

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students

Prayer

Advent Prayer

O God, open our hearts to prepare the way for the coming of Christ.

Guide us in your ways of compassion

so that we may extend your love and mercy to all people.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Eternal Word,

Who lives with you and the Holy Spirit forever.

Amen.

Diary Dates

5 Dec: Year 9 Tea Gardens Excursion

5 Dec: Year 10 Sydney Excursion

7 Dec: Thanksgiving Mass

8 Dec: Year 11 Textiles Excursion

12 Dec: Award Night

13 Dec: White Card Training Course

16 Dec: Year 12 BBQ Breakfast

16 Dec: Last day of Term 4 for students

Reflection

Advent is a waiting time; we await the celebration of the birth of Jesus; we await Christ's second coming; we await Christ's coming to us in the sacrament of the Eucharist. Advent then is a season of great celebration and anticipation or hope. Hope helps us believe in the mystery of Christ and God's presence in our lives. Our hope is sustained by our knowledge that God sent his son Jesus on the first Christmas in order to save us from our sinfulness and to make a home within us for his Holy Spirit.

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

Congratulations

As we draw to the close of Week 8, Term 4 of 2016, there have been many events conducted both onsite and off that showcase the wonderful talent of our students and staff. Without detracting from the more detailed reports written in later sections of this newsletter, I commend and thank all of the contributors and performers from the Creative Arts Showcase last Monday night. The performances were of high quality and reinforced the great talent of our students and the teaching capacity of our Music, Art and Drama staff in developing our gifted performers. I thank Mrs Deborah Fulwood, Mrs Lisa Lane, Mr Ronny Rindo, Ms Felicity Sawtell, Mrs Kate Sullivan and Mrs Libby Molony for their hard work and support of our students. It was also heartening to showcase the wonderful new facility of the Our Lady of the Rosary Cultural Centre as a state-of-the-art performance and display space. The combination of talented staff and quality facilities will only continue to enhance student achievements into the future.

I similarly identify our athletes who were lauded at our annual Sports Awards Assembly this week. Their hard work and dedication to improving their personal best has reaped great reward both on and off the field in developing higher capacity skills as well as building teamwork and comradery amongst their peers. I commend Mr Matt Feltrin and his team of coaches for their organisation and commitment to our teams from McCarthy. It is deeply appreciated.

Diocesan Aboriginal Education Policy Launch



I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the launch of the Armidale Diocese Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy in Walgett last Tuesday. As invited guest performers, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander dancers contributed strongly to the ceremonial intention to embrace Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and develop broader understanding of the needs of ATSI students in their education. The highlight for me was not only the quality of our dance performance but the opportunity to hear Year 11 student Camille Fernando address the audience about her experience and hopes as the representative student voice for ATSI students right across the Diocese. Camille spoke so well that she was also invited later in

the week to attend the Principal's meeting in Armidale to repeat the address when the ATSI Education Policy was launched with the Catholic Schools Office and Principals. Congratulations Camille. I similarly identify Mrs Joelene Faint and Ms Kisani Upward for their expert organisation and direction in preparing the dance group and the touring arrangements. I also publically thank Mrs Sharon Cooke for providing the financial resources for our students to travel to Walgett.



Orientation Day

McCarthy Catholic College welcomed the new Year 7 students for 2017 last week. The students engaged in a variety of transition activities ranging from literacy and numeracy benchmarking, pastoral activities, peer support with our Year 10 students, as well as campus and timetable orientation. New parents and families were then provided with information that evening to provide detailed transition resources in a timely manner to avoid the possibility of holiday stress due to lack of information. Mrs Libby Molony and her experienced team of pastoral support staff ran a wonderful day and the feedback from the new students was very positive and effusive. We look forward to working with them and their Year 11 buddies in 2017.

Award Night

A reminder that the 2016 Academic Award Night will be held on Monday December 12 beginning at 7.00pm sharp in the College Hall. I encourage the families of all academic award winners to join us for a celebration of the achievement of our academic elite that rewards the hard work and dedication of these wonderful students.

McCarthy Catholic College Facebook Page

The official McCarthy Catholic College Facebook page is up and running and provides opportunities for the college to display and highlight student and staff achievements in the social media space. Click on the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/McCarthy-Catholic-College-1084498701585922/>

May your God go with you.

