

Newsletter



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Dear Parents & Students

Prayer

In the Collect of the Mass for All Saints we pray the following prayer;
 Almighty ever-living God,
 by whose gift we venerate on one celebration
 the merits of all the Saints,
 bestow on us, we pray,
 through the prayers of so many intercessors,
 an abundance of the reconciliation with you
 for which we earnestly long.
 Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
 Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 One God, for ever and ever.
 Amen.

Catholic Formation

November 1 was the Feast of All Saints. It originally began as a 'catchcall', remembering martyrs whose names were not known and who consequently did not have a feast day of their own. It was introduced on May 13, 610 as the "Feast of All Holy Martyrs" by Pope Boniface IV and was later transferred to November 1 by Pope Gregory VII. It came to include all the saints. Today we continue to ask the saints in prayer to intercede on our behalf.

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Higher School Certificate

The 2016 HSC written examinations have reached their conclusion this week. We all now wait for the 'good news' in December. As with most important achievements in life, the ultimate measure of success rarely comes through last minute efforts. The students get a giggle out of a story I tell about not feeding the pig the day before the market. The essence of the story originates from medieval times when a farmer's return on a pig was directly proportional to the live weight of a pig. Now some farmers were sneaky and fed their pigs stones just before they were weighed (I doubt they sold too many pigs in subsequent years)!? Nonetheless, the smart farmers who fed their pigs regularly over the years obviously presented fat, heavy pigs for sale that reaped great reward for their efforts and their investment in feeding their stock adequately. Those who waited until the last minute did not get much in return. Now whether some of the students find this story about pigs amusing or not is irrelevant. What is relevant is that I am certain there are now one hundred and thirty Year 12 students and their parents hoping that the investment in effort and hard work put in by their sons and daughters will reap a well-deserved return at market when the Band achievements and ATARs are announced next month. Please keep our Year 12 students in your prayers.

BYOD Postponed to 2018

As indicated in previous editions of the 2015 and 2016 newsletters, the college has been working towards a 'Bring Your Own Device' strategy to allow our students to be exposed to a contemporary digital learning platform into the future. Such a move has significant and complex implications for all the stakeholders of McCarthy Catholic College - families, individual students, teachers and the College's infrastructure. While we have worked hard at School Board level and with teachers, our consultation and formation for families has been limited to this newsletter. Without going into too much further detail, we feel a further twelve months whereby information sessions can be run for families and students and preparation can continue here on site throughout 2017, would allow for a more successful implementation of BYOD from 2018. I will keep you informed of the schedule for information sessions in future newsletters and correspondence.

Staffing

We sadly farewell Mrs Kate Woolaston who has decided to take well-earned retirement from permanent teaching at McCarthy from the end of this year. Mrs Woolaston has been a long term staff member of McCarthy for nineteen years and has contributed significantly both within and outside of the classroom. I especially commend and thank Mrs Woolaston for her care and compassion for 'kids'. Any student who has ever had the privilege of having Mrs Woolaston as a teacher and/or Year Level Coordinator would attest to her personal care and attention to each child as an individual. She will be deeply missed by this community.

I similarly announce that Mrs Penny Crowley has tendered her formal resignation from the college effective from the end of this year. As most would know Mrs Crowley is a long-term servant of our catholic school and the local parish over many years. Her skill as a

Diary Dates

4 Nov: Year 7 Vaccinations
 7 Nov: Year 12 Graduation Dinner
 7 Nov: Years 7, 8, 9, 10 Exams commence
 11 Nov: Remembrance Day
 15 Nov: Board & Association Meetings
 16 Nov: Diocesan Cricket
 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
 7 Dec: Thanksgiving Mass
 12 Dec: Award Night
 16 Dec: Year 12 BBQ Breakfast
 16 Dec: Last day of Term 4 for students

Languages and RE teacher has been sorely missed in recent years. Her ongoing battle with cancer is a significant challenge to Penny and her family. We continue to pray for her recovery and thank her for her long-term contribution to our McCarthy family.

Parent Association

Once again the McCarthy Parent Association have been working very hard behind the scenes to support and enhance the college's resources. Most recently they have purchased \$20,000 of catering equipment for the new Our Lady of the Rosary Cultural Centre with funds they have raised through the Camper Trailer Raffle, Mango Drive and Pie Drive. I cannot express our gratitude more deeply as these wonderful parents work so hard to provide resources for this great school. Thank you.

Manilla Road (Peel Street) Upgrade – Tribe to Jewry Streets

The NSW Government is funding a \$2.5 million upgrade of Manilla Road (Peel Street) between Tribe and Jewry Streets, North Tamworth. The project, which is designed to improve safety and relieve traffic congestion, is the next stage of upgrading Manilla Road. Delays are expected due to changed traffic conditions. Traffic control will be in place and speed limits will be reduced to 40km/h in the work area. Work is expected to be completed by March 2017. More information is available on the Tamworth Regional Council website <http://www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/Council/Roads-and-Bridges/Manilla-Rd-Stage-3>

May your God go with you.

