Dear Parents & Students,

**Prayer for Peace**

*O God of many names*

*Lover of all nations*

*We pray for peace*

*in our hearts*

*in our homes*

*in our nations*

*in our world.*

*The peace of your will*

*The peace of our need.*

*(George Appleton)*

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**PRINCIPAL MATTERS**

It has been a busy week here at McCarthy. Our new students for 2016 were orientated to the campus during the day on Tuesday and their parents were provided with information and were introduced to key staff at night. Similarly, the Creative Arts students and staff staged an impressive show of Music, Art and Drama on Monday night in the Hall. We are privileged to have such talented performers at McCarthy and I hope that they appreciate the quality of instruction that they receive from our gifted and dedicated staff. Well done to all involved and thank you to those parents and friends of the community who attended and supported such a quality night of cultural performance.

**Pastoral Structures 2016**

The Pastoral team have spent a good deal of this year reviewing their staffing and organisational structures to best serve the pastoral needs of our students here at the college. Consequently, you will notice some important changes from 2016. To support and target the needs of students in both the Junior and Senior parts of the school, Year Level Coordinators will now ‘rotate’ through a 3-year cycle with their junior (Years 7 to 9) and senior (Years 10 to 12) student cohorts. Mentor Group teachers will mostly carry through with their class for the six years. The overarching rationale will then allow for continuity of support for students on a daily basis and a consistent point of contact for parents. Similarly, the Pastoral team will finalise in 2016 an overlay of targeted camps, retreats, workshops, guest speakers and programs to support the development of student leadership and service learning that has an agreed chronology based on contemporary research and age-appropriate interventions. I publically thank Mrs Libby Molony and the six Year Level Coordinators for their expert input and personal flexibility in bringing this targeted change to fruition. Staff allocations for 2016 are as follows:

**Pastoral Care Coordinator:** Mrs Libby Molony

**Junior Stage Year Level Coordinators**

- Year 7: Mrs Melissa Bearup
- Year 8: Mr Bernie Williams
- Year 9: Mr Andrew Davy

**Senior Stage Year Level Coordinators**

- Year 10: Mrs Michelle Gale
- Year 11: Mrs Fiona O’Neill
- Year 12: Mrs Kate Woolaston.

**Staffing**

As I have noted on a number of public occasions the quality of staff at McCarthy is a big part of what makes this wonderful school so successful. Unfortunately, for a variety of really good reasons some of these gifted staff decide to move on to work and contribute in other communities and fields. Consequently, it is with mixed feelings that I announce the departure from our staff at the end of 2015 of Miss Leanne Sjollema (Western Australia), Miss Erin Cannon (Queensland) and Mrs Clarissa Tebbatt (Sydney). I thank them on behalf of the students for their dedicated contribution and wish them every success in the future.

While our final staffing roster is not complete and probably will not be until Christmas, I can announce the following roles and positions to take effect from 2016:

**Mission and Spiritual Formation Coordinator:** Mrs Cate Allen

**Teaching and Learning Coordinator:** Mrs Raelene Maxworthy

**Acting KLÀ Coordinator – Religious Education:** Mrs Kerry Ackhurst

**HSIE Teacher:** Mrs Vanessa Christakos

**Counsellor (full-time):** Mrs Tamara Shoemark

**IT Assistant:** Mr Isaac Carr.

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**Diary Dates**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>28 Nov</td>
<td>“Celebrating the Advent of Love” Armidale</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>Year 9 Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>Year 10 Excursion</td>
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<td>30 Nov</td>
<td>Band Workshop – Narrabri</td>
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<td>4 Dec</td>
<td>First Friday Mass &amp; Vinnies Induction</td>
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<td>8 Dec</td>
<td>HSC Music Workshop</td>
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<td>9 Dec</td>
<td>Sports’ Awards Assembly 9am</td>
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<td>10 Dec</td>
<td>Year 10 Dinner Dance 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Dec</td>
<td>Award Night</td>
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<td>16 Dec</td>
<td>HSC results released</td>
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<td>16 Dec</td>
<td>Last day for students</td>
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<td>17 Dec</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<td>18 Dec</td>
<td>Pupil Free Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 Dec</td>
<td>Year 12 BBQ breakfast</td>
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<td>18 Dec</td>
<td>Term 4 concludes</td>
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### McCarthy Newsletter

**Receive – Worship – Serve**

**Telephone:** (02) 6761 0800  
**Facsimile:** (02) 6766 4557  
**Postal Address:** PO Box 3486 West Tamworth NSW 2340  
**Website:** www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au  
**McCarthy Office Hours:** 7.30am – 4.00pm

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I congratulate these staff for their willingness to take on significant educational leadership roles at McCarthy. I also publicly identify and thank Mrs Denise McHugh and Ms Suzanne Day for their expertise and dedication as the previous role-holders of Teaching and Learning Coordinator and Relieving Teaching and Learning Coordinator respectively.

