

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

O God, who sanctify your universal Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of your Spirit across the face of the earth, so that your divine grace, which was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, may now spread through the hearts of those who believe in you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen

Reflection

This prayer is taken from the Mass of the Holy Spirit which will be celebrated by the staff and students in the College Hall on February 5. As Catholics we believe it is through the actions of the Holy Spirit that we are brought into communion with Christ and so form his Body. This action we believe happens most especially when we come together to celebrate the Liturgy. (CCC, 1108) In this light celebrating the Mass of the Holy Spirit is a very fitting way to begin the school year. Please pray for us as we begin the 2016 school year.

Diary Dates

5 Feb: Opening School Year Mass (Holy Spirit)
 7 Feb: Uni of Sydney & Wollongong excursion
 8 Feb: Elevate Education seminar
 9 Feb: HSC Chemistry Study Day
 10 Feb: Ash Wednesday Liturgy
 11 Feb: Twilight Swimming Carnival
 12 Feb: Non-school day
 15 Feb: Year 7 Welcome BBQ 5.30pm
 16 Feb: Board & Association Meetings
 19 Feb: HSC English Study Day
 23 Feb: Year 7 RE Presentation
 29 Feb: Year 7 Camp
 7 March: Catholic Schools' Week
 8 March: Year 11 Property Planning Day
 10 March: Diocesan Swimming Carnival – Moree
 12 March: Open Day
 15 March: Board & Association AGMs
 16 March: John Coutis Presentation
 22 March: Year 7/8 Science & Engineering Challenge
 23 March: Year 9/10 Science & Engineering Challenge
 25 March: Good Friday
 28 March: Easter Monday
 29 March: Warramalaya Retreat
 31 March: Diocesan Touch – Inverell
 8 April: 2017 Enrolment Applications Close
 8 April: Term 1 concludes

Please note: this is the only paper copy of the Newsletter that will be distributed unless a request is made through the office. The Newsletter and all past Newsletters are available on the College website.

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Principal's Message

It is with great excitement that we return to school for the 2016 academic year at McCarthy Catholic College. The new students, particularly from Year 7, bring a palpable sense of enthusiasm and vigour to our wonderful community that enhances an already progressive culture of holistic education. Similarly, the teaching and support staff have begun the new year with energy and are looking forward to realising the great potential that lies in our terrific students.

School Improvement Plan

After much consultation with the College Board, Executive, Parent Association and staff towards the end of 2015, I am excited by the strategic direction of the College. To frame and guide this vision the college has formulated a school improvement plan.

The three main goals of the McCarthy Catholic College 2016 School Improvement Plan are -

1. Deeper knowledge of Catholic Principles and Values (CPV) for staff, students and parents.
2. Supporting the growth of teacher capacity through the AITSL Teacher Performance and Development Framework and the National School Improvement Tool (NSIT).
3. Confidence with and portability of IT for teachers and students to enhance contemporary pedagogy for the Australian Curriculum.

The key driver that underlies this plan is to provide a contemporary Catholic learning program for students that prepares them for careers that are ever-changing and heavily based in modern technology. Students and families can already see some of these contemporary changes occurring at the college. From teachers utilising collaborative technology such as Google Apps, to online roll-marking and daily notices, to touch screen monitors and laptops, our staff are engaging in personal learning that will continue to enhance and support our drive for significant improvement in comparative learning gain.

One of the important tools that students and employees are using in the modern classroom and workplace is some sort of touch-operable IT device. From iPads to smartphones to tablets to point-of-sale transactions, touch and tap technology is becoming ubiquitous. Consequently, our students need to be exposed to that type of technology at school and home to adequately prepare themselves for their current and future work lives. In a number of schools, universities and even some workplaces that technology is brought and bought by the user ie. Bring-Your-Own-Device (BYOD). This is a model of IT delivery currently under investigation at McCarthy. Consequently, in upcoming newsletters and parent forums I will be seeking input as to how a BYOD scheme at McCarthy can be sustained by families, both in a financial sense and a practical sense. That is, how does the potential requirement to purchase a device affect the family budget and is there a capacity in most homes to support internet access for students to complete their BYOD school tasks? Stay tuned for dates and opportunities to provide feedback.

