

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students,

Prayer

The Collect from the McCarthy Opening School Mass of the Holy Spirit

*O God, who have taught the hearts of the faithful
by the light of the Holy Spirit,
grant that in the same Spirit we may be truly wise
and ever rejoice in his consolation.
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*

Please note: this is the only paper/hard 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 and the Skoolbag App.

Diary Dates

13 Feb: Elevate Education
14 Feb: Board & Association Meetings
16 Feb: Inter-School Federation Cup Debating
17 Feb: HSC English "Discovery" Workshop
20 Feb: Year 7 Welcome BBQ – 5:30pm
21 Feb: Year 7 Vaccinations
23 Feb: Twilight Swimming Carnival
24 Feb: Non-school day
27 Feb: Year 7 Camp
1 March: Ash Wednesday Whole School Liturgy
4 March: Open Day 11:00am – 1:00pm
6 March: Catholic Schools' Week
7 March: Years 7, 8, 9, 10 Forensic Science Day
8 March: Catholic Schools' Week Mass – Armidale
9 March: Diocesan Swimming Carnival TBC
13 March: OLRCC Official Opening Ceremony
16 March: Diocesan Touch – Inverell
21 March: Board and Association AGM
22 March: Diocesan U15 Rugby League TBC
25 March: Tamworth Show
31 March: NSWCCC Swimming
4 April: Warraymalaya Retreat
5 April: Year 7 2018 Enrolment Applications close
7 April: Term 1 concludes

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

I offer a warm welcome to both new and existing families to the 2017 academic year at McCarthy Catholic College. We are excited at the learning opportunities that present themselves as we move more deeply into our long term aspiration to enhance the individual and collective learning gain of our wonderful students. While we are extremely proud of our 2016 HSC students and the individual achievement of 18 Band 6s, we are similarly affirmed that we are on the right path due to the measureable improvements in NAPLAN and PAT-R (literacy) and PAT-N (numeracy) assessments across the junior Year levels.

The College's Annual Improvement Plan (AIP) for 2017 builds on these growth outcomes by continuing a sustained focus on literacy instruction, as well as growing a stronger culture of high expectations. In speaking to the students at the first whole school assembly, I emphasised our mantra of "touching the gate and switching on to learning" as a necessary positive attitude that all successful students bring to their classrooms. I encourage families to discuss at home how that positive approach to learning can be supported. Some examples might include changes to home study spaces and/or management of the number of hours that students are spending at sport and part-time work. We continue to work together in partnership to grow students' comparative learning gain.

Staffing

I welcome new staff to the College for 2017: Mrs Marnie Didlick (HSIE), Mrs Nicole Anderson (English/RE), Ms Andrea Woods (Student Support), Mrs Natahlia Bryant (Mathematics), Miss Amanda Adams (Science), Miss Tammy Murphy (Education Assistant) and Mr David Northey (IT Assistant). Please make them feel welcome in our community.

It is with regret that I announce the resignation of two of our TAS teachers - Mr Gerard Ritchie and Mr Bill Merrick. Mr Ritchie is a long-term servant of Catholic education for over 17 years both at McCarthy and at Our Lady of the Rosary College. His ongoing commitment to the enhancement of the HSC Wood Technology results is to be highly commended, most recently exemplified by his 2016 HSC class being placed above school and state average due to targeted literacy interventions coordinated by Mr Ritchie and Mrs Downes. Similarly, while Mr Merrick has been employed here for a shorter period of time, his commitment to the students and innovative approach has provided both contemporary and engaging learning experiences for our Technology students that has grown and enhanced their skill base. We wish them both well as they progress onto new career directions. Advertising has begun for suitably qualified staff.

2017 Role Changes

Leader of Pedagogy – Mrs Briony Martin

Student Management Coordinator – Mr Marcus Chittick

Year 10 Coordinator – Mr Damian Kenniff

McCarthy Executive Staff for 2017

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

Leader of Pedagogy:

Mrs Briony Martin

Opening of the Our Lady of the Rosary Cultural Centre (OLRCC)

We are excited to be finally officially opening the OLRCC on Monday March 13 with the blessing by the Bishop of Armidale Diocese, Michael Kennedy and ministerial representation from the Commonwealth Government. I thank everyone for their patience and support as we take the opportunity to officially celebrate the addition of a state-of-the-art facility to our campus. For those who are not officially invited to attend on March 13, I encourage you to participate in one of our tours to be held at the College Open Day on March 4 from 11:00am.

