

# Newsletter



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## Dear Parents & Students,

### Prayer

*O God, we thank You for the life of Edmund Rice.  
He opened His heart to Christ present in those  
oppressed by poverty and injustice.  
May we follow his example of faith and generosity.  
Grant us the courage and compassion of Edmund  
as we seek to live lives of love and service.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

*Our Lady of the Rosary: Pray for us*

*St Dominic: Pray for us*

*Blessed Edmund Rice: Pray for us.*

### Reflection

Each morning in Mentor Groups we pray the prayer above which captures very simply the spirit or charism of Blessed Edmund Rice which we endeavour to keep alive and emulate at McCarthy. The spiritual foundations of an Edmund Rice education are three in number; “*Presence*, leading to a respectful sense of the sacred and a belief in the divine equality of all; *Compassion*, nurturing authentic community, solidarity with the poor and a responsibility to serve; *Liberation*, underpinning the provision of an education which is relevant and which encourages critical reflection on society.” (D’Orsa J and T, 2015).

### Diary Dates

8 May: Vaccinations Years 11 and 12  
9-11 May: NAPLAN  
10 May: Year 12 Twilight Retreat  
10 May: Year 12 Physics Excursion - Armidale  
17 May: Country Cup Rugby Gala Day  
18 May: Careers Expo - TRECC  
18-19 May: NSWCCC Hockey - Newcastle  
18 May: Athletics Carnival  
23 May: ICAS Digital Technologies  
24 May: Jump Rope for Heart – Year 8  
24 May: NSWCCC Touch  
26 May: Debutante Ball  
26 May: Diocesan Cross Country, Tennis, Golf  
29 May: Years 7, 8, 9, 10 Exams  
30 May: ICAS Science  
5 June: Year 12 HSIE Excursion – Armidale  
7 June: Diocesan Soccer – Inverell  
12 June: Public Holiday

## PRINCIPAL MATTERS

### Edmund Rice Feast Day Masses

As one of our founding charisms, along with St Dominic, the Feast Day of Blessed Edmund Rice has strong significance for the McCarthy Catholic College faith community. At the time of writing we are preparing for one of our most important Eucharistic celebrations of the year that commemorates the life and work of Blessed Edmund Rice on Thursday May 4 and Friday May 5 at St Nicholas’ Church. The story of Edmund’s life and work with the poor in Waterford is one of inspiration and centres around three important theological aspirations - Presence, Compassion and Liberation. Consequently, we take these aspirations not only for our liturgical reflection this week, but we take them into our daily lives at home and at school. Being PRESENT when we are with friends and families. Turning off and away from TVs, smartphones and computers and giving our loved ones and friends the time they deserve to be heard and their ideas and opinions respected just as Jesus hears and listens to our pleas. Showing COMPASSION to others in need. And not only those that are blatantly obvious such as our donations to the poor during Lent, but by being conscious of need around us in our daily lives, like noticing when a younger student does not have a school jumper in winter or a friend does not have any lunch at school. Little things to notice followed up with a small act of solidarity makes for a big act of compassion. Hence, an orientation of LIBERATION can be nurtured whereby we free ourselves of the constraints of selfishness and actively seek out opportunities to learn and grow the spirit of generosity and openness to new ways of bringing the kingdom through our positive relationships with God and each other. In this way, Edmund’s life and work acts as a shining beacon for all at McCarthy as we endeavour to be more PRESENT with each other, more COMPASSIONATE to others and present a LIBERATING spirit to our daily work.

As a final word on Edmund Rice, his personal Bible was annotated throughout with handwritten notes that highlighted key themes and scripture quotes that emphasise the deep spirituality of the man. We are also aware that he prayed and asked his followers to pray the ‘Memorare’ daily. I offer the text of the prayer below as a polite invitation to pray this beautiful prayer to Our Lady daily as a constant reminder of her selfless and unquestioning faith in God.

### Memorare

*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection,  
implored your help or sought your intercession,  
was left unaided.*

*Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins my Mother;  
to you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful;*

*O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy hear and answer me.  
Amen.*

### ANZAC Day Marches and Services

Thank you to all members of our community who stepped out with pride to march in either of the towns of Tamworth, Manilla, Quirindi or Kootingal. I have received many complimentary comments from local residents who were impressed with our presentation and commitment to such an iconic national day. I particularly identify the special ANZAC Day Mass that was celebrated at St Nicholas' Church by Father Tom as a spiritual reminder of the sacrifice of our courageous servicemen and women across the years. I also publicly thank our captains for their commitment on the day, by their attendance at the Dawn Service, ANZAC Day Mass, Tamworth March and the official service and wreath laying at the Town Hall.