Whole School Mass of the Holy Spirit

We are also very excited to have our whole school Mass here on campus this Friday 5 February. While in previous years we have conducted wonderful Year level Masses on site and separately transported House and Year groups to the parishes for Mass each term, the possibility of celebrating the Eucharist as a whole school on site has been challenging. With Father Joe's generous support, we have managed to coordinate an opening school Mass of the Holy Spirit on site in the College hall this week. Our talented Mission and Spiritual Formation Coordinator, Mrs Cate Allen, has worked tirelessly to prepare a beautiful liturgical experience for our students. While continuing to immerse ourselves in parish life during Terms 2 and 3, as well as the Year level Masses every term, we will also conclude the academic year with another whole school Mass on site in December.

Enrolments for Year 7 in 2017 close April 8 2016

McCarthy Catholic College extends an invitation for students seeking enrolment into Year 7 in 2017. The only round of Year 7 applications for this year will close on Friday 8 April. **Fully completed application forms** and the **\$100 application fee** need to be lodged at the College on or before **Friday 8 April**. Mrs Libby Molony will visit the Catholic primary schools over the next few weeks and issue Year 6 students with an enrolment package. Interviews will be conducted throughout Term 2. **Open Day** will be held on **Saturday 12 March** from 10.00am until 1.00pm.

Contact the office on 6761 0800 for an application pack and/or more information.

2016 Staff Appointments and Changes

New Positions:

HSIE Teacher – Mrs Vanessa Christakos
 Agriculture Teacher – Mrs Jo McHugh
 Science/Technology Teacher – Mrs Melissa Gamble (Term 1)
 Maths Teacher – Mr Kim Slattery (Term 1)
 Music Teacher – Mrs Lisa Lane (Term 1)
 Literacy Support Program Teacher – Mrs Gill Downes
 Food Technology Assistant – Mrs Inga Potter
 IT Assistant – Mr Isaac Carr

2016 Role Changes

Teaching and Learning Coordinator – Mrs Raelene Maxworthy
 TAS Coordinator – Mrs Suzanne Day
 Religious Education KLA Coordinator – Mrs Kerry Ackhurst

We also farewell and thank Mrs Linda Sinclair and Mr Rhys Chillingworth for their dedication and support of McCarthy in their respective roles of Food Technology Assistant and IT Assistant as they both move from their current roles.

Staff News

Congratulations to Miss Tegan Brodbeck and Mr Ryan Skinner and to Mr Marcus Chittick and Miss Felicity Steel who announced their engagements over the Christmas break.

HSC Results

The school community congratulates the Class of 2015 on their outstanding HSC results. The Dux, Lauren MacRae (95), will be recognised at a school assembly, where she will be presented with the Sr Patricia Rowe Award for Dux 2015.

Year 7 Welcome Barbeque

The McCarthy staff warmly invites Year 7 students and their families to a Welcome Barbeque at the school on 15 February from 5.30pm – 7.00pm. It is a casual event that enables parents to meet some of the teachers who will be working with their children this year. A letter will be sent home shortly.

McCarthy Executive Staff for 2016

Principal:	Mr Geoff McManus
Assistant Principal:	Mrs Sally Sparke
Mission and Spiritual Formation Coordinator:	Mrs Cate Allen
Teaching and Learning Coordinator:	Mrs Raelene Maxworthy
Pastoral Care Coordinator:	Mrs Libby Molony

Board and Association

The Board is an important body in the Diocesan schools' structure, providing advice and support to the principal. Nomination forms are available at the office for any parents interested in nominating for the College Board. Nominations close on Friday 4 March. The Board's Annual General Meeting will be held on 15 March.

All parents are welcome to attend the McCarthy Association meetings, held in the staff room on the third Tuesday of each month from 7.00pm. The Association links parents/carers and the school in common endeavour: to support students and their learning. The meetings are friendly and casual and provide important insight into the working of the school as well as enable input from families.

Communication

McCarthy utilises a range of avenues for communication between school and home. They are:

- the Newsletter (available on the website, school app or in hard copy upon request)
- the website (www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)
- MOODLE (<https://learning.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au> or via the Parent link on the website)

To access notes, curriculum information, the calendar, etc. use the following login details: username – parent, password – parent.

