

Newsletter



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Dear Parents & Students

Prayer

God our father is generous and kind.

In our gratitude we confidently come to him with our needs and those of our families.

We pray that the whole McCarthy community continue to strive to 'Receive, Worship and Serve' and that all parents and guardians continue to draw strength from their faith in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Diary Dates

23 Sept: Term 3 concludes
 24 Sept: Europe Excursion departs
 10 Oct: Term 4 commences
 12 Oct: Legal Studies Excursion
 13 Oct: HSC Exams commence
 14 Oct: Inter-School Horse Extravaganza
 18 Oct: Board & Association Meetings
 19 Oct: NSWCCC Basketball – Penrith
 26 Oct: Year 11 Parent/Teacher Interviews
 28 Oct: Bandana Day
 2 Nov: Year 8 VALID tests
 7 Nov: Year 12 Graduation Dinner
 7 Nov: Years 7, 8, 9, 10 Exams commence
 15 Nov: Board & Association Meetings
 21 Nov: Creative Arts Showcase Evening
 22 Nov: Year 7 2017 Orientation Day
 22 Nov: Year 7 2017 Parent Info Evening
 30 Nov: Sports Awards Assembly
 5 Dec: Year 9 Tea Gardens Excursion
 5 Dec: Year 10 Sydney Excursion

PRINCIPAL MATTERS



Walkathon

Congratulations to all the students and staff who contributed to and participated in the 2016 edition of the McCarthy Catholic College Walkathon. Much fun was had by everyone involved - even those staff that volunteered to be targets for a 'water-bomb booth' (see photo below) - to raise money for those in need. At this point donated funds are still coming in but the most recent tally suggests an amount in excess of \$18,000 would be highly probable. I publically commend Mr Luke Adams for his expert organisation of the logistics prior to and on the day and thank him and all the staff for their enthusiasm and support of this amazing social justice initiative across the past 10 years. I similarly commend the consummate talents of our Year 11 students who coordinated 'McCarthy's Got Talent' that once again displayed the great breadth and depth of talent we have here at the College. I never cease to be amazed at the quality of singing, dancing and instrumental performance at this



school. Well done to all involved!

HSC

By the time that we return from the break, Year 12 students will be putting the final touches on their preparations for their HSC examinations which begin on October 13. I know that I speak for all staff and students of the college when I wish them the best and know that if they have put in the hard work, great results will be realised at the end of the year. I also once again thank the dedication and generosity of the Year 12 teachers for providing many opportunities for Year 12 students to collaborate here at school over the break to ensure the 'polish' is applied to their preparations for the external examinations. Not every school has staff with such a professional and generous orientation. Thank you and good luck to Year 12 students.

Staffing

It is with some sadness that I announce the resignation of Mr Mark Falkenmire who has decided to resign his teaching and Administration Coordinator's roles from the end of the year. Mr Falkenmire is a long time servant of the College who has been on leave for the past two years and has now decided to pursue other interests. We wish him well and thank him for his support of the McCarthy community over many years. We are also sad to hear that Mrs Shannon Monro will be resigning her position as English teacher to pursue interests with the Armed Forces. While only here a short time, Mrs Monro's enthusiasm has encouraged and motivated many students to improve their effort and results. We similarly wish her well and thank her for everything she does for our community.

A reminder that I will be away in the first week of Term 4 supervising the McCarthy Europe Tour. Mrs Sally Sparke will be Acting Principal and Mrs Sharon Stuart will fill the Acting Assistant Principal role.

It is also my great pleasure to announce that Mr Marcus Chittick has accepted the Acting Student Management Coordinator role for Weeks 1 to 5 whilst Mrs Stuart fulfils other roles. Please support all of these talented staff in their new roles next term.

Term 4

I remind parents and students that Term 4 begins on Monday October 10 at 8.45am.

School Zones

A reminder to all our parents ahead of the break at the end of Term 3 that school zones remain in place for the safety of our children and families.

School zones operate on all gazetted school days, which are all days the school is open, even pupil free days.

For most NSW Catholic schools, school zones operate as normal until (and include) Friday, 23 September 2016 and resume on Monday 10 October 2016.

Have a safe and happy break with your sons and daughters over the next two weeks.

May your God go with you.

Mr Geoff McManus – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mass

The last two weeks have witnessed three very important events in the liturgical and religious life of our school. On Thursday 9 September Bishop Kennedy and Fathers Joe and Joseph celebrated the Eucharist for the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary with the whole student and teaching body of McCarthy in the school hall. On behalf of the staff and students I would like to thank the Bishop for including this celebration as part of his Episcopal visit to Tamworth.



Papal Medal

Later, in the evening of that same day, members of the St Nicholas' parish gathered with the Bishop at McCarthy hall, where the Bishop presented Father Tom Shanahan with his Papal medal in honour of his sixty years in the priesthood. Together with the parish community we extend our congratulations to Father Tom.

