

# McCARTHY CATHOLIC COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Email: [mcca\\_tam@arm.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mcca_tam@arm.catholic.edu.au)  
Postal: PO Box 3486, West Tamworth 2340  
Office Hours: 7.45am–3.30pm



Telephone: 6761 0800  
Facsimile: 6766 4557  
Website: [www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](http://www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

5 March 2009

Dear Parents & Students,

## Prayer



Lord,  
In this season of Lent  
I long to be closer to you.  
Help me to remember that nothing is  
important in my life unless it glorifies you in  
some way.

*It's so easy to get caught up in the day to  
day of my life and keep saying "Tomorrow, I will spend more  
time in prayer," but now my longing meets your love and I  
want to do it now.*

*Help me to rely on you for help.*

*The prayer asks you that I reach perfection.*

*Please, Lord, remind me that "perfection" isn't the crazy,  
"successful" way I try to live my life, but a perfection of my  
most authentic, real self.*

*My "perfection" might be holding my many flaws in my open  
hands, asking you to help me accept them.*

*Heal me, Lord, and help me to find you in the darkness of my  
life. Let me reach out in this darkness and feel your hand  
and love there to guide me.*

Amen

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## Vandalism

Our community has been rocked by the recent attack on buildings around the school. The destruction of the Performing Arts Centre has been a blow to all of us. However, like so many circumstances past, the community has rallied in support and we have been inundated with wishes, prayers and offers of assistance. Messages have been received from schools across the region, ex-students across generations, parents, businesses and ordinary everyday people who feel for our loss. The staff and students have been exceptional in managing under difficult circumstances. Thank you to all for your generous support of our College. Please continue to pray for us and for forgiveness for those responsible.

## Investing in Our Schools Programme

The school wishes to acknowledge the Australian Government for the contribution of \$29,000 towards the refurbishment of the toilet block outside the Library. The funds were made available under the *Investing in Our Schools Programme* (2008). A plaque recognising this contribution has been placed in the Administration block.

## McCarthy Board AGM

The McCarthy Board currently has vacancies for parent representatives. Any interested parents please contact me at the school before 6 March for nomination or if you would like further information. Elections will take place at the next meeting, to be held on Tuesday 17 March.

## New Staff Appointment

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Ronny Rindo to the position of Additional Needs Teacher. Ronny will commence duties on 9 March. His skills and experience will be a tremendous asset to our school.

## Swimming Carnival

The McCarthy Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday evening, 26 February. The carnival was an outstanding event with large numbers in attendance and tremendous team spirit. Thank you to all the parents and families who attended. Congratulations to our Age Champions and Dominic House (overall winning house).

## Student Pickup

A reminder to all parents/carers: please **do not use** the front of the school carpark area as a pick for children after school. The zone outside the administration block is for drop-off and early pick-up only. No cars should be in the area between 3.00 pm and 3.30 pm. Please drive along the road to the back of the Hall and park on this road to pick up your child.

## Rebecca Ward

The school community congratulates Rebecca Ward (HSC 2008) for her selection as NSW Finalist in the Miss World contest. Rebecca is a fine ambassador for our community.

## Papal Award

Parents are invited to attend the presentation of a Papal Award to Paul McDougall during the Saturday evening Mass at Mary Help of Christians Church on 14 March at 6pm.

*Mrs Kate Rayment - Principal*



## DIARY DATES



5 March:	Vaccinations Years 7 & 10
6 March:	Diocesan U15's Rugby League – Inverell
13 March:	Diocesan Swimming Carnival – Gunnedah
16-20 March:	Year 10 Canberra Excursion
17 March:	CCC Boys Hockey Trials
17 March:	Board AGM Meeting 5.30pm
17 March:	Association AGM Meeting 7.30pm
18 March:	Astronomy Night
20 March:	Diocesan Soccer
23 March:	CCC Girls Hockey Trials
23-26 March:	Warrymalaya Aboriginal Retreat
25 March:	The Annunciation
25-27 March:	Year 7 Outdoor Education
5 April:	Palm Sunday
8 April:	Regional Rugby League
9 April:	Holy Thursday
9 April:	Term 1 concludes

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### Lent

During the Season of Lent the focus will be, as the Church asks, on prayer, penance and good works. Students are encouraged to try to attend weekday Mass, in particular on First Fridays. They are also invited to join the Lenten Group which is being held at the school at 7.00pm each Wednesday during Lent. Project Compassion boxes will be available each

morning in Homeclass for students to make a donation after having 'given up' something they would have liked to have purchased. Fundraising for Caritas will continue throughout the remainder of Term 1. Funds from catering at the Swimming Carnival, a disco, a mufti day and a bingo afternoon, will go to this worthy cause. All students are encouraged to get into the spirit of Lent.