- Email (admin@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au) or directly to the teacher's email addresses (available on the website)
- Regular mail (for letters, reports, notifications, etc.)
- Notes – sent home with students
- Student Planner (for daily contact with teachers)
- Skoolbag Phone App - The App can be accessed through the Apple iStore (search for "McCarthy Catholic College Tamworth") and Google Play Store.

The Student Planner, issued to all students, is the central form of communication between teachers and parents/carers. Please ensure your child/ren take their Planner to school every day and check it regularly for communication.

Swimming Carnival and Day In Lieu

Please note that the College Swimming Carnival will be held at Scully Park Pool from 2.30pm – 7.30pm on Thursday 11 February. **Please note:** there will be **no supervision** available at school after 2.00pm. The following day, Friday 12 February, will be a non-school day. The school will **not be open** on that day.

Dropping Off and Picking Up Students

Those parents who pick up their children **after** school are asked to drive along the service road to the back of the Hall and park on this road for the pick-up. The car park becomes congested and dangerous if cars wait in the middle of the main car park.

It is important that the 10km/h speed limit in the school grounds be followed.

The dropping off in the morning and the pick-up of students **before** 3.00pm may still take place in front of the office.

Parents are asked to please NOT pick up students in the carpark or the bus bay after 3.00pm.



Clothing Pool

The Clothing Pool can be accessed on Wednesdays between 12.30pm and 1.30pm via the bottom carpark. It can be found at the top of the stairs, to the left (facing Tribe Street).

Hours of School and Supervision

The playground will be supervised from 8.20am. School hours are 8.40am – 3.00pm. After school, students will be supervised in the bus bay area until the last bus leaves.

Absentees

Government regulations require that schools document all student absences with reasons eg. illness, approved leave etc. Please provide the school with an explanation of your child's absence **within seven days** by way of a letter upon their return or a phone call on the day of their absence. Follow-up text messages will be forwarded to parents/guardians seeking explanation if this has not been provided. **It is very important that students attend Mentor Group for roll marking or sign in via the office if they are late to school (after 8.40am).** If a response to the text has not been received by the return date, the absence will remain as unexplained and will NOT be able to be changed. Alternatively you can email absentees to kslattery1@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au.

Attendances - Leave

As per government requirements, if a student is going to be absent from school for five days or more, an 'Application for Exemption from Attendance' form or an "Application for Leave" form **must** be presented **prior** to the leave taking place. These forms are available from the office.

Permission Validation

If someone other than a parent is collecting and signing a student out from the school, a **written note** or email is required from the responsible parent/carer. Please address notes or emails to the Attendance Officer, Miss Kate Slattery kslattery1@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au.



Students Late For School

The bell for the beginning of school goes at 8.40am. Students who arrive after this time are required to complete an entry in the late book in the office. Parents need to bring late students to the office and sign the book or provide the student with a note. Text messages will be sent for unexplained lateness or absences.

Early Departure

Parents are required to sign for students who are leaving the school before the normal finishing time of 3.00pm.

Pedestrian Entry and Exit

Students who walk to or from school must use the two pedestrian gates in Tribe Street and cross using the marked children's crossing.



Student Planners

All students have been issued with a 2016 Student Planner. These Planners contain important information about the school and expectations along with excellent support material to assist students to plan and manage their learning. They are to be used for communication between home and class teachers and as a record of aspects of the student's academic program. Please check and sign each child's planner at least weekly and encourage them to use this resource effectively.

Illness at School

Students are reminded that when they fall ill at school, they are to inform their teacher and report to the office, where the sick bay is located. Office staff will assess students and contact parents if necessary. Students are asked **not** to phone their parents as this is the legal responsibility of the school.

Distribution of Newsletter

Newsletters are available on the McCarthy website (www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au) and the school app on Day 9 (every second Thursday) of the timetable. **A paper copy of the Newsletter is available to those families who require it by contacting Mrs Debra Wade in the office.** Alternatively, you can have the Newsletter emailed each fortnight. Please notify the office of your email address if you would like to utilise this service or “sign up” for the newsletter via the website.