Assembly, Year Level Meetings and House Meetings

As a College committed to ongoing improvement, we have modified our student meeting schedule to allow for a greater number of Year level and House meetings. These meetings held on a fortnightly basis on a Wednesday allow such staff as Year Coordinators, the Sports Coordinator, House Patrons and Careers staff to teach strategies that support our student's improved well-being, provide key information and to grow House and community spirit on a more regular basis that does not interfere with class time. The first major focus for Year level meetings will be goal setting, while the first House meeting will prepare students for the Inter-house Twilight Swimming Carnival. It is important that all students attend these meetings and bring their Student Planners as the information presented is crucial, invariably targeted at the specific Year level and is rarely repeated in other forms of communication.

Twilight Swimming Carnival and Day in Lieu

The upcoming Twilight Swimming Carnival, being held at Scully Park Pool from 2:30pm – 7:30pm on **Thursday February 23**, presents an ideal opportunity for students to contribute to the growth of school and House spirit. While elite swimmers are given the opportunity to shine in front of their peers, other students receive the intrinsic reward of contributing to their House team by participation. I commend this opportunity as a rare time during the school year when students can enjoy a casual and spirit-filled afternoon and evening of fun and camaraderie with their peers. As the College allows for the extra commitment of the twilight event to be repaid with a student-free day the next day, I encourage all students to attend and enjoy a wonderful community event.

Please note: there will be **no supervision** available at school after 2:00pm on Thursday. The following day, Friday 24 February, will be a non-school day. The school will **not be open** on that day.

Enrolments for Year 7 in 2018 close Wednesday April 5 2017

McCarthy Catholic College extends an invitation for students seeking enrolment into Year 7 in 2018. The only round of Year 7 applications for this year will close on Wednesday 5 April. **Fully completed application forms** and the **\$100 application fee** need to be lodged at the College on or before Wednesday 5 April. Interviews will be conducted throughout Term 2. Open Day will be held on **Saturday 4 March** from 11:00am until 1:00pm.

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

Board and McCarthy Association Annual General Meetings – March 21

The Annual General Meeting for the Board (5:30pm) and the parent equivalent, McCarthy Association (7:00pm) will be held on Tuesday March 21. I strongly encourage current members to stand for office bearer positions as they become available next month. The enormous commitment that the current executive have dedicated to their roles is to be commended. As a community McCarthy Catholic College we are indebted to the wisdom and hard work of current members. If you are interested in Board membership please contact the College to access contact details for the Board Chair, Mr Adam Green. Please feel welcome to attend the McCarthy Association Meeting at 7:00pm in the staffroom.

HSC Results

The College community congratulates the Class of 2016 on their outstanding HSC results. The Dux, Douglas Pianta, is the recipient of the Sr Patricia Rowe Award for Dux 2016.

Year 7 Welcome Barbeque

The McCarthy staff warmly invites Year 7 students and their families to a Welcome Barbeque at the school on **Monday 20 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 this week.

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)
- Online Learning Environment (<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.

McCarthy Facebook Page and Skoolbag Mobile App

The official McCarthy Catholic College Facebook page keeps our school community informed of current information and events. Please like our page to ensure you receive up to date information.

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

The McCarthy Skoolbag App is another option for the school community to receive newsletters, update personal information, receive urgent alerts, notify the College of absentees as well as view the College calendar.

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 Thursdays 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 8:30am. School hours are 8:45am – 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 (phone: 6761 0801) 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 8:45am).** If a response to the text has not been received within seven days, the absence will remain as unexplained and will NOT be able to be changed. Alternatively you can email absentees to absentees@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au or via the *Skoolbag App*.

Attendances - Leave

As per government requirements, if a student is going to be absent from school for five days or more for a sporting/extra-curricular activity, an 'Application for Exemption from Attendance' form **must** be completed and returned to the office **before** the event. For all other leave of ten days or more, an "Application for Leave" form **must** be completed and returned **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 absentees@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au.



Students Late For School

The bell for the beginning of school goes at 8:45am. 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 2017 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. We ask that parents/guardians collect their child in a timely manner please. Students are asked **NOT** to phone their parents as this is the legal responsibility of the school.