### St Vinnies

Senior members of St Vinnies have commenced visitation to McKay House, whilst junior members are attending Nazareth House. Both the students and the residents of these Aged Care facilities benefit from this contact enormously, gaining new insights from this cross generational contact.

*Mrs Cate Allen, Mrs Carol Wheaton  
Religious Education Co-ordinators*

### PASTORAL CARE

I would like to thank Sharon Stuart for the wonderful job she did in my absence and Luke Adams for his great support of Year 9. Albeit belatedly, I would like to welcome all new families to the McCarthy community and in particular the Year 7 students.

Welcome also to:

Jessica Crough, Alexandra King, Alicia Rawlinson, Claire Rice, Thomas Hine, Corey Cutmore (Year 8)  
Ashleigh Barnett, Ellena Manoe, Stacey Hill, Nicola-Jane Scarth, James Tarle, Lesley Wong, Madelaine Jurd (Year 9)  
Madeleine French, Tegan Hine, Caitlin Reid, Christian Rice, Jacob Ritter, Jordan Mauger (Year 10)

### Health and Family Issues

Please keep us informed of any health, 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 when necessary.

I also encourage you to contact us with any concerns you have regarding your child at McCarthy. Please note that due to teaching and interview commitments, it is sometimes difficult to return calls promptly. For non-urgent matters, an email is also an effective means of communication.

Mrs Julie McGregor [juliemcg@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:juliemcg@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

Mr Bernie Williams [b.williams@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:b.williams@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

Year 7 Co-ordinator

Miss Ginaya Wieland [g.wieland@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:g.wieland@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

Year 8 Co-ordinator

Mrs Sharon Stuart [s.stuart@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:s.stuart@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

Year 9 Co-ordinator

Mrs Libby Molony [libby@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:libby@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

Year 10 Co-ordinator

Mrs Jane Burt [j.burt@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:j.burt@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

Year 11 Co-ordinator

Mrs Fiona O'Neill [fiona@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:fiona@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

Year 12 Co-ordinator

Mr Steve Mair [s.mair@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:s.mair@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

Counsellor

### Vaccinations

Students and parents are encouraged to file vaccination forms carefully as many employers are now requesting proof of vaccination.

### Theme for the Week

The theme for Week 5 was 'How Have I Started?', prompting the students to check that they have all necessary texts and equipment, that they have set up a suitable study area at home, put up their Term Calendars, and are completing all set tasks. They were also encouraged to think about what they could do to improve their learning.

In Week 6 we discussed goals – that they give direction, are challenging but achievable, have time frames and are flexible.

*Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Co-ordinator*

### CODE OF CONDUCT

Our school Code of Conduct was developed with input from all stake holders - students, parents and staff. The resulting code - Care, Courtesy, Respect and Responsibility - is therefore owned by all members of the McCarthy community. Unfortunately, some recent incidents have shown that not all students are following this agreed Code of Conduct. Several students have had money and/or valuables stolen from their bags - a blatant disrespect of other's property. ALL students are reminded of the following points:

- Avoid bringing valuables to school - ipods and phones left in bags are temptations
- Keep your wallet with you; or use your locker

Don't bring large amounts of money to school; if it is unavoidable then please ask the office staff to lock it in the safe for the day.

Finally, the police will be called in the event of any student being caught stealing.

These are very serious matters and I urge you to discuss them with your children.

*Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal*

### STUDENT MANAGEMENT

The entire school community is to be thanked for the efforts to maintain the correct school uniform – the results are obvious and are beneficial in continuing to build school identity.

Expectations of the students in class have been very well outlined and this has contributed to a smooth start to the year.

More recently, staff have discussed the expectations of students in the playground and associated areas, outside lesson time. This provides a clear view of required behaviours during students' "free" time.

*Mr Mark Falkenmire - Student Management Co-ordinator*

### CAREERS NEWS

Career opportunities during February and March for students in Year 10-12, include attending the Regional University Roadshow, a Defence Force Careers presentation at Beersheba Barracks, a Health Careers presentation at the Hospital and a Hospitality and Events Management evening.

Coming up in Term 2, will be the Careers Expo at the TRECC on April 29, (Wednesday of Week 1), for all students in Years 10 - 12. The cost of this excursion is \$2, payable on the day. There will also be a bus going to the University of Newcastle Open Day at the end of the term for interested Year 12 students.

I am organising for a company to hold RSA and RCG courses after school over two days in May. Details of this have been emailed to Year 12 students via CareersAlert.