Year 10 Dinner Dance
As the staff and students prepare for the Year 10 Dinner Dance on Thursday 10 December, I sincerely thank Mrs Fiona O’Neill and Mrs Kerry Ackhurst for their hard work in preparing for this major event. With the change to the Pastoral structures from 2016 and as a consequence of long-term feedback particularly surrounding the significant cost to families of Year 10 students, the 2015 event will be the last Year 10 Dinner Dance for McCarthy. I trust that the 2015 event is a great success.

Trivia Night and Mango Drive
Once again I offer my gratitude to the hard working team from the McCarthy Parents Association who coordinated the Mango fundraiser. While the crop was affected by hail in Queensland and the orders were down, early estimates would suggest that over $1,140.00 was raised to add to the $5000+ contribution from the Camper Trailer raffle. Similarly, a fun night was had by all at the Trivia Night last week. From challenging trivia questions to paper plane throwing and spaghetti building competitions, over sixty parents and friends had a great night of camaraderie and fun. Thanks to all involved and we look forward to a larger roll-up in 2016.

Year 10 Excursion to Canberra
Year 10 students will soon be undertaking an educational tour of the national capital. Students will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of education programs with a focus on Australia’s history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit the national capital as part of their Civics and Citizenship education. To assist families in meeting the cost of the excursion, the Australian Government is contributing funding of $30.00 per student under the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate program towards those costs. The rebate is paid directly to the school upon completion of the excursion.

May your God go with you.

Mr Geoff McManus – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
On Wednesday 18 November Year 10 RE classes were visited by Sisters Telesia and Christine representing the Sisters of Nazareth and Sisters of Mercy respectively. The Sisters are part of the Vocations Team formed in response both to the Year of Consecrated Life celebrations and the need to inform students about the religious life as a valuable and worthy response to Jesus Christ. Following the class visits the Sisters stayed for morning tea with the McCarthy staff. On behalf of the teachers and students I would like to thank Sister Telesia and Sister Christine for taking time from their busy schedules to talk with our students.

Vinnies
The new Executive have taken to the helm with confidence and enthusiasm and it is with great pleasure that I would like to invite parents and friends to their formal induction as the Executive members of the St Agnes Conference which will take place at the last first Friday Mass for the year on 4 December at 7.00am at St Nicholas’ Parish Church.

Advent
As we approach the first Sunday of Advent, I wish to remind the McCarthy community of the following Mass times:
Saturday 28 November 6.00pm – St Nicholas’
Sunday 29 November 7.30am – St Mary’s
Sunday 29 November 9.30am – St Nicholas’
Sunday 29 November 5.30pm – St Nicholas’

Celebrating the Advent of Love
The Catholic Women Connecting Armidale invites women and men of the Armidale Diocese to an “Advent Gathering” at Saints Mary and Joseph Cathedral in Armidale on 28 November. The program begins at 3.30pm with afternoon tea and concludes with Mass, dinner and reflection by Bishop Kennedy. RSVP by 23 November to cwcarmidale2015@gmail.com

Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinator

PASTORAL CARE
Welcome
The McCarthy community congratulates the family of Bailii-Anne Bickhoff (Year 9) on the safe arrival of their baby brother, Zac.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Mango Orders
Thank you to the parents and friends who supported our Mango drive.

Trivia Night
Thank you to those parents and friends who came along to the Trivia Night. It was a great evening.

Next Meeting
Our next meeting is Tuesday 16 February 2016 at 7.15pm. Everyone is most welcome.
CAREERS NEWS
As the second half of the term arrives, there are many students wishing to discuss subject selections, applying for jobs and arranging to do work experience. I have been interviewing Year 10 students regarding their subject choices and career aspirations.

I am also in the process of organising events and activities for students both at the end of this year and early next year.

Anyone who is an employer or who works for a company looking for full-time or part time employees, please contact me so I can let the relevant students know. We have already had phone calls for permanent positions and gap year jobs for school leavers which I have passed on to students.

CAA Conference
I recently attended the annual NSW ACT Careers Advisers Association Conference along with several hundred other Careers Advisers from all over the state. We heard about recent trends in the health and media industries, updates from UAC, programs and activities in other schools, influences on career choices and employer expectations of work readiness. I will be sharing this information with students in the coming year.