Mr Geoff McManus – Principal

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Social Media

Part of the school's role in ensuring the safety and improvement in student well-being is the education of students in the responsible use of digital technology. Each year, the Pastoral Care team conduct, with the assistance of the Youth Liaison Police Officer to Year 7 students, seminars on the safe use of social media. This date is set down for Friday 9 December.

Parents and guardians often seek advice from Year Level Coordinators on the safe use of social media at home. Parents may find this parental control app useful for their child's smartphone, tablet and other digital devices. It is called "OurPact." By using this app, parents/guardians can set limits on time their child is spending on their mobile device, ensuring responsible use of technology at all times.

Car Safety

A reminder of the speed limit in the school carpark is set at 10km/hr. With our current Year 11 students driving to school, the school needs to ensure the safety of all visitors, students, staff and parents while on school property. Student drivers are reminded to park in the student carpark provided, to follow normal road rules and abide by general courtesies when arriving and exiting the student carpark. Excessive revving of car engines, and aggressive driving practices will not be tolerated.

Uniform

Lowes now has in stock leather school shoes at an affordable price of \$40. A reminder to boys and girls to follow the school policy on jewellery requirements. This is outlined in the school planner and on the school website. All jewellery is to be kept to a minimum. Facial piercings are not allowed. Mentor Group teachers and Year Level Coordinators constantly monitor uniform. If there are problems meeting the uniform requirements please contact our Pastoral Care Coordinator, Mrs Libby Molony via the office.

Mrs Sharon Stuart – Acting Assistant Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Year Masses

During the first three weeks of term, Years 11 and 10 have celebrated the Eucharist with Fathers Joe and Bayelah, with a number of students coming forward to volunteer to assist with reading and procession of the gifts. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Father Joe and Father Bayelah for their continued support of our Liturgical program and to the students who willingly and enthusiastically offer their assistance each week.

St Agnes Conference

In Week 2 this term, the St Agnes Conference voted for their Executive leaders for the 2016/17 term of office. It is with great pleasure that I announce the new student executive team;

President:	Jaydon Merrick
Vice President:	Amelia O'Sullivan
Secretary:	Amanda Leone
Spiritual Advisor:	Claire Salter
Social Coordinator:	Jesse Kelly
Publicity Officer:	Jordyn Ralph

The six students will be officially and formally inducted at a First Friday Mass later in the term.

Professional Development

On Friday 28 October, Professor Neil Ormerod, from the faculty of Theology and Philosophy at the Australian Catholic University spoke to thirteen interested McCarthy staff before school. In his presentation Professor Ormerod spoke about what we mean by "God" and God is misconstrued by the new atheists and how some of their inconsistencies might point to a religious world view. We are indebted to Professor Ormerod and the parishioners of St Nichols' Parish who organised the event and offered McCarthy teachers such a valuable opportunity.

Mrs Cate Allen – Mission and Spiritual Formation Coordinator

PASTORAL CARE

Welcome

We welcome Jenna Clarke (Year 9), Kyla Pangilinan (Year 9), Kiennel Aquino (Year 9), Erin Bridges (Year 9) and Hayley Grey (Year 7) and their families to the McCarthy community.

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers go to Hayley Elliott and her family following the passing of her grandmother, to Toby Climpson and Amanda Leone and their families following the passing of their grandfathers.

Year 9 Tea Gardens Excursion

Year 9 students are gearing up for the annual Tea Gardens excursion. This is an integral part of Year 9 students' school calendar and it is an expectation that all students will attend. Deposits are still being accepted and final payment is due on Friday 18 November.

Vaccinations

The third of the 2016 vaccinations will take place on Friday 4 November for Year 7 students only.

- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) third dose of a 3-dose schedule.

It would be appreciated if you could assist us by ensuring your child wears sports uniform, has breakfast and has water.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

TEACHING AND LEARNING

HSC

The HSC concludes this week. It is hard to believe that time has gone so fast. We wish all students well for their endeavours and anticipate pleasing results.

Exam Timetable

All students have been given their timetable for Yearly Examinations during Week 5. Please be aware that many subjects have in class and practical tasks due in the Week 5 – 6 Assessment period.

Year 12 2017

Year 12 2017 students have begun their HSC course. Whilst traditionally many students are tempted to 'wind down' at the end of a year, this is not the time for our new Year 12 students to do that. Their first term of HSC is in progress and they will have important assessment tasks this term that will contribute to their final school based assessment mark.