Medication

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

Distribution of Newsletter

Newsletters are available on the McCarthy website (www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au) and the College's Skoolbag 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.

Hannaford's Bus Service

Hannaford's wishes to inform parents that if their child is ineligible for free bus travel they offer discounted Term and Yearly Passes. Please contact their office on ph: 6765 1900 to find out the cost for your child to travel on Hannaford's buses throughout the term or year. A Term or Yearly Pass saves you money and the hassle of paying every day for bus travel.

If you wish to track your child's school bus with Hannaford's Bus Service, you can do so through the free *transportme* passenger app. Download the app from both the Apple App Store or Google Play Store and look for "Hannaford's Bus Service" and then your child's Route Name and track the bus in real time.

I look forward to working with you in 2017 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 a beautifully simple and intimate staff Mass celebrated by Fr Joe in our staffroom at the College. In that Eucharist we prayed that the Holy Spirit would guide and inspire us in our work this year and that we would continue to see the face of Christ in each of our students. We also prayed that our parents and guardians will embrace the opportunity to work in partnership with us and that they take an active interest in their children's education.

On Friday 3 February we marked the beginning of the school year with the Mass of the Holy Spirit, celebrated by Fr Joe in our school hall. I am indebted to the thirty-five students across all years who volunteered to participate as readers, gift and symbol bearers in this Mass. During this Mass we prayed that the Holy Spirit will continue its work of transforming each of us into true followers of Jesus Christ. I would especially like to thank Fr Joe for his constant support of the Liturgical life of McCarthy. I would also like to thank the small group of parents who attended the Mass; it is very encouraging to have our parents supporting us as we witness to the Catholic faith.

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 Wednesday 1 March. 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 2017, particularly those new to the McCarthy community. This year we continue the explicit focus on faith formation and student learning, both of which are at the heart of all that happens at the College. We are embracing all that contemporary learning and collaboration bring to education in the 21st century and continue to plan for the changes this necessitates. We are excited about the new role of Leader of Pedagogy and the support Mrs Martin will provide in lifting student faith and learning outcomes.

As always, there have been some adjustment to rooms, timetables and classes and the Teaching and Learning team are working to ensure that these are made as quickly as possible so that we can get on with each person working to be the best they can be.

The very hot weather is a timely reminder of our Sun Safety policy. Students are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures, including wearing a hat when outside, and seeking shade where possible.

Late bus students are reminded that they may only visit Coles if they have a Coles pass. Parents must provide a written note granting permission for their child to visit Coles (after school only). This note is handed to the office and I will arrange a laminated pass that must be shown to the teacher on duty upon return. Students who have previously been issued a pass do not have to re-apply as long as they still have a pass to present.

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 2017 Pastoral Care team is:

Mrs Libby Molony	emolony@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
Mr Andrew Davy	adavy@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
Mrs Melissa Bearup	mgardner@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
Mr Bernie Williams	bwilliams1@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
Mr Damian Kenniff	dkenniff@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
Mrs Michelle Gale	mgale@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
Mrs Fiona O'Neill	foneill@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
Mrs Tamara Shoemark	tshoemark@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
Mrs Aimee Cook	acook6@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au
Mrs Lesley O'Shea	loshea@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

Pastoral Care Coordinator
Year 7 Coordinator
Year 8 Coordinator
Year 9 Coordinator
Year 10 Coordinator
Year 11 Coordinator
Year 12 Coordinator
Counsellor (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday)
Counsellor (Tuesday, Friday)
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: Kaytie Emery, Lillian Harrison, Logan Hawker, William Lake, Alicia Tan, Noah Warren.

Year 9: Sophie Burge, Isabelle Gleeson, Nicholas Hannan, Carlos Harnecillo, Kalila Megson.

Year 10: Cameron Harrison, Oliver Keft – Gill, Kealy Lett, Katie Swain, Isabella Thrupp.

Year 11: Blake Hawker, Klara Loeve, Liam Wood.

Year 12: Annabelle Gill, Breanna Wilson.

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

Vaccinations

In 2017 the following vaccines will be offered to Year 7 students:

- dTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (whooping cough) as a single dose
- varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose; and
- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3 dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8).

