

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer for Migrants and Refugees

Heavenly Father,

We recall that your Son, Jesus was a refugee in his infancy.

We remember that the Holy family was forced to flee into Egypt.

Loving Father, you understand the pain and anguish of those who are forced to leave their homeland for all sorts of grave reason.

Help us, O Lord, to understand this experience more fully and to respond with gospel fervour to this enormous social issue of our times.

Grant us wisdom, prudence, and a real sense of loving kindness to understand the heartaches of those who find themselves as asylum seekers, migrants and refugees in our wonderful land of Australia.

Mary, Mother of all migrants and refugees, lead us to your Son Jesus, from whom all blessings flow.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Migrants and Refugees

The Prayer for Migrants and Refugees highlights the rich cultural diversity that enlivens our spirit here in Tamworth. As a new resident of Tamworth, I was fortunate to attend the Mass at St Nicholas Parish on Sunday to celebrate the 101st Day of Migrants and Refugees with Father Joe Adriano. The Mass was coloured with great ceremony and each reading was delivered in an alternate language while we followed the English version in the leaflet. After Mass we gathered outside to share in a wide variety of cuisine from around the world that stimulated the taste buds as well as some lively conversation. As a community committed to serving those in need, the opportunity to gather with those who have made the Catholic community in Tamworth their new place of worship, thousands of kilometres from their original home, we must ask how welcoming we are to those who seek entry to our school, homes, parishes and town? How welcoming are we to the living Christ that resides in those that seek refuge here?

Walkathon

Similarly, the palpable community spirit that allowed us to raise approximately \$16,500 during the Walkathon last Friday for an orphanage in India certainly made me feel proud and humbled to be a part of such a rich and fulfilling experience. From the weeks leading into the Walkathon whereby raffles and lunchtime competitions raised hundreds of dollars, to the actual day itself where students were sponsored to walk 14 kilometres through the streets and parks of Tamworth, our students and staff placed themselves in the shoes of the poor and stood in solidarity with them to support their aspirations for a better life. Well done to everyone involved especially the Coordinator, Mr Luke Adams, the SLC and Environmental Council for the always entertaining 'McCarthy's Got Talent' that concluded the day.



Toastmasters Youth Leadership

The recent Toastmasters Youth Leadership course came to a strong conclusion last week with thirteen graduates from Year 11 delivering passionate speeches that showcased the growth and confidence that the students had gained across the 6 week course. While most of the graduates spoke of incredible nerves afterwards, I doubt that the audience would have noticed as they delivered cleverly crafted orations that moved the audience through tears, laughter and personal insight. Deep appreciation is offered to the skilful Tamworth Toastmasters for their support in nurturing our talented youth. Thank you!

Staff Training

At the time of writing, our staff are engaged in on-site training in the Google Suite of online apps and classroom tools. Combined with a roll-out of staff laptops by the end of the term and at least one touchscreen monitor in every classroom block, the McCarthy staff are preparing to support contemporary learning for our students in 2015 and beyond. By training our staff in the latest technologies, our students will be able to more readily engage in a technological world that is becoming more advanced each day.

Basketball

Congratulations to the Year 7/8 Boys Basketball team that won the CCC Championships last week. While all four teams in the 7/8 and 9/10 categories performed well and were well in contention leading into the finals, the young boys played solidly as a team and walked away with a comfortable win. A big thanks to all the coaching staff and parents for their ongoing support of McCarthy Basketball.

Diary Dates

7 Sept:	Year 11 Exams commence
8 Sept:	Year 12 Twilight Retreat
8 Sept:	Year 10 VALID test
9 Sept:	Year 12 Graduation Mass 6.00pm
9 Sept:	West Leagues Challenge Cup
10 Sept:	HSC Music 1 marking
10 Sept:	Year 9/10 Science Investigation Awards
11 Sept:	CCC Athletics
15 Sept:	Board & Association Meetings
15 Sept:	Year 12 Community Service Day
16 Sept:	Year 12 Farewell Assembly
18 Sept:	Term 3 concludes
6 Oct:	Term 4 commences

Camper Trailer Raffle

Time is running out to purchase a ticket. Tickets need to be purchased and returned no later than 11 September and the big draw for the \$10,000 Camper Trailer will be conducted on Thursday 17 September. Buy a ticket soon to avoid disappointment! Remember all proceeds from the raffle go towards purchasing classroom and playground resources for your children. Thank you to the McCarthy Association Executive for their tireless work over the past 12 months.