Change of Student and Parent Details

It is imperative that the office be advised about any change of details from last year, such as change in family situation, address, workplace, email addresses, phone numbers – mobile and landline for home and work.

Medication

Please be aware the school office staff **cannot** administer pain medication.

I look forward to working with you in 2016 and wish families all the best for the year.

Mr Geoff McManus – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**Liturgies and Prayer**

For the staff at McCarthy the school year began with the Liturgy of the Word based on 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, in which St Paul reminds the Church in Corinth of the Gospel he has preached to them.

In 2016 our Liturgical program includes a whole school Mass for the beginning of the school year which is to be celebrated on site in the school Hall. Father Joe will celebrate the Mass of the Holy Spirit with us and for the first time we will experience what it feels like to celebrate the Eucharist together as one school. We will also mark the end of the school year in the same way. In Terms 2 and 3 we will celebrate the Eucharist in the parish Church of St Nicholas'. In addition to this, in each Term, each Year group will celebrate the Eucharist and Reconciliation on site.

Lent

McCarthy will host a Lenten group again this year for staff, interested parents and parishioners. This will be held on the Wednesday evenings during Lent at 7.00pm in the Meeting Room. The first group reflection will be 10 February. Please contact the school if you are interested in joining our group. All are most welcome.

Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Coordinator

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Welcome everyone to 2016. This year we are continuing the focus on each individual working to be the best they can be, holistically. This is not the same as being the best; but it does involve individuals striving to meet challenges and setting expectations for themselves. I hope that this shared vision and direction continues to improve learning outcomes for all students.

As always, there have been last minute adjustments to rooms, timetables and classes. Mrs Maxworthy and I are working hard to ensure that these are made as quickly as possible to allow everyone to get on with the core business of being at school - learning. Our *Code of Conduct* - Care, Courtesy, Respect and Responsibility was developed by all the stakeholders working together - students, staff and parents. I am proud to say that already this year I have seen it being lived by McCarthy students in an active way. Congratulations and thank you to all who live this code daily at school. Please remember that wearing the uniform correctly is a way of demonstrating respect for self and for McCarthy. This includes shirts tucked in, socks pulled up, uniforms of appropriate length and no facial piercings or excess jewellery. Hats are strongly encouraged and should be worn whenever students are in the sun.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

PASTORAL CARE**Pastoral Care**

The Pastoral Care team works to promote and nurture the physical, social, emotional and intellectual well-being of students, staff and parents. Please keep us informed of any health, social, financial and/or family issues that may affect your child's learning or general well-being. Such information is treated with discretion and allows us to provide appropriate support. You are encouraged to contact us with any concerns you may have regarding your child at McCarthy. Please note that due to teaching, duties and interviews it is sometimes difficult to return calls immediately. It would be appreciated if you could inform the receptionist if a matter is urgent. For non-urgent matters please consider emails.

The 2016 Pastoral Care team is:

Mrs Libby Molony	emolony@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au	Pastoral Care Coordinator
Mrs Melissa Bearup	mgardner@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au	Year 7 Coordinator
Mr Bernie Williams	bwilliams1@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au	Year 8 Coordinator
Mr Andrew Davy	adavy@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au	Year 9 Coordinator
Mrs Michelle Gale	mgale@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au	Year 10 Coordinator
Mrs Fiona O'Neill	foneill@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au	Year 11 Coordinator
Mrs Kate Woolaston	kwoolaston@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au	Year 12 Coordinator
Mrs Tamara Shoemark	tshoemark@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au	Counsellor
Mrs Lesley O'Shea	loshea@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au	Student Welfare Officer (part-time)

Welcome

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Year 7 students and the following new students:

Year 8: Erwin Elanjilattu, Mitch O'Toole

Year 9: Kirsten Buchanan, Eman Cordero

Year 10: Aaron Dizon, Millie McHugh, Olivia Taaffe, Chloe Whitfield

Year 11: Charli Kenny, Molly Moroney, Amy Sutherland

Year 12: Carina Steyn.