Year 12 Twilight Retreat

On Tuesday last, 12 September, seventy-five Year 12 students attended their final twilight retreat together with fourteen staff members. During the course of the evening the students reflected on the loving, merciful and compassionate portrait of God the Father given by Jesus in the Parable of the Prodigal Son. The students shared memories of the time together over thirteen years of schooling focussing on the positive qualities that have emerged from them as a group. At the end of the evening Father Joseph blessed Rosary beads that were distributed to the students.

Year 12 Thanksgiving Mass

On the evening following the retreat we celebrated the Year 12 Thanksgiving Mass on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross at St Nicholas' Church. The prayer above is adapted from the prayers of Intercession prayed during the Mass. The focus of this Eucharistic celebration was the sacrifice parents have made over thirteen years of schooling.

Year of Mercy: A Time for Brief Reflection

"The Prodigal Son Returns" will be held on Sunday 2 October from 11.00am – 2.30pm at St Nicholas Church, presented by Father Colin Reinhard of the Diocese of Lismore. Father Reinhard has served the church for forty years as a Parish Priest, NSW Police Chaplain and a Regular Army Chaplain. He also studied Scripture in the Holy Land. RSVP to Father Joe Adriano ph: 67662228 if attending, or sign on the sheet provided at the back of St Nicholas' Church. Cost is \$5.00 to cover morning tea and simple finger food lunch.

Mrs Cate Allen – Mission and Spiritual Formation Coordinator

PASTORAL CARE

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers go to Anika Earsman and her family following the passing of her grandmother and to Genevieve Sears and her family following the passing of her grandfather.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Term 3 in *any* school is synonymous with an intensity and energy that is difficult to describe and hard to believe. Excursions, assessment tasks, examinations and learning is ongoing, students are busy, teachers are busy and our Teaching and Learning team continue to pursue those initiatives that are proven to make a difference with enthusiasm.

Year 12

Year 12 students have been exceptional in their completion of the Practical Examinations and submission of Major Works held these past weeks at the College. Congratulations to the staff and students involved.

Last week, I met with Year 12 students and gave them an overview of what to expect during their HSC examinations. These exams are supervised by an expert external team and students have been informed about the requirements around attendance, illness and

misadventure procedures, approved equipment and generally what to expect in the HSC examinations. Please ensure they are clear about BOSTES rules, procedures and protocols and email me with any questions to clarify.

Many of our staff have, once again, availed themselves to Year 12 students during the school holidays for revision sessions. This is a very generous offer and students have been reminded to attend if they have agreed to commit themselves to this extra curricula offer.

During Term 1 this year, Year 12 students and I discussed 'The Choice Point' - those decisions and actions that move us *towards* the goals we want compared to those decisions and actions that move us *away* from the goals we want. With 50% of your total HSC mark *still* up for grabs, I encourage them to make the choices that will move them towards their goals; work hard, go for gold ...another choice point is before them.



Year 11

Year 11 students continue to complete their Preliminary examinations despite the extreme weather conditions that have impacted some students. Please be sure to contact the school if for any reason your child is unable to attend. The blue forms used to apply for special consideration must be completed upon return with documentation (eg a doctor's certificate) attached.

Year 10 TVET

Year 10 TVET applicants will undertake their interviews this week with Mrs Barrett and myself. There are some very dedicated and enthusiastic students who have actively pursued School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships and we congratulate those students who have had an employer agree to sign them up for 2017. If you require any information about these opportunities please refer to the Year 10 Subject Selection Guide for 2017 or contact me via email.

Enjoy the Term 3 break.

Mrs Raelene Maxworthy – Teaching and learning Coordinator

CAREERS NEWS

Year 12

This is a time for many decisions with applications due for students seeking to go to university. Students seeking employment are urged to create job-winning resumes following the advice and examples in the **Year 12 2016 Careers Booklet** given to all students earlier this term. Suitable jobs for school leavers are beginning to become available.

This is also the time to apply for scholarships and accommodation, gap year jobs, apprenticeships etc. while students are still revising and preparing for the HSC. Information is arriving each day on opportunities for all students regardless of their different goals.

Year 11

Year 11 students should commit to their chosen pathway for 2017. Some students may wish to leave and seek employment after completing their Preliminary Year, commence further qualifications through TAFE, while others make the commitment to continue on to achieve the HSC.

I met with approximately fifteen students at an optional lunchtime meeting last week to show them online and other resources available to help them make choices for their patterns of study in Year 12 and for choosing university courses.

Year 10

I met with students who have expressed a wish to seek employment (mainly in the form of apprenticeships) or to pursue study at TAFE in 2017. I will be following up with these students early in Term 4 to assist them wherever possible to achieve their goals for 2017.