*Mrs Susan Barrett - Careers Advisor*

### YEAR 7

Thank you to all those parents and families who came to our Year 7 BBQ. What a great night! I hope to organise another social gathering for Term 2. If you have any suggestions or ideas for our next gathering, please contact me at school.

Organisation for our Outdoor Education excursion to Mt Kaputar and Lake Keepit is progressing. At our year meeting, we discussed the fine details and these should be recorded in the student's planner.

I encourage all Year 7 students to be friendly at all times to their peers. Remember the school Code of Conduct – Care, Courtesy, Respect and Responsibility.

I was very impressed with the level of participation at the Swimming Carnival last week. Congratulations to our age champions: Priyanka Pinto, Isaac Farmilo and Reuben Short.

*Mr Bernie Williams  
Year 7 Co-ordinator*

## YEAR 8

### Outdoor Education

All notes should be returned by now and students must have their deposit (\$70) paid by Thursday of Week 7. Students will have a meeting regarding their camp choice this week.

### Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to all Year 8 students for their participation and involvement in the Swimming Carnival. It was great to hear that students enjoyed their extended weekend.

### Assessments and Homework

Year 8 Assessments are well underway. Students should be maintaining an effective study and work routine to reach their potential. All students should be completing daily homework. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me through my email [g.wieland@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au](mailto:g.wieland@mccarthy.nsw.edu.au)

*Miss Ginaya Wieland  
Year 8 Co-ordinator*

## YEAR 9

Congratulations to all the students from Year 9 who participated enthusiastically in the Swimming Carnival last week. There was a great spirit of camaraderie in each house. I was pleased to see so many students involved in the day. Congratulations to Richard Burke who won the age champion from our cohort.

It is pleasing to see so many students volunteer their services for the Riding for the Disabled this year. In Term 2, I will be looking for more volunteers, so please think about how you can get involved in your school.

*Mrs Sharon Stuart  
Year 9 Co-ordinator*

## YEAR 10

Congratulations to Bryce Johnson who placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Australian Speedway Championships last weekend.

A reminder to all students that the final payment for the Canberra Excursion is now due. It would be appreciated if this could be paid to the front office as soon as possible.

There are a number of assessment tasks due over the next few weeks and I ask that students check the due date for these tasks, especially in Week 8, when we will be away. It is vital that all tasks are presented on the due date.

A Year meeting will be held in Week 7 to discuss final arrangements for the trip to Canberra. Students not attending the Canberra excursion may stay at home OR come to school as supervision will be provided. Could you please indicate by note to me what your child will be doing during Week 8 if they are not attending the excursion.

*Mrs Libby Molony  
Year 10 Co-ordinator*

## YEAR 11

Thank you to all the students who attended the Swimming Carnival on Thursday night. There were some outstanding Year 11 swimmers. Congratulations to Andrew McIlveen (17 year boy champion), and Alix Wade (16 year girl champion). I was proud to see the level of participation in championship and novelty events. You have done your house proud with your level of participation and house spirit.

Steven Young from the Young Achievers Program spoke to Year 10 and 11 on Tuesday. I hope students heed what he had to say and become involved in the program they have to offer. It was a great opportunity for the students to see the way business is conducted at all levels.

It has come to my attention that there are still students without texts for subjects. If you are having a problem getting a text please see me. There are some second-hand texts available from KLA Co-ordinators or myself. For some subjects the text is a vital resource and one you cannot be without.

I encourage Year 11 to be organised at home and school with tasks, study and general school work. Use some of the techniques presented to you in the recent Elevate Education Seminar.

Do not hesitate to contact me if there are problems or concerns with any aspect of school.  
Keep up the positive start.

*Mrs Jane Burt  
Year 11 Co-ordinator*

## YEAR 12

Congratulations to the students who participated with enthusiasm at our recent Swimming Carnival - the excitement was heard all through town.

A reminder to students to please follow procedures when leaving the school grounds. These procedures are for the safety of all students in our care. Signing out, with a note, through the office is part of this. Students are also required to have documentation in regard to partial day absences and appointments.

Last week students attended the University Roadshow where three regional universities gave information on their Early Entry Schemes and the costs involved with attending university. Information was also given regarding scholarships available to students.

Students are encouraged to make use of study lessons during the day and to maintain a consistent approach to their assessments throughout the coming months.