Welcome also to the families who are joining the McCarthy community. We look forward to meeting you and working with you.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers go to Sienna Kennedy and family following the passing of her grandmother, to Mrs Louise Byrne and family following the passing of her father-in-law and to Mrs Sophie Cottrell and family following the passing of her father.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Welcome to all families to Term 1 2016 from the McCarthy Association. A special welcome to all new parents/guardians. Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday 16 February. We look forward to seeing you for a fun filled evening of camaraderie and friendship in parenting. Please join us at 7.00pm in the school staffroom (located at the end of the administration block). Agenda items include: Meeting dates for 2016, Social/Fundraising Calendar 2016.

Wine and Cheese Night

You are invited to attend the McCarthy Association Wine and Cheese Night in March. More details to follow.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Welcome to our new families and students.

The start of a school year is always something that brings with it great hope and opportunity. My name is Raelene Maxworthy and I am honoured to be appointed Teaching and Learning Coordinator at McCarthy this year. As the title suggests, not only do I work alongside a fantastic group of dedicated, passionate and professional teachers, I am here to help all students with their learning.

It has been a big start to the year for teachers. The challenges of developing new programs and teaching activities have been balanced by the collegiality that is thriving among us as we share our newly developed resources and strategies to maximise student learning in our Key Learning Areas. This mutual support realigns our focus in offering our students enriching learning experiences, and the opportunities to achieve new levels of personal best.

Year 11 students have completed *All My Own Work*, a compulsory on-line course from BOSTES that deals with honesty in assessment. Last Thursday, together with Mrs Fiona O'Neill and staff, Year 11 students listened to presentations that included personal management and organisation, utilising their school planners, and the mindsets, values, goals and actions that will help them make gains in their learning this year. Students will be finalising their subject selections with me this week.

I congratulate Year 7 students on their enthusiastic start to the year. They are exceptionally organised and prepared and ready to learn. I hope they enjoy the variety of subjects available at McCarthy and the chance to move between classes throughout the day. It is a big change for Year 7!

As we settle into Term 1, may I encourage all students to engage effectively in the lessons; participate in lively classroom discussions and open up and share their views and responses. While the development of skills and knowledge may be challenging, our teachers are highly skilled and they dedicate much time to ensuring students are engaged in rich learning activities that stimulate deep thought, in a collaborative, student centred learning environment.

Mrs Raelene Maxworthy – Teaching and Learning Coordinator

CAREERS NEWS

Welcome back. This year I will be available to see students in the Careers Room in the library at lunchtimes on Mondays and Fridays. I will also be available for appointments at various other times depending on my timetable. Students who wish to see me at school are asked to arrange a convenient interview time. There is a request slip on the door of the Careers Room and a post box for slips on the library counter. Parents are also welcome to contact me via email or by phoning the school.

It is a big term for Year 11 and Year 12 students with many changes. Students are encouraged to see me if they have any questions about subject choices, options for life after school and what subjects are needed if Year 11 and 12 students have changed their minds career-wise during the holidays.

I will be starting to interview all Year 12 students throughout the term, beginning with those who request an interview.

I look forward to another busy and rewarding year in Careers at McCarthy in 2016 with various events and opportunities available to students as the year progresses.

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

LIBRARY NEWS

Study Club

Study Club is an excellent opportunity available to all students at McCarthy. The library remains open until 5.00pm on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons so that students can do homework in a quiet environment and use the library resources and computers to work on assessment tasks, especially those involving internet research when access is not available at home. Students who come are required to sign in when they arrive at the library and sign out when they leave. Study Club is supervised by staff on a volunteer basis and they can be asked for assistance if a student requires help.

This is not an internet café for browsing or playing games, nor is it afterschool care. Students are expected to use the time to complete school work. Those who do not want to spend time on school related activities, or who disrupt other students, will be asked

to not attend Study Club. This is an opportunity that allows students to focus on their learning and to help by providing facilities and resources to assist them.

Study Club will commence on Tuesday 9 February this term. From Term 2 onwards, Study Club will commence on Tuesday in Week 2 of each term.

Mrs Cheryl Gulliford and Mrs Susan Barrett – Teacher Librarians

ENGLISH

English MOODLE Websites

English staff members have designed MOODLE pages to complement each unit of study in Years 7-12. These MOODLE pages are labelled 'Essential Course Material'.