Parent Information Kits will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

- read all the information provided
- complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
- return the completed consent form to school
- ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Year 7 Excursion

The Outdoor Education Program for Year 7 will be held in Week 5 of Term 1, Monday 27 February - Wednesday 1 March 2017. All Year 7 students will be attending the Outdoor Education Experience's Adventure Land at Forster for a fully catered, adventure packed, three day excursion. The camp provides activities designed to challenge, thrill and develop self-confidence and team building skills. This is our first excursion as a year group and it is very important that all Year 7 students make themselves available for an experience they will always remember fondly. More details to follow.

Staff News

Congratulations to Miss Rebecca Hannan and Mr Lucas Kennedy who announced their engagement over the Christmas break.

Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARENT INFORMATION

Welcome to all families to Term 1 2017 from the McCarthy Association. A special welcome to all new parents/guardians. Our first meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 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 2017, Social/Fundraising Calendar 2017.

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 always brings with it great hope and opportunity. There are many messages of motivation and inspiration and the newness of pencil cases and clean pages is symbolic of a fresh start to learning. For our juniors, it is a chance to experience high school, reconnect with friends and teachers and experience new electives. For our senior students the start of the year can be daunting as they face the increased expectations of Preliminary and HSC courses. However, school is not a place to endure. School is NOT a sentence. It is a journey to enjoy. Many students find this journey more enjoyable when they can find their compelling reason 'why', their purpose in becoming educated and following this 'why' up, by planning some suitably challenging goals. Purpose far outweighs feeling motivated to learn. Education leader George Couros recently wrote, "To inspire meaningful change you must make a connection to the heart before you make connection to the mind." I encourage all students to connect wholeheartedly to the learning opportunities and experiences we offer at McCarthy Catholic College.

It has been a wonderful start to the year for teachers. Their work in developing and implementing teaching strategies and learning activities have been balanced by the collegiality that is thriving among us as we share our gifts and talents 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

On Monday, together with Mrs Michelle Gale 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. Year 11 students require a consistent and persistent approach to senior school, combined with a routine and disciplined study regime, which will enable them to maximise their potential.

Year 12

For Year 12 students, it is a continuing HSC journey and I also encourage them to focus on daily behaviours that will assist them in the long run. Consistency and persistence are attributes that will put them in good stead for this final HSC year. Together with our Leader of Pedagogy, Mrs Martin, I will be working closely with Year 12 students throughout fortnightly Year group meetings.

Year 7

Year 7 students look fantastic in their uniforms and I congratulate them 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 them.

NESA

As of 1 January BOSTES (Board of Studies Teaching and Education Standards) became NESA NSW Education Standards Authority. Their new website is <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/home> They have an informative parent site.

Community is very important in education. There are many ways you can assist teaching and learning and be part of 'Team McCarthy' in your very own home. Some ways you can do this are:

- **Ensure your child has the equipment**, books and materials they need for ALL classes. If you need help, please get in touch with your child's Year Coordinator immediately.
- **Support high rates of attendance** and avoid booking holidays mid-term or midday sign outs.
- **Discuss the impact** of part-time jobs on learning and **modify** part-time work hours to the recommended 8-10 hours per week.
- **Speak positively about McCarthy and our teachers**. Encourage your child to ask questions if they are having difficulty. Changing classes or requesting to choose your teachers is not sustainable. Our staff **do not** select the students in their classes, rather, they look forward to building high trust, learning centred, working relationships with each and every class member.
- Schedule into your calendar to **attend Parent/Teacher Evenings**.

As we settle into Term 1, may I encourage all students to *engage* effectively in the lessons; participate in lively classroom discussions, 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 participating in challenging activities, in a collaborative, student centred learning environment.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

Vocational pathways have been a highly suitable choice for many McCarthy students and I often bump into past students who have used their TVET course as a stepping stone for further post school study and employment. NESA (formerly BOSTES - Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards) permit students to combine TVET courses into a HSC pattern of study and UAC will use two units of *selected* TVET courses to contribute to an ATAR rank.



This year, we had a high number of successful applicants and a record number of School Based Apprentices and Trainees. These students have been in Mentor Group with Mrs Kellahan and are both excited and nervous about going to TAFE and working one day a week.

I would like to congratulate our 2017 TVET students and reinforce the message that organisation is a key skill to have when combining school, TAFE and employment.

I encourage Year 10 students to please keep reading the school Newsletter and listen to their Daily Notices in Term 3 for information about applying in 2018.

School Based Trainee Ethan Walden at the traineeship sign up with his parents, Simon and Kate and employer Kate from Telstra.