*Mrs Fiona O'Neill  
Year 12 Co-ordinator*

## SPORT

The Swimming Carnival was again a great success. The results are as follows:

Dominic:	1 <sup>st</sup>	478 points
Edmund Rice:	2 <sup>nd</sup>	422 points
Chishom:	3 <sup>rd</sup>	317 points
McKillop:	4 <sup>th</sup>	267 points

The McCarthy Swimming Champions for 2009 are:

	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Boys</u>
12 Years	Priyanka Pinto	Isaac Farmilo
13 Years	Molly Lyden	Reubben Short
14 Years	Anna Camilleri	Brice Davy
15 Years	Laura Roach	Richard Burke
16 Years	Alix Wade	Nathan Robinson
Opens	Lauren Ryan	Andrew McIlveen





Congratulations to these students and good luck to all students competing in the Armidale Diocesan Carnival in Gunnedah next week.

### Rugby League

At the Cochrane Cup in Armidale last year a squad of 26 players were selected to attend trials for the Armidale Diocesan Under 15 years team, that will participate in the Northern Country Catholic Schools Trials in April. At these trials, McCarthy will be represented by Josh Howarth, George Rixon, Blake Waterhouse, Michael Carr, Peter McGuirk, Kieran Gaskin and Nathan Forgione. We wish them well.

### Other events

In the coming weeks there are a variety of sporting events that involve McCarthy students:

- Diocesan Swimming Carnival (13 March)
- MCC v O'Connor – Opens Cricket (5 March)
- Diocesan 15's Rugby League Trials (6 March)
- MCC v Armidale High – Opens Rugby (11 March)
- Arrive Alive Cup – Rugby League (Week 8)
- All Schools Touch – Years 9 & 10 Boys and Girls (31 March)

*Mr Mark Falkenmire – Sports Co-ordinator*

### McCarthy Open's Cricket Report

On Wednesday 25 February McCarthy Opens Cricket team played against St Mary's Catholic College of Gunnedah in the inaugural Opens Cricket Diocesan Shield at No 1 oval.

The team played extremely well to win by a convincing 40 runs. Special mention must go to Andrew James who top scored with 39 and was voted players player and also to Jack Rixon and Matthew Cannon who opened the bowling and earned five wickets between them. Congratulations players. We look forward to our game today in Armidale against O'Connor Catholic College. A win is essential to claim the inaugural Diocesan Challenge.

*Mr Dan Mitchell  
Opens Cricket Coach*

### Australian Air Force Cadets

The Australian Air Force Cadets is a youth training organisation sponsored by the Royal Australian Air Force. If you have ever thought of pursuing a career in the military or are looking for an exciting, challenging way to spend your spare time, with activities such as flying training, gliding, abseiling, field instruction, firearms handling, marksmanship and many other exciting, military like activities, then the Australian Air Force Cadets may be for you. Your local unit is holding a Recruit Information Night on Tuesday, 17 March 2009. For further information please contact 6760 7050 or [christopher.gibson@aafc.org.au](mailto:christopher.gibson@aafc.org.au)

## Low Risk Driving and Awareness Courses Saturday 7 March or Sunday 8 March 2009 8am – 4pm



- ✓ Fully RTA qualified instructors
- ✓ Various aspects of driving defensively
- ✓ Practical and theory instruction
- ✓ NO skid pan or fancy driving
- ✓ Places for L platers (must be accompanied by a Licensed Driver)
- ✓ All ages
- ✓ Lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided
- ✓ Only \$65 per person

Contact: David Gilroy 6765 7769 or 0438657762

Get in early for winter uniforms at Clothing Pool. We have senior uniforms in all sizes. There are also 5 netball visors at \$4 each. Be quick.

### CLOTHING POOL



The Clothing Pool operates on a voluntary basis and is opened each Wednesday from 12.30pm – 1.30pm. The Clothing Pool is situated in the Administration Block. Students are permitted to buy clothing during their lunch break on Wednesdays.

If you have uniforms to be sold at the Clothing Pool, **please label** them individually clearly with name, contact address, item, size, price and phone number. Tags/pins are available from the front office. If an item is not labelled we will assume that it is a donation.

For further information or appointments ph: 0425312873

### MCCARTHY ASSOCIATION

The Association was well attended when we met recently and discussed the following items.....

We welcomed Mrs Kate Rayment to her first meeting as Principal.

A big thank you to Mrs Kerry Adams for once again organising the Country Music Accommodation which raised approximately \$15,000. This is an extraordinary effort.

A donation of \$100 was sent to the Sacred Heart Parish in Victoria to assist with the recovery from the terrible bushfires.

Bullying is still a big problem in schools, particularly on the internet and on mobiles. Packs are available for parents from the front office which will inform them about bullying and other subjects.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the staff room on March 17 2009 at 7.30pm. A new committee will be voted in. We encourage all parents and friends to come along with your ideas or just to listen about what's happening at school. If you wish to find out more details about the Association, you can find it on the McCarthy website.

*Mr John Drew – Publicity Officer*