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

ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL
The 2016 McCarthy Environment Council Office Bearers were elected in a meeting last Friday. Congratulations to the following students who will take on Executive positions:

Administrator: Matilda Davies
Deputy Administrator: Roy Barnes
Secretary: Dominic Gunning.

Already these students have shown initiative with much planning undertaken for the 2016 year. I look forward to working with these enthusiastic and capable students.

Mrs Sharon Stuart – Environment Council Teacher

CREATIVE ARTS

On Monday 23 November, McCarthy held the annual Creative Arts Night. This was an outstanding showcase of the creative and performing talents of the students in our school. Artworks were displayed from Years 7-12. Performances included: very entertaining and polished Drama performances by Years 10 and 11; individual and small group performances from Elective Music students (Years 9-11); Ensemble performances by the School Concert Band/Orchestra, Jazz Band, Saxophone Quartet and Brass Ensemble.

It was a wonderfully varied and enjoyable evening which flowed smoothly, thanks in part to the efficient and enthusiastic stage crew of Jessica Eggins, Joshua Cornthwaite, Owen Bennett, John Wong and Sebastian O’Sullivan.

Congratulations to all students and staff involved.

Mrs Lisa Lane – Music teacher

SPORT

Sports’ Awards Assembly
McCarthy Catholic College’s annual Sports’ Awards Assembly will be held in the school Hall from 9.00am – 10.30am on Wednesday 9 December.

The Sports’ Awards Assembly gives us an opportunity to recognise the sporting achievements of students in front of their peers as a whole school.

We are fortunate to have a special guest, Mr Michael Crossland, a motivational speaker, who will address the College on the day. Awards that will be presented include Blues and Half Blues, as well as College Awards.

Invitations have been issued to students receiving awards, and also to parents and coaches who have assisted McCarthy Catholic College sporting teams.

Cricket – Downie Shield
McCarthy travelled to Walcha on 10 November for Round 2 of the Downie Shield against MacKillop College, Port Macquarie. McCarthy batted first but did not score enough runs after a slow over rate. Jack Hannaford was top scorer with a hard fought 29. MacKillop surpassed McCarthy’s score with the loss of only four wickets. Jye Paterson (2), Liam Dunn (1) and James Austin (1) were the wicket takers.

Team: Jye Paterson, Toby Whale, Jack Hannaford, Liam Dunn, Kuzi Jaravani, Ehren Hazell, Lachlan Glasson, James Austin, Jack Murrie, Ryan Baker, Connor Robinson and Egan Dunn. Thank you to Mr Peter Virgen for umpiring on the day.

Mr Damian Kenniff
Waterpolo
On 16 November Dakota Skewes, Jake Mitchell, Kane Clinch, Billie Mitchell and Gabrielle Joice travelled to Ryde Aquatic Centre for Waterpolo NSWCCC selection trials. Billie Mitchell was selected in the possible/probables, however did not get into the final team. All the students enjoyed the experience of these trials.

Cricket
Last week, James Austin attended the NSWCCC 15 Years Cricket Trials at St Gregory's College in Campbelltown. Unfortunately, James was not selected in the side, but gained valuable experience.

Boxing
On Saturday 14 November, Billy McNaughton participated in Battle in the Bush Nine Boxing tournament. Billy fought in the light middleweight division against Mitch Stapleton. The fight consisted of four two minute rounds. Billy won the fight on Technical Knock Out. Billy will participate in another fight in December.

Rodeo
Anna Crisp attended the East Coast Rodeo Exchange Program to Western Australia on 14 November. She spent a week competing at two separate events as well sightseeing. She won the 14-18 years’ Barrell Race and came 4th in the Junior Breakaway Roping.

Horseball
Congratulations to Melanie Young (Year 8), Alina – Goor Ditchfield (Year 9) and Sam Collett (Year 11) on their recent selection in the Australian Junior Horseball team to compete at the World Cup in Portugal in August 2016. While it is still a relatively new sport to Australia, Horseball is popular in Europe. The following link will give an insight into the sport for anyone who may be interested.  http://www.fihb.net/

AFL
There is a free “Come and Try” session for any interested young people (boys and girls) aged between 12-16 years next Monday, 30 November at No 1 Oval from 5pm - 6.30pm. In 2016, the AFL is hoping to get a Saturday AFL competition started for young people. This is a great opportunity to get an insight into the game of AFL.

Mrs Sharon Stuart – AFL Coach