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 College.

It is a big term for our incoming 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.

There is a wealth of information available to students and parents at the McCarthy Careers page from courses to work experience. This can be found at: <http://mccarthy.nsw.edu.au/careers/>

Current up to date information on job vacancies, new careers resources, open days, university deadlines and career excursions can also be found on the McCarthy Careers Facebook page. So if you are on Facebook, please like and follow this site: <https://www.facebook.com/McCarthy-Catholic-College-Tamworth-Careers-1058102914247204/>

Shortly 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 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. We thank the staff members whose voluntary efforts make this service available to students.

This is not an internet café for browsing or playing games, nor is it after-school 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 in Week 3 on Tuesday 14 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

EUROPE EXCURSION



Climbing Mt Vesuvius in 2016

EUROPE in April 2018: Information Evening with Academy Travel for Interested Students, Parents and Staff

On Wednesday 8 March from 6:00pm – 7:00pm, Jackie from Academy Travel will be at McCarthy to talk to people who are interested in joining the Europe trip in 2018. She will give a presentation starting at 6:00pm as well as answering any questions prospective travellers may have. I will also provide information from the school regarding the support we offer and what is involved.

Gondolas in Venice, exploring Pompeii and the Colosseum in Rome, seeing Paris from the top of the Eiffel Tower, walking under the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, pizza, pasta, waffles, chocolate and garlic snails; all this and much more are part of the European experience.

If you have not already contacted me for a preliminary leaflet, please send a quick email to: sbarrett@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au

If you will be attending, can you please send an RSVP with the numbers from your family to this email address to assist in preparation for the meeting.

Ciao
Mrs Susan Barrett

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 afternoons from 3:00pm – 5:00pm in the library. I wish all a happy, rewarding 2017, 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 Bryant, Mrs Thompson, Mrs O'Neill, Mr Chittick)
 CambridgeMATHS NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum Year 9 Stage **5.1/5.2/5.3** (classes of Ms Sommerlad, Ms Harvey)
 Year 10: CambridgeMATHS NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum Year 10 Stage **5.1/5.2** (classes of Mrs Ashcroft, Mrs O'Neill, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Bryant)
 Cambridge MATHS NSW Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum Year 10 Stage **5.1/5.2/5.3** (classes of Mr Godden, 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.

Mrs Jane Ashcroft – Mathematics Coordinator

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

McCarthy's Instrumental Music Program will continue in 2017.

All students 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 Thursday mornings from 8:00am – 9:00am in the Rosary Centre, Room 4. 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 year-long commitment and includes some out of school-time performances.

Jazz Band will rehearse on Wednesday mornings from 8:00am – 9:00am in the Rosary Centre, Room 4. This advanced group is for trumpet, trombone and saxophone players with rhythm section. There are currently no vacancies.

Junior (Beginners) Band will rehearse on Thursday lunchtimes in the Rosary Centre, Room 4 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 R4 next Friday 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 Tuesdays. 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 Thursday or Fridays during school time.

Other Music Ensembles

The McCarthy Chorale will rehearse on Friday mornings 8:00am – 9:00am in the Rosary Centre, Room 4. Any dedicated singers are welcome to join. Commitment to performances is expected.

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

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 6 February 2017:

Spinach and ricotta rolls \$2.50, chicken chippies \$2.50, large juices \$3.50.

Canteen Menu

The canteen menu is available on the Online Learning Environment on the school website 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.

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.

MCC Sport Google Classroom

Any students who are interested in playing sport for McCarthy, please ensure that you sign up to the MCC SPORT GOOGLE CLASSROOM.

Here you will find information about trials, competitions, meetings, and training sessions.

The Classroom Code is: jtrthi

All nominations are done through Google Classroom so it is important that if you are interested in participating in a Sport at McCarthy, you are able to access Google Classroom.

Notices for any non-school related sport will be advertised on the Sports Noticeboard which is located outside the McCarthy IT office in J Block.

Expression of Interest: Coaches and Managers

If there are any parents willing to assist with the coaching or managing of our College teams, please contact me at the College by phone or via my email address (mfeltrin@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au). All coaches or managers must have a valid Working With Children Check, which can be applied for at the <https://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/> website. A valid coaching certificate in the sport of interest would be beneficial.

Any questions, please contact me at school.

Mr Matt Feltrin – Sports Coordinator