

Newsletter



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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer for World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 22-28 August

God of love and compassion,
 help us to trust in Your mercy and faithfulness when our lives are in trouble.
 Help us to become true witnesses of Your merciful love;
 in our response to the cry of the poor, in actions and in words.
 Inspire us to have the courage to be defenders of the oppressed,
 especially for refugees and asylum seekers,
 to prepare for the coming of Your Kingdom of justice, peace and love.
 Praise to You forever!

Amen

Reflection from Pope Francis

"...I have chosen as the theme of World Day of Migrants and Refugees: *Migrants and Refugees Challenge Us. The Response of the Gospel of Mercy*. Migration movements are now a structural reality, and our primary issue must be to deal with the present emergency ... The tragic stories of men and women daily confront the international community as a result of unacceptable humanitarian crises in different parts of the world. Indifference and silence leads to complicity ... Dear brothers and sisters, migrants and refugees! At the heart of the Gospel of mercy ...welcoming others means welcoming God in person! Do not let yourselves be robbed of the hope and joy of life born of your experience of God's mercy."

Mrs Cate Allen – Mission and Spiritual Formation

Diary Dates

- 25 Aug: Young Drivers' Expo
- 27 Aug: Trivia Night
- 29 Aug: Creative Arts Evening
- 30 Aug: Science & Engineering Challenge
- 30 Aug: Year 10 VALID test
- 31 Aug: Year 9 2017 Parent Information Evening
- 1 Sept: Diocesan Basketball – Tamworth
- 8 Sept: Whole School Mass
- 9 Sept: Walkathon
- 13 Sept: Year 12 Twilight Retreat
- 14 Sept: Year 12 Graduation Mass 6pm
- 15 Sept: Year 11 Exams commence
- 15 Sept: Catholic Schools Celebrate
- 16 Sept: NSWCCC Athletics – Homebush
- 20 Sept: Board & Association Meetings
- 21 Sept: Year 12 Farewell Assembly
- 23 Sept: Term 3 concludes

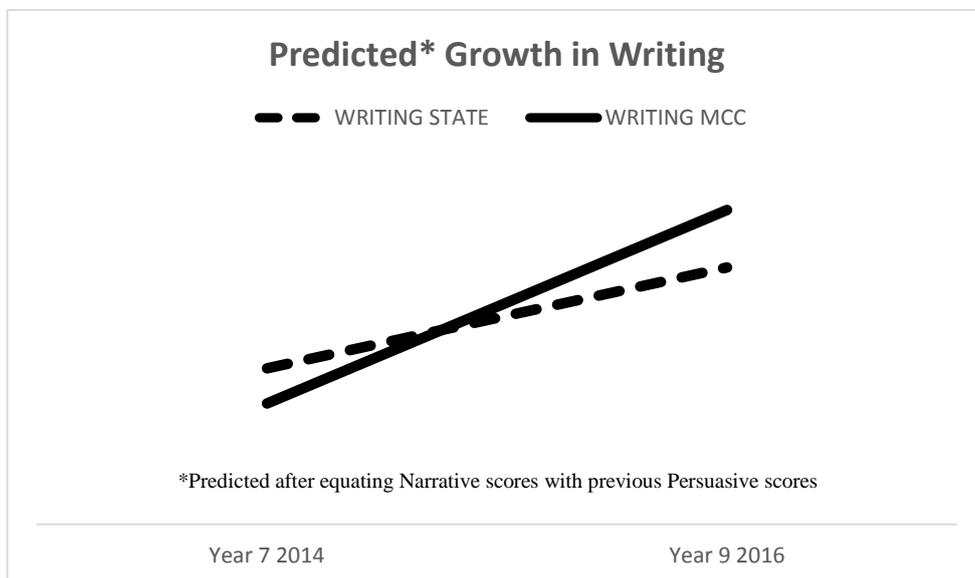
PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Mass for World Day of Migrants and Refugees

I would like to encourage all families to attend the Mass at St Nicholas church this Sunday August 28 at 9.30am to celebrate the World Day for Migrants and Refugees. The order of the Mass will include multi-language readings and prayers and the generosity of the multiple ethnic groups that reside in St Nicholas parish will be evident in the plentiful and diverse foods on offer at morning tea after the Mass. If last year's event was any measure of the quality of this special gathering, then the 2016 version should be even better, with a much bigger celebration planned. Please feel very welcome to attend.

NAPLAN

NAPLAN reports for Years 7 and 9 were posted this week. I would encourage parents to contact the college if they have any concerns or questions about their child's report. The college has begun analysing our data and the early signs are that our students in both Year 7 and Year 9 have demonstrated enhanced learning gain again this year. While there is ongoing improvement overall, we are particularly pleased with the improvement in writing.