Mrs Raelene Maxworthy – Teaching and Learning Coordinator

BANDANNA DAY

It is my great pleasure to inform the McCarthy community that Bandanna Day on Friday 28 October was an absolute success at McCarthy and was the biggest it has ever been in the four years that it has been operating. On Friday, after selling the most bandannas we ever have and running out of stock, we raised just under \$1,500. In 2015, the sum raised was \$1,400, 2014 was \$1,050 and 2013 was \$700. In total, over the running of Bandanna Day at McCarthy Catholic College for the past four years, \$4,650 has been raised. I cannot thank everyone enough for supporting me throughout my years at McCarthy, especially in the area of CanTeen. It has been an organisation that has helped in so many indescribable ways, and to know that I have the support of the school brings me so much joy and it makes me so proud to be a student of McCarthy Catholic College. Thank you.

Gabrielle Vella



PARENT INFORMATION

Meeting

The next meeting of the McCarthy Association is on **Tuesday 15 November** at 7.15pm in the Board Room. All welcome.



BAND

On Sunday 30 October the Jazz Band performed at the St Joseph's, West Tamworth, Fete.

Mrs Lisa Lane



SPORT

NSWCCC Basketball - Penrith

The NSW Combined Catholic Colleges Basketball finals were held in Penrith on 20 and 21 October. McCarthy was represented by both girls and boys teams in the 7/8 and 9/10 competitions.

The teams showed great skill and good sportsmanship over the two days and are commended for their efforts. The 9/10 Boys team made it through to the Finals and received a silver medal and the 9/10 girls were awarded bronze medals. Thanks to Paul and Matt Hobson, Neil Wood and Tony Higgins for their help and assistance with coaching. A special thanks to Pat Hobson for her support of McCarthy Basketball.

Teams:

9/10 Girls – Lily Darcy, Whitney Martin, Stacey Thrift, Josie Chick, Grace Salter, Miah O'Sullivan, Emma Higgins, Krystal Booby, Sienna Kennedy and Brianna Zwolsman.

7/8 Girls – Ellouise Fuller, Ruby Murphy, Bianca Watson, Grace Whale, Olivia Whittemore, Anika Earsman, Isla O'Reilly, Safia Arranz, Emily Clarke.

9/10 Boys – Matthew Gambrell, Nathaniel McGrath, Riley Murphy, Matthew O'Toole, Toby Whale, Samuel Ellicott, Izack Fuller, Cooper Kelly, Caleb Lavu-Lavu, Brock McMahon. Injured: Connor McRae.

7/8 Boys – David Murrie, Tom Sheppard, Nathaniel Thrift, Julian Fuller, Archie Cruickshank, Jake Larkham, Nathan Summers, Liam Ball, Tom Lange. Injured: Alex Groth.

Results:

9/10 Girls

Drew with John Paul College, Coffs Harbour 28-28

Defeated Stella Maris College, Manly 29-20

Quarter Final – Defeated Carroll College, Broulee 63-15

Semi Final – Defeated by Holy Spirit, Bellambi 20-25

7/8 Girls

Defeated by Xavier High School, Albury 21-40

Quarter Final – Defeated by Monte Sant' Angelo Mercy College, North Sydney 13-24

9/10 Boys

Defeated St Leo's Catholic College, Wahroonga 48-30

Defeated John Paul College, Coffs Harbour 53-44

Defeated St Mary's High School, Gateshead 57-28

Quarter Final – Defeated Edmund Rice College, Wollongong 42-22

Semi Final – Defeated Trinity Catholic College, Auburn 49-30

Final – Defeated by St Dominic's, Kingswood 44-23

7/8 Boys

Defeated by Patrician Brothers College, Fairfield 12-27

Defeated by MacKillop College, Port Macquarie 24-41

Defeated by Edmund Rice College, Wollongong 19-24

Miss Fran Mumford

Diocesan Cricket

The McCarthy Years 7 - 9 cricket team travelled to Armidale on Tuesday 25 October to play O'Connor Catholic College in the Berg Shield Competition. O'Connor batted first, scoring 6/132 in 25 overs. James Austin and Ed George took 2 wickets each. McCarthy scored 7/98 in 25 overs, losing the match by 34 runs. Ryan Rogers (41) and Ben Wallace (18) were the top scoring batsmen. Special thanks to Bede Maher for coaching the team.

Team: Ed George, James Austin, Cassidy Hunter, Ryan Rogers, Ben Wallace, Luke Maher, Daniel Stuart, James Highlands, Tom Croake, Noah Dunnill, Tarlan Ward, Max Delaney, Ryan Constable.

Mr Tim Godden

Australian Junior Oztag Championships - Coffs Harbour

Congratulations to the following students who competed at the Australian Junior Oztag Championships in Coffs Harbour in October: Jada Taylor, Phoebe Porter, Abbegale Ryan, Holly Bynge, Georgia Horniman, Shanae Roach, Sophie Corbett, Chloe Shanley, Olivia Whittemore, Amber Witney (Under 13 years girls) and Lachlan King (Under 15 years boys).