Mr Geoff McManus – Principal

PASTORAL CARE

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers go to Ella Neill and her family following the passing of her grandmother; to Jemma and Jessica Eggins and family following the passing of their grandfather; to Miss Kate Slattery and her family following the passing of her grandmother; and to Mrs Jennifer Madden and her family following the passing of her father.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

CAREERS

The last few weeks have seen:

- some **Year 12** students receiving notification from universities about the results of Early Entry applications. Those who were successful need to make the course they want to do their first preference by midnight 5 December to receive a firm offer on 9 December. The students who were not successful will need to focus on their ATAR and make changes to their preferences once they know their ATAR and to seek advice on possible pathways and options.
- RSA and RCG certificates have arrived and can be collected from the office by the **Year 12** students who did the courses.
- **Year 11** students attended a lunchtime talk by Patrick O'Connor from University of Wollongong.
- current **Year 10** students have applied to attend the Wollongong and Sydney universities tour in early February.

Careers Meeting

Last week, I attended a lunchtime meeting with other local Careers Advisers and representatives from CISCO Community Leadership Team that develops, manufactures, and sells networking hardware, telecommunications equipment and is a leading IT company. We spoke about ICT training, courses, work experience opportunities and graduate employment programs.

WHS Construction Induction White Card Course – Tuesday 13 December 9.00am-3.00pm

At McCarthy Catholic College we have the opportunity to offer this course at a greatly reduced price of \$80 per student as part of a post-conference offer I have received. This is for the first fifteen students who pay \$80 to the Office. It is open to students in Years 9, 10 and 11.

Who should do the course? This is for anyone considering an apprenticeship or doing Work Experience on a construction site. This MUST be completed BEFORE doing Work Experience that involves going onto a construction site or gaining any construction based apprenticeships. It is a legal requirement and affects construction trades such as plumbing, electrical, kitchen and cabinet makers etc where a student may go to a house under construction or in a factory where construction is occurring.

If students decide to do Work Experience during 2017 and do not have a White Card, they will need to wait for local organisations such as TAFE and the Community College to run these courses before they can do Work Experience. The cost will be over \$100. - This is a great opportunity to be prepared and to have this qualification on a resume. *The school will not be offering or accepting any online White Cards except for students who have gained this before 1 November 2015.*

McCarthy Catholic College Tamworth Careers is now on Facebook. Please check it out and like it to receive regular updates of career information, courses, scholarships, reminders about important events and dates as well as details of full-time and part-time job opportunities. Here is the link to the Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/McCarthy-Catholic-College-Tamworth-Careers-1058102914247204/?view_public_for=1058102914247204

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

CREATIVE ARTS

Creative Arts Showcase

On Monday 21 November the creative talents of the McCarthy community were on show. This was the first public concert to be held in the Rosary Centre which shone as it was filled with music, drama and art.

The foyer was decorated magnificently by Mrs Deborah Fulwood and Mrs Kate Sullivan, showcasing the many and varied artworks of Years 7-12.

The Auditorium was buzzing with applause as act after act of quality music and drama were performed. The wonderful efforts of the Stage crew kept everything flowing smoothly and seamlessly.

The Year 9 Drama class, directed by Ms Felicity Sawtell, performed a piece they wrote themselves called "Goldie and the Three Teachers" bringing much realism to life at school. Jaydon Merrick and Katherine Sleiman represented Senior Drama performing an excerpt from "Ruby Moon".

Stage 5 Elective Music were beautifully represented by Abigail Kelly from Year 9 showcasing the Baby Grand Piano with "Solitude" and Georgia Volk from Year 10 with "I Want To Dance With Somebody". Garvin Yip, Tom Rindo and Sam Cohen from Year 10 performed the jazz hit "Moanin" and a group of Year 10 Elective Music girls, Montana Cooper-Mason, Jessica Clarke, Maggie Fulwood and Sarah Vella performed "Take Me Home".

Stage 6 Elective Music was represented by performances from Breanna Fox "I Will Not Bow", Rebecca Hughes "When He Loved Me", Kiarra Ruttley "Running", Gio Sancho "Why Try?" and Jeffrey Wong on Clarinet playing "Misty" accompanied by the Brass Quartet.

