Early in June, the Year 12 Geography students attended an excursion to the Hunter Valley as part of their People and Economic Activity topic. The students have been studying Viticulture and Tyrrell's Winery is examined as a local enterprise.

Again, thank you to Mr Hobbs for driving the bus and showing us more of the Hunter Valley than we intended to see (actually that was my fault).

Mrs Tracey Bradbery – Geography Teacher

SPORT

All Schools Cross Country Championships

Congratulations to Ella Heeney who competed at the NSWCCC Cross Country under 15's at Eastern Creek on 12 June winning the gold medal. On 17 July she returned to compete in the All Schools' Cross Country Championships where she came second. She will now compete at the Australian Cross Country Championships in Melbourne on 25 August. This is the third year in a row Ella has competed at the Australian Championships and the school congratulates her and wishes her every success in Melbourne.

Sophie Heeney competed at the NSWCCC Cross Country 17+ at Eastern Creek, winning the bronze medal. She returned on 17 July to compete in the All Schools' Cross Country Championships. Sophie finished 8th and the first seven places qualify to compete at the Australian Cross Championships in the 17+ age group. One of the qualifiers withdrew and as Sophie was the first reserve she will now compete at the championships on 25 August in Melbourne. We wish her all the very best.

Netball

On Monday, 27 July, the Year 7/8 Netball NSW Cup team competed at the Regional finals in Tamworth. They came second in their pool after some strong performances and progressed through to the semi-finals where they were narrowly defeated by the eventual winners, Calrossy. The team would like to thank Madeline Michie (Year 10) who gave up her time to umpire.

Team: Olivia Bath, Alina Swan, Briannah Donaldson, Emma Higgins, Briony Littlejohns, Jessica Foster, Ashleigh Horniman, Kate Lane and Billie Mitchell.

Mrs Ashleigh Jones

CCC Football

Three McCarthy Football teams recently contested Round 2 of the CCC Football Championships at Coffs Harbour.

The Open Boys' team met St Pauls, Kempsey and found them too strong.

Luke Guest, Darcy Flynn, Cameron Cannon, Aaron Myers, Jarrod Chester, Jayden Booth, Matthew Hughes, Matthew Pannowitz, Brody Peak, Ben Foster, Cameron Clout, Chang Goh, Carl Herden and Joel Kelly.

The Junior Boys' played Trinity College, Lismore in a closely matched game but unfortunately conceded a late goal to be defeated 3-2.

Scott Flanagan, Toby Climson, Riley Carr, Ryan Wood, Sebastian Diss, Ehren Hazell, Will Jones, Joseph Doherty, Ryan Houlihan, Sam Cohen, Tristan Hunter, Matthew Bruce, Ryan Baker, Jake Pendergast, Tom Rindo and Matthew Gambrell.

The Senior Girls' played Trinity College but unfortunately they were defeated in a tough match.

Alicia Guest, Rhiannon Graham, Sophie Heeney, Taylah Ryan, Lillian Stuart, Juliana Bruno, Isobel Paff, Sophie Soles, Matilda Shumack, Zoe Martin, Madison Sharp, Ella Heeney, Jessie O'Mally, Rosie Ferguson and Alice Lyden.

Thank you to the teams for their sportsmanship and to Miss Rebecca Hannan for assisting on the day.

Mr Ronny Rindo

Cricket Meeting

The McCarthy Catholic College Cricket Club will hold their Annual General Meeting on Monday 17 August at 6.00pm in the staff room. Parents of all children interested in playing cricket in the coming season are invited to attend.

World Rodeo Titles



Nick Penrose (top far left in picture) travelled to Wyoming, USA recently as part of the Australian High School Rodeo National Bull Riding team. Competition rounds commenced, then championship rounds to determine world title holders in each event. Nick rode well in both rounds but did not make the championship round. There were twenty-two members of the Australian team and Nick enjoyed the experience of competing at this high level.

Waterpolo

Congratulations to Jayden Gimbergh competing in the NSW Blues Waterpolo team at the Trans-Tasman Challenge in Brisbane during the July school holidays. The team defeated the New Zealand National A Team 10-5, winning the gold medal.

Mr Matt Feltrin – Sports Coordinator