### Staffing

It is with sadness that we farewell Miss Kate Slattery from the Office administration staff later this month. As many parents and students would know, Kate's expert work at the student reception counter over the past nine years makes for a welcoming and safe environment at the college. Her capacity to individually care for each one of our large student cohort's administration needs and to multitask and remain calm under pressure are rare qualities that will be sorely missed. Thank you Kate!

Advertisements for a replacement will be listed in local media over the next week. Suitable and experienced applicants are invited to apply.

We also warmly welcome new teaching staff - Mr John McCullough (Industrial Technology - full-time), Mr Gavin Baker (Science - contract), Mr Steven Rees (HSIE – contract) and Miss Kara Spicer (HSIE - contract) to our learning community.

### Winter Uniform

A reminder that **Winter Uniform** must now be worn from Monday 8 May onwards please.

May your God go with you

*Mr Geoff McManus – Principal*

### MISSION AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

This week on May 4 and 5 we celebrate the feast of Blessed Edmund Rice. This is an important whole school celebration for McCarthy as Edmund Rice, founder of the Christian Brothers, and as such is one of the co-founders for McCarthy Catholic College. The students and staff will attend Mass at St Nicholas' Church at 11:30am in two groups over the two days. I would like to extend an invitation to any parents who would like to join us at St Nicholas' Church for this celebration. And on behalf of the staff and students at McCarthy, I thank Fr Joe for accommodating us as we mark the occasion of the feast of Blessed Edmund Rice.

*Mrs Cate Allen – Mission and Spiritual Formation Coordinator*

### PASTORAL CARE

#### Welcome

We welcome Maxwell Smith, Isabelle U'Ren (Year 7), Matilda U'Ren, Tristan Blake, Tazmin Darnell (Year 8) and Erin Fanker (Year 9) to the McCarthy community.

#### Meningococcal Vaccinations

NSW Health is offering vaccination against four types of meningococcal disease (given as one injection) through the school vaccination program for all Year 11 and Year 12 students on Monday 8 May in R1. Students were given information packs and a signed parent/guardian consent must be provided.

*Mrs Libby Molony – Pastoral Care Coordinator*

### PARENT INFORMATION

#### Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday 20 June at 7:15pm in the staff common room. All welcome.

### TEACHING AND LEARNING

#### NAPLAN

Welcome back to Term 2.

For Year 7 and 9 students, NAPLAN testing will be conducted in Week 3 from 9 – 11 May. Students will be given a timetable for these specific days during Mentor Group this week. Information about NAPLAN has been distributed, with letters being sent home with students via Mentor Group. Please ensure your child attends school, especially during these three days, and be sure to notify the school by phone or email if absence is unavoidable.

#### Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interviews

The Year 12 Parent/Teacher Interview evening allowed quality discussion and feedback to students that can assist them to progress throughout this term and the HSC examination period. The remainder of this academic year will require all students to demonstrate a proactive commitment to learning. One way to use the feedback from Parent/Teacher Interviews is for students to reflect on the suggestions and to set learning goals that are specific, measurable, achievable and time bound. SMART goals, as they are called,

can be one way to keep up the motivation levels and to track progress. Focus on the daily disciplines, the study habits and consistent routines that will allow each child to maximise their potential in the HSC.

### HSC Timetable

NESA has published the 2017 HSC timetable and students can view their personal timetable via their [Students Online](#) account. This link will also contain important information for students who have practical and performance examinations. Students should log in to check their personal details and timetables. Please be sure to let me know if there are any errors, omissions or clashes in timetables immediately.

*Mrs Raelene Maxworthy – Teaching and Learning Coordinator*

## CAREERS NEWS

### Careers Corner

At the end of this week, Year 12 students will have had two opportunities to participate in events and activities organised through the school. During Week 1, approximately thirty students attended the RSA and RCG courses organised by the school to enhance their chances of gaining work in the hospitality industry either full-time or part-time after school, during gaps, and while doing further study etc.