Each of the topics on the MOODLE page commences with links entitled 'What is this unit about?' and 'The assessment for this unit is...'. These sections clearly outline the aim and scope of the unit as well as the assessment for the unit. Resources have been designed and carefully selected to assist students to understand the key concepts and skills required for each unit. Links to useful websites and resources provide knowledge, deepen understanding and encourage students to work to achieve greater success in English.

The MOODLE pages can be found by accessing the English course category link on the learning.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au website. A student's MOODLE username and password provides access. Parents can also gain access by using the username 'parent' and password 'parent'.

For parents who are looking to facilitate additional English skills activities at home, MOODLE pages dedicated to NAPLAN, grammar, spelling and punctuation can also be found in the same location.

Mrs Katrina Sullivan - English Coordinator

MATHEMATICS

All students are expected to have their grid book, student planner, pens, ruler, calculator and textbook with them in class at all times. Students are to have texts in class by the beginning of Week 3. If there are any concerns regarding this please let myself or the class teacher know. Maths help is available through Study Club on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from 3.00pm – 5.00pm in the library. I wish all a happy, rewarding 2016 and hope students use their class time productively and work towards achieving their goals.

The following is a list of the required texts for Years 7 – 12:

- Year 7: CambridgeMATHS NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum Year 7.
 Year 8: CambridgeMATHS NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum Year 8.
 Year 9: CambridgeMATHS NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum Year 9 Stage 5.1/5.2 (classes of Mrs Ashcroft, Mr Fahey, Mrs Thompson, Mrs O'Neill)
 CambridgeMATHS NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum Year 9 Stage 5.1/5.2/5.3 (classes of Mr Kelly, Mr Godden)
 Year 10: CambridgeMATHS NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum Year 10 Stage 5.1/5.2 (classes of Mr Chittick, Ms Sommerlad, Mrs Thompson, Mr Godden)
 Cambridge MATHS NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum Year 10 Stage 5.1/5.2/5.3 (classes of Ms Harvey, Mr Kelly)
 Year 11: Mathematics Extension One – Maths in Focus Mathematics Extension One
 Preliminary Course Margaret Grove
 Mathematics – Maths in Focus Mathematics Preliminary Course Margaret Grove
 Mathematics General – MATHS QUEST Preliminary Course General Mathematics Edition 4
 Year 12: Mathematics Extension One – Maths in Focus Mathematics Extension One
 HSC Course Margaret Grove
 Mathematics – Maths in Focus Mathematics HSC Course Margaret Grove
 Mathematics General – MATHS QUEST HSC Course General Mathematics Edition 4.

Second Hand Textbook Sale

There will be a limited number of second hand Year 8 and Year 10 Maths Textbooks available for sale this Friday (5 February) from B1 at lunchtime.

Mrs Jane Ashcroft – Mathematics Coordinator



DRAMA

Congratulations to Jaydon Merrick (Year 11) and Gabrielle Vella (Year 12) for their personal achievements gained over the summer holidays.

Jaydon performed the doubled-up roles of Herbert Pocket, Pip's best friend and the nasty Bentley Drummle, Pip's sworn enemy, in the summer NIDA production of *Great Expectations* (Stage adaptation by Nick Ormerod and Declan Donnellan). The production was directed by Tyran Parke. Jaydon was successful in his audition at the end of last year; he rehearsed intensively and performed several NIDA shows during the summer break. What an invaluable experience for Jaydon. Congratulations.

Although not specifically Drama, we would also like to congratulate Gabrielle Vella for being a finalist in Tamworth Youth Citizen of the Year. Gabrielle continually takes on her cultural and civil service pursuits with maturity and enthusiasm.

It is most pleasing to see both students acknowledged for their capabilities and hard work.

Ms Felicity Sawtell – Drama Teacher

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

McCarthy's Instrumental Music Program will continue in 2016.

All students at McCarthy have the opportunity to be involved, either as an existing instrumentalist or beginner.

It is a wonderful way to become involved in the school as well as improve academic, emotional and creative development.