The acoustics of the auditorium were well demonstrated by the performances of the School Chorale, under the direction of Mr Tim Godden and Ms Katherine Harvey, and French class song accompanied by Mrs Oriane Monet.

The Drum Ensemble, under the direction of Mr Ronny Rindo, was a good test of louder volumes, and was very entertaining.

The Instrumental Music Program was represented by four ensembles, all under the directorship of Mrs Lisa Lane. The Concert Band/Orchestra opened with the Grade 3 piece "Tournament". This is the hardest piece they have ever played, and they performed well. The Brass Ensemble performed "By George", a medley of George Gershwin songs.

The newly formed String Ensemble made an appearance performing "Pachabel's Canon". Special mention must go to Emily Thompson in Year 11 for her artistic leadership of this group.

The finale of the night was the Jazz Band who performed "Tuxedo Junction". They were thrilled to be asked for an encore and so added the Beatles classic "Hey Jude" to round off the night.

Special thanks to Mrs Libby Molony and Eleanor George for sharing their accompaniment skills.

Mrs Lisa Lane



FRENCH

'Félicitations!'

Again this year, Year 10 Elective French students participated in a short movie competition organised by the Alliance Francaise in Sydney and won second place. The topic was 'catastrophe in the French class'. Year 8 student, Imeshi Dayaratne, also participated in a competition and won second place for her photo novel, which she created with a special Year 8 cast from her class. Congratulations to all those students for their great team work and creativity. Well done to Lauren Hutchinson and Eleanor George for their first participation in the NSW French Challenge.

The Year 10 students include Hannah Booby, Kane Clinch, Eleanor George, Laura Jeffery, Charlotte Mills, Georgia Nelson, Dakota Skewes, Daniel Smith, Lilly Souter, Adelaide Tinson and Emma Wilson.

Mrs Oriane Monet – French Teacher

IMMERSION PROGRAM

On Sunday, four students from McCarthy, Eliza Bennett, Rosa Comi, Harry Mills and Kate Cruickshank and two students from St Mary's Gunnedah, fly out to Cambodia to participate in an 'alternative to schoolies' Immersion Program run by Catholic Mission. During the two weeks at Cambodia they will gain insight into Cambodian village life and experience the way Cambodians live at a 'grass roots' level. The Immersion Programs are life changing and develop a strong sense of justice and a need to actively serve those who are less fortunate. It is a unique experience; one which adheres to the values of the gospels.

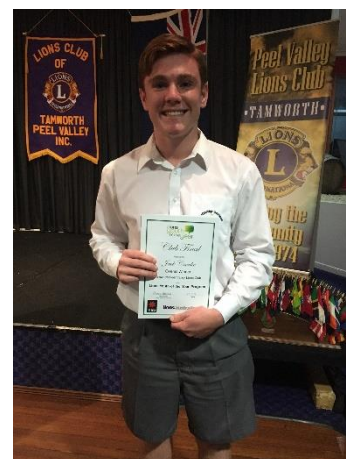
Mrs Kate Woolaston

LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARDS



Last week Year 11 students Jaydon Merrick and Jack Croake were awarded the title of the Lion's Youth of the Year.

Jaydon competed at the North Tamworth Lions Club and was interviewed by a panel of judges, asking a series of questions determining his personality, passions, views on life and social issues. He then presented a speech on Journalism and why these days it is the art of intellectual prostitution. At the end of the night Jaydon was crowned the overall winner (the overall winner being someone who performs well in both the interviewing process, and the public



speaking session).

Jack began the first part of the Lions Youth of the Year program at the Peel Valley Club. He was interviewed by three judges, and was asked a series of questions ranging from views on Donald Trump, to social issues such as youth incarceration rates and unemployment.

The following Thursday, he began the public speaking aspect which included an impromptu as well as a prepared speech. Jack's prepared speech was titled "Legacy" and focused on being someone whom would be remembered and leave something behind that was more important than money or achievements. Jack was the overall winner from the Peel Valley Club.

Both boys will now represent their local clubs at the district level competition. We wish them luck in their endeavours and congratulate them on their public speaking success.