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



MCCARTHY'S GOT TALENT

On Friday 9 September, McCarthy students walked the annual Walkathon, carrying on a 10 year tradition, in which over \$250,000 has been raised. This tradition includes McCarthy's Got Talent (MGT), the best place for students to showcase their talents to their peers. The show was extremely successful, organised by the Year 11 Environmental Council students, who formed the MGT Committee: Jack Awad, Jeffrey Wong, Andrew Balquin, Rebecca Hughes, Charli Kenny, Harrison King, Isabelle Turner, Isabelle Ambrose, Jack Murray, Jesse Kelly, Karie Mayman, Katherine Sleiman, Laura Goodwin, Nicholas Mitchell, Jack Croake and Beth Tankard.

These students helped backstage, in the crowd, raising funds, preparing prizes and gathering judges for the show. Thank you to this year's generous sponsors ADIG, Edward's Printing, Plaza Shoe Repairs, Collins Book Store, Peel Valley Tiles and Ceramics, Tamworth Buslines, Collins Brothers, Tamworth Trophy Supplies and North West Locksmiths. Additionally, thank you to our judges, Mrs Sally Anne Whitten, Mr Ashley Hawken and Mrs Natalie Deacon. Congratulations to this year's winners. This year's two highly commended prizes were awarded to Andrew Balquin's performance, and Gio Sancho and Jess Donaldson's duet. The third place winner was Augustine Mundele-Turner's violin piece, followed by a tie for second place between Harry Mills with his replication of his Year 7 entry, and Ebony Dube's singing. Congratulations to this year's MGT winner, Hayden Davy, singing 'Give Me

Love' by Ed Sheeran, placing first in the competition. Finally, on behalf of all the students organising the event, we would like to thank Mrs Stuart for her guidance.

Jack Awad

PARENT INFORMATION

Meeting

The next meeting of the McCarthy Association is on **Tuesday 18 October** at 7.15pm in the Board Room. All welcome.

SPORT



NSWCCC Athletics

The following students competed at NSWCCC Athletics Carnival at Homebush on Friday 16 September:

Mackenzie Alderson 12 Girls High Jump
 Holly Bynge 13 Girls 100m
 Emma Higgins 15 Girls Discus
 Jessica Clarke 16 Girls 200m, 400m, 800m
 Tyhla Condrick 12 Boys 800m
 Ethan Miller 13 Boys Shot Put
 Benjamin Nelson 13 Boys 400m
 Izack Fuller 15 Boys 800m, 1500m
 Samuel Ellicott 15 Boys 100m, 200m, 400m
 Jack Hannaford 17+ Boys 100m
 Adam Wallace 17+ Javelin.

Congratulations to Sam Ellicott who won a gold medal in the 15 years' 400m and a silver medal in the 15 years' 200m.

McCarthy Girls' Hockey



Photo: The McCarthy One team at the presentation

The Tamworth Secondary Girls Hockey grand finals were played on Monday 19 September. Three McCarthy teams qualified for the grand final, one in each of the three divisions. McCarthy Blue, coached by Mr Davy, went down 3-0 to Carinya in the division three grand final.

McCarthy White defeated Oxley Snickers 8-0 to win the division two grand final. Goals were scored by Katie Wood (2), Briony Littlejohns (2), Amber Witney (2), Georgia Horniman and Michelle Coates.

The division one grand final was a terrific contest between Calrossy One and McCarthy One. Calrossy scored an early goal and then McCarthy equalised through Amber Witney before half-time. A scoreless second half sent the game into extra time of 10 minutes each way. With two minutes remaining in the last period of extra time, McCarthy scored off a penalty corner, with an Ashleigh Horniman deflection going in off the post. McCarthy held out to finish very excited 2-1 winners.

Thank you to all those who contributed throughout the season including players, parents, coaches and umpires.

Mr Geoff Denton

Cricket

The 2016/2017 Secondary Cricket Competition commences at 4.00pm on Friday 14 October for Year 9 and Year 10, and 8.30am on Saturday 15 October for Year 7 and Year 8 players. The \$120.00 fee covers registration, insurance and equipment costs. Families with more than one child can take advantage of a concession. McCarthy Cricket shirts are to be worn by all players and are available for any new players, or those players requiring a new one, for \$35.00 from the office.

The cricket committee encourages parents to assist with umpiring, scoring, coaching and managing teams. For further information please contact Mr Bede Maher on 0428469761.

Netball

Congratulations to the 13/14B McCarthy Ripcurl team that won their grand final last Saturday 29 – 19 against Manilla. The 15/16B McCarthy Hotshots unfortunately lost to Peel Pink Panthers on the bell 42 – 41.

Cricket Clinic

Lyon Cricket will be conducting a school holiday cricket coaching clinic in Tamworth on Friday 30 September from 9.00am – 3.00pm. Cost is \$88.00. For further information and registration contact Brendan Lyon: 0402371932 or info@lyoncricket.com.au