The Concert Band/Orchestra will rehearse on Tuesday mornings from 8.00am – 9.00am in the PAC/OLORCC. Any student who plays flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet/cornet, horn, euphonium/baritone, trombone, tuba, drums, percussion, violin, cello or double bass are welcome to join. There is also space for piano players who would like to play xylophone or glockenspiel. Membership is a yearlong commitment and includes some out of school-time performances.

The Intermediate Band will rehearse on Tuesday lunchtimes in the PAC/OLORCC. This is for last year's Junior Band and any Year 7 students who are already competent players on their instrument. These students should come along to the Intermediate band next Tuesday lunch ready to play.

Jazz Band will rehearse on Thursday mornings from 8.00am – 9.00am in the PAC/OLORCC. This advanced group is for trumpet, trombone and saxophone players. There are vacancies for a guitarist (who can read music and chords) and saxophones/trumpets (who can read music). Students are to see Mrs Lane if they would like to audition.

Junior (Beginners) Band will rehearse on Wednesday lunchtimes in the PAC commencing later in the term. Any student in Years 8 – 12 who would like to start a band instrument (not guitar) should meet Mrs Lane in the PAC next Wednesday at lunch time. Many of the most successful students start after Year 7. Year 7 students will be given an opportunity to apply shortly.

Brass Quintet will rehearse at lunchtimes on Mondays. Brass Ensemble will rehearse at lunchtimes on Thursdays. These are advanced groups for proficient players by invitation.

The program has a small membership fee of \$40.00 per annum. It is a yearly, not term fee as participation is a yearly commitment. Instruments (Brass, Woodwind) are available for hire from the school, again for a very reasonable fee. \$50.00 deposit then \$20.00 per term. New Concert and Jazz Band members will need to purchase a band shirt at a cost of \$40.00. Students are also involved in 1/2 hour tutorials on a rotational basis on Tuesday or Wednesdays during school time.

Other Music Ensembles

The McCarthy Chorale will rehearse on Friday mornings 8.00am – 9.00am in the PAC/OLORCC. Any dedicated singers are welcome to join. Commitment to performances is expected.

Percussion/Drum Group will rehearse on Monday lunchtimes in the PAC/OLORCC. Any student who wants to play drums and percussion is welcome to join this group.

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

McCarthy has the opportunity for students to learn woodwind, brass or string instruments at school with external tutors. These lessons are arranged privately with the tutors after school time. If you would like more information please see Mrs Lane or Mrs Fulwood - Creative Arts Coordinator.

Mrs Lisa Lane – Band Organiser

CANTEEN

Volunteer Advertisement

Casual Work Available – Employment Guaranteed

Where: McCarthy Catholic College Canteen

When: weekly, fortnightly, monthly, once a term

Hours: flexible, preferably 9.30am to 1.30pm

Experience: everything you need to know will be learnt within a short space of time.

Salary: "A La Carte" lunch, plenty of tea or coffee and best of all, friendship and a good chat.

Bonus: your child or children will be happy to see you in their favourite place - school! You get to spoil them by making them a free lunch on the day that you work and you get to meet new people and make good friends within the school community.

Applications close: NEVER.

Please contact Raelee Balderston in our College Canteen by phone 67610856 or email rbalderston@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au as soon as possible. You will be included on our roster and an orientation pack will be sent home to you. Thank you in anticipation.

Welcome back to our current volunteers, we look forward to seeing you soon.

Canteen Operating Hours

The canteen is open from 8.20am until 3.10pm Monday to Thursday and 8.20am to 1.20pm on Friday. Students can purchase items before or after school and during recess and lunch. Students are not permitted to purchase items (including water) during class time.

Lunch Orders

Students are asked where possible to order their lunches before Mentor Group. Lunch bags, pens and menus are available on the table near canteen. If it is not possible to order before school, students must have their orders finalised during recess. Students are reminded to write their name and year on their lunch bag. There is NO guarantee that items will be available for purchase if students have not ordered their lunch. Some extra items may be on sale, however students will be guaranteed to receive their preferred lunch if they place an order.