As a skill at the core of successful achievement in all subjects, even mathematics, we see this trend in writing as evidence that our focus on enhancing academic literacy skills is gaining some traction with the students.

While NAPLAN scores represent one snapshot of student achievement in school, I empathise with a recent publication from Ivanhoe Grammar School which said, “We would like you to see the results of these tests as a small part of the whole picture of your child. What they do not assess is what makes your child special and unique. They do not know that your child: plays a musical instrument, kicked the winning goal in soccer, joined the choir, grew from a ‘D’ to ‘C’ in Science, is kind and respectful, has many friends and tries hard at everything they attempt”.

Essentially, while these NAPLAN results are pleasing, they do not define nor compartmentalise our students. As a college committed to excellence, we will continue to provide a robust and challenging academic program that prepares students for a contemporary workforce that recognises the value of hard work, service to others and authentic relationships.

I similarly commend the teaching and support staff of McCarthy Catholic College for their hard work and dedication to improvement that is reflected in these results. Their commitment to your sons and daughters is palpable and reflective of a professional and contemporary orientation to learning.

Queensland Catholic Music Festival

Enormous congratulations to the McCarthy Band students who attended the QCMF last week. While we expected to perform well on our inaugural visit, our expectations were exceeded! The Jazz band earned a Silver medal and the Brass ensemble and Concert band each received a Gold medal. A wonderful achievement that augurs well for the hard work of the students and the expertise of our Music staff to produce such high calibre performances under competitive conditions. Well done to all involved, especially Mrs Lane, Mr Godden and Mr Merrick for their leadership and personal support.

School Fees to be Emailed

A final friendly reminder that from Term 3 2016 **fee statements will now be emailed to families**. Please contact the school if you have not advised, or changed your email details. Instalment 3 was emailed earlier this term and I ask that if any fees are overdue to please settle as soon as possible.

May your God go with you.

Mr Geoff McManus – Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Educational Access Scheme (EAS)

At a recent meeting, Year 12 students were given details of the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) for students who are making a UAC application and have experienced long-term educational disadvantage as a result of circumstances beyond their control or choosing. Categories of disadvantage include disrupted schooling, financial hardship, home environment, English language difficulties, personal illness/disability and school environment. In all cases, specific evidence of the disadvantage is required. Twenty-five specific types of disadvantage are covered and students can benefit, depending on the institution, in one of two ways; some offer bonus points, while others reserve a certain number of positions for EAS applicants. Students may collect an application form from me. The due date for submission is 30 September 2016.

Information Evening for Parents of Year 8 Students

The NSW Government has announced reforms to the Higher School Certificate (HSC). These reforms have been designed to instill stronger standards in the HSC. There are significant impacts of the introduction of these standards on students that are currently in Year 8.

A parent information evening is planned for Wednesday 31 August to discuss these changes and to outline the process for the selection of electives for Year 9 2017.

The evening will commence at 6.30pm in the McCarthy hall.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

CAREERS NEWS

Year 12

At a recent Year meeting, **UAC 2017** books and a **Year 12 Careers Book** were distributed to all Year 12 students. They have also been given information and resources in relation to applying to university, various SRS/early entry schemes and scholarships, and the processes involved in each.

Further items this term include guest speakers from Footnotes, Charles Sturt University, Southern Cross University, University of Newcastle, a Teach NSW Video Conference and more.

Year 10

Students who intend to leave school at the end of the year are encouraged to apply to do work experience in order to enhance their prospects of finding employment. Please make an appointment to see me.

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

PASTORAL CARE

Welcome

We welcome Adam Kentwell, Year 10, and his family to the McCarthy community.

Condolences

We extend our condolences to Nicola Mooney and Emily and Macy Gillies and their families on the passing of their grandfathers.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

ICAS DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES COMPETITION

Thirteen students from Years 7 to 10 sat for the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) Digital Technologies competition in May. Ironically, this competition does not involve a computer. It consists of a paper with up to 45 multiple choice questions ranging from word processing, graphics and multimedia, internet and email, spreadsheets and databases, and even programming.

Certificates were awarded as follows:

Participation

Year 7: Megan Filicietti, Layne Macpherson

Year 8: Erwin Elanjilettu, Chloe Radoll

Year 9: Sophia Anderson

Merit (top 45% of participants)

Year 8: Imeshi Dayaratne, Thomas Macpherson

Credit (top 35 % of students)

Year 7: Tarlan Ward, Ryley Windmill

Year 9: Lauren Hutchinson, Alana Noonan

Year 10: Chris Macpherson

Distinction (top 10% of participants)

Year 7: Luke Stainton

Congratulations to all these students.