### UNE Open Day

On Friday, a group of interested students will be attending the UNE Open Day in Armidale. Students will have a chance to look at the university's facilities, accommodation options, go on tours, attend talks and speak with lecturers about the courses on offer. Visiting a university is an important part of the process of making decisions during this year. It is highly recommended that this be done in person rather than relying on internet and books wherever possible.

This is the first of three career excursions to be held in Term 2.

*Mrs Susan Barrett – Careers Adviser*  
[careers@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:careers@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)



### BAND

On Friday 28 April, McCarthy was privileged to have the Australian Brass Quintet come to the school. Year 7 were entertained and educated with a concert in the Our Lady of The Rosary Performance Theatre. They were enthralled by the entertaining and high quality performance, learning about brass instruments and compositional techniques.

The Concert Band then participated in a workshop with the performers, with the Junior Band watching. Scott Kinmont, Associate Principal Trombonist with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, conducted. He was very impressed by the quality of our students and how well they responded to advice given.

*Mrs Lisa Lane – Band Coordinator*

## SPORT

There are a number of sporting competitions during Term 2. I would ask that all students please ensure that they keep an eye on the notices and the MCC Sport Google Classroom for upcoming competition nominations and dates.

All students must nominate for competitions via the MCC Sport Google Classroom by the due date specified. Students who fail to nominate by the due date will not be eligible for selection for the competition or team in which they are interested.

Key competitions known so far for Term 2 are as follows:

Friday Night Rugby, Tamworth

Country Cup Rugby League, Tamworth - Wednesday 17 May

McCarthy Catholic College Athletics Carnival, Tamworth - Thursday 18 May

NSWCCC Hockey Championships, Newcastle - Thursday 18 and Friday 19 May

NSWCCC Touch, Dubbo - Wednesday 24 May

Diocesan Cross Country, Tennis and Golf, Gunnedah - Friday 26 May

Diocesan Cochrane Cup, Armidale - Friday 2 June

Diocesan Football, Inverell - Wednesday 7 May

NSWCCC Cross Country Championships, Eastern Creek - Friday 16 June

As always, please go to the NSWCCC website for further information regarding individual selection trials for any sports (<https://www.csss.nsw.edu.au/nswccc-home.aspx>).

### Friday Night Rugby

As stated above, Friday Night Rugby commences early in Term 2. It is a requirement that all students complete the following prior to competition:

1. Nominate for Friday Night Rugby by completing the online form located on the MCC SPORT Google Classroom
2. Pick up a permission note from the office and return the note and payment to the office by the due date

3. Ensure that they have purchased navy rugby shorts and McCarthy Rugby socks from Sports Power, Tamworth, located in the Atrium Shopping Centre in Peel Street.

Students who do not complete all three of the above will be ineligible to take the field for their team. Students will have up until Week 3 of Term 2 to have the correct uniform for Friday Night Rugby.

**Behaviour**

Students who have any misbehaviour incidents will put their right to represent McCarthy Catholic College at any sporting events in jeopardy, irrelevant if it is for individual or team events, or local, Diocesan or NSWCCC competitions.

This includes such events as NSWCCC Basketball, Friday Night Rugby, Peel Schools Rugby League, Diocesan Touch, etc.

All selected teams/individuals will be checked by myself or Mr Chittick in regards to ANY behaviour indiscretions prior to the date of the competition.

*Mr Matt Feltrin—Sports Coordinator*

**Waterpolo School Competition**

The under 16s McCarthy Boys' waterpolo team defeated Farrer at the end of last term to win the grand final. Jake Mitchell was named Most Valuable Player on the night. Most of the boys then played again in the Open competition being runners-up.

The boys have had an outstanding season and it has been a pleasure watching them play. Their sportsmanship and maturity is to be commended. They have represented McCarthy to the highest of standards.

Team: Edmund Bourke, Kane Clinch, Edward George, Michael Klasen, Barry Lane, Cameron Martin, Jake Mitchell, Joe Mitchell and Doughal O'Reilly.

*Mrs Jennifer Madden*



Brought to you by



Tamworth First Light Rotary Club is a strong supporter of local, vocational and community activities. It also supports Rotary at other local, regional, provincial projects, and is supported by all Rotarians.

**When: Wednesday, 17 May 2017**  
**Where: TRECC, Greg Norman Drive, Tamworth**  
**Expo sessions available between:**  
 09:30 – 11:30  
 12:00 – 14:00  
 \*Expo will be closed between 11:30am – 12:00pm

Over 70 exhibitors

Universities - Colleges - Training Services -  
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