Price Rises

It is necessary for us to pass on the following price rises effective from Monday 1 February 2016:

Chips \$1.20, Lemonade and Raspberry Icy Pole \$1.50, Paddle Pops \$1.50, Milo Cup \$2.70, Pizza \$2.50, Sausage roll \$2.50, Plain Pie \$3.00, Double Burgers (chicken or cheese) \$5.50.

Canteen Menu

The canteen menu is available on MOODLE or students can collect a hardcopy from the canteen.

Student Helpers

Students in Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 are encouraged to speak to Mrs Balderston if they are interested in helping with service before school or during recess and lunch breaks. Students will be rostered on to assist with service or filling stock levels.

Mrs Raelee Balderston – Canteen Supervisor

SPORT**NSWCCC**

Talented athletes are able to compete at Diocesan, State and National level through the sports supported by the New South Wales Combined Catholic Colleges (NSWCCC) Sporting Competitions.

On the website you will find all Sports events held by NSWCCC throughout the year. There is also a full calendar to check entry closing dates and selection trial dates and information.

The website allows parents/caregivers to enter their child into various events where an individual entry is required and pay the entry fees.

I would ask that parents continually check the website for up to date information on closing dates and competitions. It is the responsibility of the student and their parents to ensure they have registered for a sport on time. No late entries are accepted.

Below are instructions on 'How to Register' your child in any events. Should they make a NSWCCC team the coaching staff of that team will advise them of what the procedure will be. Please check the relevant pathway for each sport under "Sport Specific Information" and "Pathway Information" for further details.

There are a number of closing dates coming up which both parents and students need to be aware of in regards to some NSWCCC endorsed sports:

- Softball - Girls and Boys
- Baseball
- All Schools' Triathlon
- Cricket - Girls
- Golf and Tennis

Step 1: Please go to the website www.csss.nsw.edu.au

If you have not registered online before go to Step 2. If you have registered online before go to Step 7 to complete an expression of interest for a sport.

Step 2: Go to the "What's my password?" button (in the top panel on the right)

Step 3: Select "I am a parent/guardian for a student".

Step 4: Select "Secondary School Student".

Step 5: Select "How do I get a login for the website?" Scroll to the bottom under "If you do not have a login" Click here to get a new account and log in

Step 6: Set up a PARENT ACCOUNT. You will receive an email with your new password.

Step 7: LOGIN (in the top panel). To login you put in your email and the password you received.

Step 8: Select NSWCCC

Step 9: Select the sport you are interested in.

Step 10: Select REGISTER. Here you will either be asked to make an EXPRESSION OF INTEREST or to REGISTER.

Step 11: Once you have completed all the information an email will be sent immediately to the Diocesan Rep, Principal and School Sports Coordinator.

Step 12: You can log in at any time to see the status of your registration.

Step 13: Please make sure your details (email address and mobile) remain up to date so that you can be emailed or sent a text message.

Check carefully the payment process – for some sports you pay online while for other sports you pay direct to the school.

Any questions, please contact me at school.

Mr Matt Feltrin – Sports Coordinator

Gymnastics

Last month, members of the Tamworth Gymnastics Club including Julia Hannaford, Ellie Hannaford, Jemma Baker and Lexi May, travelled to America to compete in two invitational events in Las Vegas, "Lady Luck" and "Vitaly Scherbo". Results were as follows: Ellie Hannaford (Level 6): Lady Luck competition – 5th in bars, 6th in vault. Vitaly Scherbo – won five medals, 7th overall.

Jemma Baker (Level 6): Lady Luck competition – 5th in bars, 3rd in beam, 9th overall. Vitaly Scherbo – 9th vault, 1st in bars, 4th in beam, 5th in floor, 4th overall.

Lexi May (Level 6): Lady Luck competition – 4th in bars. Vitaly Scherbo – 5th floor, 12th overall.

The level 6 team also came 2nd overall in the Vitaly Scherbo competition.

Julia Hannaford (Level 9): Lady Luck competition – 2nd in vault, 2nd in beam, 2nd in floor, 2nd in bars, 2nd overall. Vitaly Scherbo – 3rd in vault, 6th in beam, 2nd floor, 6th overall.

Congratulations to Julia Hannaford for being awarded the Mitchell Brady Encouragement Award at Tamworth's Australia Day Awards.