Ms Suzanne Day – TAS Coordinator

NORTH WEST SCHOOLS PROPERTY PLANNING COMPETITION



Congratulations to Samara Thrift who achieved Runner Up in the annual North West Schools Property Planning Competition run by NSW Local Land Services. The competition involves schools from across the region and the winners were announced at AgQuip last week.

This is an important competition for young people who are planning a future in the Agricultural industry as it is an avenue for many career paths. Well done Samara and we look forward to seeing where the future takes you within the Agricultural industry.

Mrs Jo-Anne McHugh- Agriculture Teacher

PARENT INFORMATION

Meeting

The next meeting of the McCarthy Association is on **Tuesday 20 September** at 7.15pm in the Board Room. All welcome.

Trivia Night

The Association's annual Trivia Night will be held on Saturday 27 August in the McCarthy hall. See attached flyer for details.

SPORT

Diocesan Athletics Carnival

The Armidale Diocesan Athletics Carnival was held in Armidale on Friday 12 August. Congratulations to Izack Fuller who was named the 15 Years Boys Age Champion for 2016.

Congratulations also to the following students who are eligible to compete at the NSWCCC Athletics Championships to be held in Homebush on Friday 16 September:

Girls

Mackenzie Alderson 12 Girls' High Jump
Georgia Horniman 13 Girls' 200m and Long Jump
Holly Bynge 13 Girls' 100m
Emma Higgins 15 Girls' Discus
Jessica Clarke 16 Girls' 200m, 400m and 800m
Alice Murphy 17+ Girls' 100m and 400m

Boys

Tyhla Condrick 12 Boys' 800m
Ethan Miller 13 Boys' Shot Put
Benjamin Nelson 13 Boys' 400m
Thomas Croake 14 Boys' Discus
Izack Fuller 15 Boys' 800m and 1500m
Samuel Ellicott 15 Boys' 100m, 200m and 400m
Jack Hannaford 17+ Boys' 100m
Adam Wallace 17 Boys' Javelin

Thank you to Mr Luke Adams, Mrs Jo-Anne McHugh and Mr Bernie Williams for assisting at the carnival.

Hockey

Congratulations to Harper Galvin who was selected in the NSW Under 16 All Schools Boys' Hockey team which played in the Australian championships in Melbourne earlier this month. Victoria defeated Western Australia in the final to win the Gold medal and New South Wales defeated Tasmania to win the Bronze medal.

Basketball

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected as part of a team for their division to compete in the Diocesan Basketball which will be held at the Tamworth Sports Dome on Thursday 1 September 2016:

7/8 Boys

David Murrie
Tom Sheppard
Alex Groth
Archie Cruickshank
Liam Ball
Thomas Lange
Nathaniel Thrift
Nathan Summers
Julian Fuller
Jake Larkham
Ethan Russell (shadow reserve)

7/8 Girls

Ruby Murphy
Bianca Watson
Olivia Whittemore
Anika Earsman
Grace Whale
Ellie Fuller
Safia Arranz
Isla O'Reilly
Emily Clarke

9/10 Boys

Riley Murphy
Cooper Kelly
Brock McMahon
Matthew Gambrell
Samuel Ellicott
Izack Fuller
Matthew O'Toole
Toby Whale
Nathaniel McGrath
Connor McRae
Caleb Lavu Lavu

9/10 Girls

Mia O'Sullivan
Sienna Kennedy
Grace Salter
Stacey Thrift
Whitney Martin
Brianna Zwolsman
Krystal Booby
Josie Chick
Lily Darcy
Emma Higgins

Any parents who would be willing to assist in scoring on the day, please come and see me at the stadium.

Mr Matt Feltrin – Sport Coordinator



How Do I Become a Catholic?

Find out how a person becomes a Catholic or simply discover more about the Catholic faith.

Two information sessions will be held to assist people with their inquiries in a supportive way.

- **Wednesday 14 September at 7.30pm:** Mary Help of Christians hall, Hillvue Rd South Tamworth
- **Saturday 17 September at 2.00pm:** St Nicholas' Primary School library, 143 Carthage St East Tamworth

For further information: phone 67662228 or email catholicinquirytamworth@gmail.com

McCarthy Parent Association

FUN RAISER



When: Saturday 27 August, 2016

Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

Where: McCarthy Catholic College Hall

Who: over 18's only !

Bonus: only \$10 per head (payable on the night)
tables of up to 10 people

Bring: your gold coins, own drinks and nibbles

RSVP: email admin@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au or phone the school on 67610800 with your name/number of people coming

Prizes for : winning table, with spot prizes
awarded throughout the night.