May your God go with you.

Mr Geoff McManus – Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Recently a group of Year 11 students graduated from the Toastmasters Leadership program. It was very inspiring to see all the candidates present themselves in such a positive way, and very affirming to see the poise and composure of these young people. Congratulations to each of them; it was a wonderful glimpse of the future.

Year 11 Leadership Day

On Tuesday August 18, all Year 11 participated in a Leadership Day which looked at the many aspects of leadership. The students listened to guest speakers Mrs Louise O'Sullivan, Mr Jason Lincoln and Mr Geoff McManus, who each shared their experiences of individual and group leadership. The students also participated in workshops which considered among other things, the qualities required for leadership and the notion of 'Servant' leadership. Following the day, students were then asked to nominate potential candidates for the senior Student Leadership Council.

On assembly this week, the Director of Catholic Schools, Mr Chris Smyth presented badges to the ten students chosen by their peers to formally represent and lead their cohort in 2016. The elected students were Olivia Dillon, Emily Klepzig, Phoebe Mitchell, Matilda Shumack, Gabrielle Vella, Jack Beckett, Thomas Keogh, Jack Rindo, Dominic Sills and Patrick Sparke. The School Captains will be elected from this group and announced at the Year 12 Farewell Assembly on Wednesday 16 September. I look forward to working with them in support of our school motto - Receive. Worship. Serve.

A reminder that Educational Access Scheme applications close on 30 September.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

PASTORAL CARE**Condolences**

Our thoughts and prayers are with Alana Dickinson and Taylah Burt and their families following the passing of their grandmothers.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION**Booksellers Prize**

All books sold/part sold and returned by 11 September will be in the running for the Term 3 Booksellers Prize. There is also a prize for the seller of the winning ticket. The raffle will be drawn on Thursday 17 September at McCarthy.

Save the Date

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

Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday 15 September at 7.15pm. Everyone is most welcome.

CAREERS

We are in the middle of "Open Day" season with many universities, colleges and other institutions holding their Open Days in NSW, ACT and Queensland. These are generally on Saturdays and Sundays. They are a great opportunity for students and parents to visit, ask questions, check out resources, accommodation options and the facilities associated with courses of interest.

To assist our students there have been visits by representatives from the University of Newcastle, Southern Cross University and St Alberts College from UNE arranged during this period.

It is very important to be aware of deadlines for submitting applications and for students to be checking their emails and listening to the morning Notices for up to date information. Already Early Entry applications for two universities (Notre Dame and Wollongong) have closed. The next ones will be Southern Cross University's STAR scheme and the University of Sydney's E12 Scheme.

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

TEACHING AND LEARNING

End-of-course exam time for Year 11 is approaching. For most subjects, these exams are the final task included in the assessment schedule. Exams are often included as an assessment tool as they are an efficient way to formulate a snapshot of a student's progress. At McCarthy, we introduce students to the experience of examinations from Year 7 so that they are familiar with the procedures involved, for when they sit the HSC. Our formal examination period is important and students are expected to sit for their exams at the published time. We endeavour to emulate BOSTES procedures to assist students in understanding the nature of accountability. The Board states, 'It is important that you attend the examinations where possible, even in the case of illness/misadventure. The Board will not uphold an illness/misadventure application if the reason for your absence is not considered to be sufficiently serious.'

It is expected that all students sit for their exams at the published time. However, we understand that students become sick and as such, they cannot concentrate or perform well. In this instance, if your child is unwell, a phone call or email to school is expected before the start of the examination. Please ensure that you mention your child is due to sit for an exam that day. **A medical certificate must be presented on their return to school** and attached to the blue 'Application for Extension of or Special Consideration for an Assessment Task' form, which is available from the office or the school's Moodle page. If this procedure is not followed then your child runs the risk of receiving a zero for this task. If the absence is due to a reason other than illness, a blue 'Application for Extension of or Special Consideration for an Assessment Task' form must also be submitted along with supporting documentation. This application will be considered by a panel of senior staff to determine if it will be upheld. All students can expect to complete the exam on their return to school.