PARENT INFORMATION

Thank you to everyone in the school community for their support this year.

A special thanks to *Carey's Freightlines* for their support with our mango drive. Without this we would not be able to enjoy the mangoes as they donate their services to this fundraiser.

A very Merry Christmas and safe and healthy New Year to all.

SPORT

Water Polo

Jake Mitchell, Billie Mitchell, Harriet Lyden and Gabrielle Joice travelled to Ryde on 14 November for selection in the NSWCCC Under 17 Water Polo teams. Gabrielle was selected in the Possible/Probable squad but did not get into the final team. The students all enjoyed the experience of this day.

Sports' Awards Assembly

The Annual Sports Awards Assembly was held in the College hall on Wednesday 30 November. This assembly allows us to recognise the sporting achievements of students in front of their peers, as well as all those volunteers who help with Sport at McCarthy. We were lucky enough to have a special guest speaker, Mr David Brooks, address the College on the day.

The 2016 Sports' Awards recipients were as follows:

College Awards

Male and Female Sports Person of the Year Awards

Male – Samuel Ellicott

Female – Miah O'Sullivan

All Rounder Awards

Male – Edward George

Female – Natasha Rapley

Coach of the Year

Mr Matt Hobson – coach of the 9/10 Boys' Basketball team

Mr Damian Kenniff – coaches cricket, water polo, rugby league, rugby union

McCarthy Catholic College Service to Sport Award

Mr Geoff Denton



Outstanding Achievement Award

Julia Hannaford – Gymnastics

Davy Family Award for Most Exceptional Performance

Harper Galvin – Hockey

Honour Shield

The Honour Shield is awarded to the best performed House from this year's Swimming and Athletics Carnival.

MacKillop – 1385

Dominic – 1340

Chisholm – 978

Edmund Rice – 939

Overall Champion House

This award sees points accumulated by students of each House of all aspects of life at the college – academic, cultural and sporting. Particular emphasis is given to contributors of service – part of our college Mission Statement.

Dominic – 2970

MacKillop – 2816

Edmund Rice – 2585

Chisholm – 2544

Certificates of Appreciation

Andrew Davy, Geoff Denton, Nick Fahey, Tim Godden, Tony Higgins, Matt Hobson, Pat Hobson, Paul Hobson, Ashleigh Jones, Julie Kellahan, Damian Kenniff, Bede Maher, Fran Mumford, Chris Paterson, Natalie Paterson, Ronny Rindo, Sarah Sommerlad, Sharon Stuart, Peter Virgen, Bernie Williams and Neil Wood.

Special mention was given to McCarthy Catholic College Basketball, Cricket, Hockey and Netball clubs.

NSWCCC Blues and Half Blues**Team Half Blues***Under 16 Girls' Hockey*

Claire Annis-Brown, Jessica Clarke, Michelle Coates, Hollie Constable, Lucy Frame, Millah Green, Ashleigh Horniman, Georgia Horniman, Kate Lane, Sophie Littlejohns, Billie Mitchell, Amber Witney, Katie Wood.

Under 16 Boys' Hockey

Owen Bennett, Ryan Constable, Angus Doyle, Calvin Farmilo, Harper Galvin, James Highlands, Luke Maher, Christopher Macpherson, Joe Mitchell, Jake Mitchell, Nicholas O'Connor.

9/10 Boys' Basketball

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

9/10 Girls' Basketball

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

Individual Half Blue

Edward George – Swimming

Individual Blues

Samuel Ellicott – Athletics

Harper Galvin – Hockey

Pierre de Coubertin Award

Daniel Morris

We also presented the **2017 Sports House Captains:**

Chisholm: Claire Salter and Jye Paterson

Dominic: Libbi Maher and Harper Galvin

Edmund Rice: Alexandra Reed and Cameron Witherdin

MacKillop: Kristina Sfeir and Andrew Balquin.

On behalf of the College, I would like to congratulate all our recipients, and look forward to continued success in 2017.

Mr Matt Feltrin – Sports Coordinator





Ph: 1800 040 903 or 1800 803 194

**No matter where the road leads,
we're with you.**

Join us and make a difference



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