Electronic Reports

As you are aware, we are moving towards electronically sending your child's reports. Please ensure that the email address recorded at school is up to date. This will allow a smooth transition to the new method of delivery.

Ms Suzanne Day – Teaching and Learning Coordinator



DRAMA

HSC Drama Practical Examination

The HSC Drama Practical Examination was held on Monday 24 August. Drama is one of the first practical exams to start the HSC examination process. All the hard work and external rehearsals saw students truly 'perform' at their best. I was extremely proud of this group's conduct and professionalism as they prepared for their HSC exam. I hope that parents had the chance to see the students' Group Performances last Monday night, at the Year 12 Creative Arts Evening where Drama, Music and Art showcased HSC works.

Ms Felicity Sawtell – Drama teacher

2015 TOASTMASTER'S LEADERSHIP COURSE

Toastmasters of Tamworth offer an annual Youth Leadership course to Year 11 students and the course has been offered at McCarthy since the 1970s. Students complete a six week course in which they learn to speak confidently for an audience. Each week the course has a slightly different focus and students are taught practical speech making skills. Lectures range from basic rules such as avoiding the words 'um' and 'ah', to how to stand, use visual aids effectively and how to structure a speech.

The graduation at the end of the course requires students to demonstrate what they have learnt about the craft of speechmaking. The Judy Woodgate Memorial Trophy is presented to the student who best demonstrates those skills. Judy Woodgate was a dedicated Toastmaster and her family donated a perpetual trophy in her memory to be awarded to a Year 11 student at the conclusion of the Youth Leadership Course each year. The 2015 recipient of this prestigious award is Olivia Riley.

McCarthy Catholic College wishes to thank the Toastmasters who volunteered their time to this valuable program, especially Sarah Massey who coordinated the course this year. Other Toastmasters who participated in the delivery of the course were: Kylie Reading, Jane Lally, Suzanne O'Keeffe, Rob Philp, Alison Edwards, Elizabeth Hingston, Deb Maes, Marie-Louise Geary and Eric Elsley. We congratulate the following students on their successful completion of the course: Eliza Bennett, Matilda Davies, Bronte Ellicott, Thomas Keogh, William Keogh, Matilda Shumack, Dominic Sills, Patrick Sparke, Alexander Stuart, Emmalene Tinson, Gabrielle Vella and Cassandra Wells.

Mrs Katrina Sullivan

McCARTHY'S GOT TALENT

McCarthy's Got Talent was a great finish to the end of a long day. It was fantastic to see so much talent being presented by our school. The singing, dancing and some brilliant improvisation made for a great show and added to the fun atmosphere. The teacher feature was spectacular as expected and no-one will forget the mighty "Ag Man". Congratulations to the winners, Jasmine Tan and Will Jones, Hayden Davy (2nd) and Andrew Balquin and Emily Thompson (3rd).

Thank you to the judges, Ms Kellie Singh, Mr Peter Ross and Mr Godden, and to our generous sponsors: Tamworth Trophy Supplies, Edwards Printing, Tamworth Buslines, Cheapa Music, Collins Book Store, Just Cuts, Stain Busters Carpet Cleaners, Plaza Shoe Repair, Peel Valley Tiles, New England Engraving and Inspirations.

Finally, thank you to our supporters for making it another successful McCarthy's Got Talent.

McCarthy Environmental Council

SPORT



Basketball

On Monday 24 and Tuesday 25 August, McCarthy had four teams represent at the New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges Junior Basketball Championships held in Penrith: 7/8 Boys, 7/8 Girls, 9/10 Boys and 9/10 Girls. In the Intermediate division, both the boys' and girls' teams competed against some of the top schools in NSW. Unfortunately the teams did not qualify for the finals, having lost games in the pool rounds.

In the Junior division, both teams started strongly in the pool rounds. Unfortunately the girls' team did not make it through to the finals. The boys' teams only lost one of their pool games, before playing in the Grand Final, defeating Edmund Rice College, Wollongong 45-27.

Congratulations and thanks must go to the coaches who gave up their time to train and take the teams to Penrith: Paul Hobson, Matt Hobson, Rhys Chillingworth, Pippa McMahon and Tammy McMahon. Special thanks to Mrs Kate Chillingworth and Miss Fran Mumford for their assistance during the championships in Penrith.

All teams were exceptional in their sportsmanship and behaviour and should be commended. Our NSWCCC Junior Basketball State Championship team consists of: Sam Ellicott, Izack Fuller, Cooper Kelly, Tom Lange, Caleb Lavu Lavu, Brock McMahon, David Murrie, Tom Sheppard, Jared Sing and Nathan Watson. Coached by Paul Hobson.

Our other teams were as follows:

9/10 Boys: Kane Butler, Matthew Gambrell, Jude Malaga, Nathaniel McGrath, Connor McRae, Riley Murphy, Matthew O'Toole, Jake Pendergast and Toby Whale. Coached by Matt Hobson

7/8 Girls: Krystal Booby, Josie Chick, Ellouise Fuller, Emma Higgins, Sienna Kennedy, Ruby Murphy, Miah O'Sullivan, Grace Salter, Grace Whale and Brianna Zwolsman. Coached by Rhys Chillingworth

9/10 Girls: Bronte Chillingworth, India Dietrich, Emily Donaldson, Camille Fernando, Kate O'Connell, Hannah Page, Claire Salter, Alix Sills and Stacey Thrift. Coached by Pippa McMahon and Tammy McMahon.



Rugby

Under 13s

The Under 13s team qualified for the Grand Final against William Cowper but unfortunately, were defeated 20 – 10.

The boys trained well with players working hard to improve their fitness and rugby skills. They improved over the season and it showed in the final game with good scrum and lineout wins. The team has a great pack of hardworking forwards and a set of speedy, stylish backs.

Thank you to all the parents who supported the team on Friday nights.

Mr Bernie Williams - coach

Under 14s

The Under 14s had a successful season, finishing with a loss to Oxley/Carinya in the finals and were placed 4th overall. It was difficult to find consistency and game plans due to the disjointedness of the schedule and the washed out games. Nonetheless, a core group of players consistently trained every week and did themselves and McCarthy proud with their on field efforts. Best and fairest this season went to Jake Vost; best back to Isaac Byrne and best forward to Edward George.

Mr Nick Fahey - coach

Under 15s

Although the Under 15 only played three games throughout a frustrating season, the Year 9 boys trained hard and play exceptionally well. They were the strongest team in the ruck and contested scrums all season. The players improved each game and played with both talent and heart. It was a privilege to coach them. They should be proud of their efforts and we hope that next year there is a Grand Final and presentation.

Mrs Shannon Monro - coach

Under 16s



The Under 16s McCarthy Rugby Union team had a very successful season which resulted in the boys winning the Friday Night Competition. Cameron Witherdin was our lock and Man of the Match in the Grand Final played against Carinya. His courage to continue to play in the final, when injured, was a credit to his character. Our captain, Lachlan Smith, led by example with courageous runs and words of encouragement to his team mates. Thank you to the players for their commitment and willingness to represent the school in such an outstanding manner. Thank you to Mr Hannaford who assisted during games, and to parents for their support.

Mr Damian Kenniff – coach

Cricket

McCarthy Cricket is calling for registrations for the 2015/2016 season. The Years 9 and 10 competition will be played on Friday afternoons commencing at 4.00pm and the Years 7 and 8 competition will be played on Saturday mornings commencing at 8.30am. The season starts on 9 October. Fees that include player registration, as well as equipment costs, will be set at \$120.00 per player. Registration and information forms can be collected from the Office.

Polocrosse

Congratulations to Jesse Kelly (Year 10) who was a member of the Australian Gold Polocrosse team that won the recent Australian Junior Challenge in Warwick.