

Newsletter

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Dear Parents & Students

Prayer

The Catholic Church dedicates the month of June to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Sacred Heart represents Christ's love for all mankind, and our devotion to it is an expression of our faith in His mercy.

On June 1, 2008, Pope Benedict XVI urged Catholics everywhere to renew their devotion to the Sacred Heart during the month of June.

*O Heart of love, I put all my trust in Thee; for I fear all things from my own weakness, but I hope for all things from Thy goodness.
Amen*

PRINCIPAL MATTERS

These last two weeks have brought more very pleasing news about the performance of staff and students in a range of fields. There have again been outstanding performances in sport, resulting in state selection for a number of our students. Excellent performances at the City of Tamworth Eisteddfod have also highlighted the great talent in our school in Speech, Music and Dance. I commend to your reading the reports on these and other events in this newsletter and the next.

Tamworth Sustainable Community Awards

McCarthy was nominated for the Tamworth Sustainable Community Awards recently and won first place in the secondary schools section. The school Environment Council, led by Fletcher Davies, Jed Trow and Tristan Newmann, all in Year 10, prepared the submission and attended the award presentation. The boys were presented with a certificate and a cheque for \$200.

Debutante Ball

The annual St Nicholas Catholic Debutante Ball was held on Friday 29 May at the Town Hall. The event involved a large number of our students and staff and was a wonderful formal occasion. It was good to see the students demonstrating the social etiquette and dancing skills they had learnt over the many weeks of preparation. We thank all involved in the organisation of this event.

Newsletter access

We are trying to improve access to the newsletter for all parents. We are aware that hard copies often don't make it home so have added the newsletter as a link on our college website: www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au. Alternatively, we are trialling email as an option. The last newsletter was emailed to those parents who have supplied their email address to the school. If you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you each fortnight, please contact Debra Wade in the office.

Absentees

Some changes have been made to the way attendance at school is monitored in order to refine processes and improve accuracy of records. Last week Kate Walden started emailing parents regarding unexplained student absences. She has been very happy with the response and feedback so far. If you have not supplied the school with your email address and would like to do so, please contact the office on 67610801 or, alternatively, email k.walden@mccarthy.nsw.edu.

Closing date for enrolments

The enrolment process for the 2010 year has begun in earnest and some applications have already arrived. Prospective applicants are reminded that the closing date for enrolments for next year is Tuesday, 30 June. New enrolment forms have been adopted across the diocese. They are available upon request from the front office.

Mrs Kate Rayment – Principal

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A weekend seminar "Growing Spiritually, Growing Religiously" will be held on 4 and 5 July at St Nicholas Hall in Carthage Street, Tamworth. People are welcome to attend on just one day if they wish. The seminar will be presented by Fr David Ranson and will explore "The essential elements of a genuine Catholic Spirituality". Anyone interested in attending or seeking more information please contact St Nicholas Presbytery on ph: 67662228.

Whole School Mass

On 19 June, the Feast of the Sacred Heart, the whole school will attend Mass across the four churches in Tamworth. Mass will begin at 11.30am. Parents and friends are most welcome to attend.

St Vinnies.

The St Vinnies Winter Appeal is currently underway. We ask that any unwanted warm clothing or blankets be left at the office.

Mrs Carol Wheaton and Mrs Cate Allen – Religious Education Co-Ordinators

Diary Dates

12 June: Cochrane Cup Rugby League
 15 June: School Photos
 16 June: School Photos
 16 June: Board Meeting 5.30pm
 17 June: Peel Schools Rugby League Carnival
 17 June: Association Meeting 7.00pm
 19 June: CCC Cross Country
 19 June: Whole School Mass
 22 June: CCC Teams Basketball
 23 June: CCC Teams Basketball
 23 June: Spelling Competition (Year 7)
 23 June: Writing Competition
 29 June: CCC Tennis
 30 June: Live, Work & Train Expo (Town Hall)
 1 July: Year 9/11 Parent/Teacher Interviews

PASTORAL CARE

Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Lauren Hudson and her family following the death of her grandmother.

Vaccinations

Any student who has missed a vaccination injection may go to the Community Health Clinic at Tamworth Base Hospital held each Tuesday afternoon and evening. This is a free service.

The vaccination program to date has been:

Year 7 Boys – Varicella (Chicken Pox), Hepatitis B (1st dose)

Year 7 Girls – Varicella (Chicken Pox), Hepatitis B (1st dose), HPV (1st, 2nd doses)

Year 10 – Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

The next vaccinations will be delivered in September. It is advisable to file the record of vaccination safely as it is sometimes required for employment.

Makeup

Please note that makeup is NOT to be worn to school.

Swine Flu

As at 5 June, the school is required to exclude for one week any student returning from Mexico, Canada, USA, Japan, Panama or metropolitan Melbourne. We encourage all members of the school community to remain at home if they have flu symptoms (high temperatures, headaches, sore throat, extreme fatigue, aches and pains, dry cough, breathing difficulties and sneezing). Appropriate hygiene should be observed when coughing and sneezing and hands should be washed regularly.

If you have any concerns please contact the school.

Theme for the Week

The topic for Week 5 was Care! This is an integral part of our Code of Conduct and indeed our philosophy at McCarthy. Caring for oneself, others and the environment was discussed and encouraged.

During Week 6 we passed on some tips for students from Bill Gates.

Tip 1: Life is not fair, get used to it.

Tip 2: The world won't care about your self esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something before you feel good about yourself.

Tip 3: You will not make \$60,000 a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice president with a car phone until you earn both.

Tip 4: If you think your teacher is tough, wait until you get a boss.

Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Co-Ordinator

CURRICULUM MATTERS

All Half-Yearly exams have now been completed. Students in Years 7-11 will receive a Half-Yearly report in a few weeks. Please take advantage of the Parent/Teacher/Student evenings to come along and discuss your child's progress. For students in Years 9 and 11, this will be on Wednesday 1 July and for students in Years 7 and 8, on Wednesday 8 July. These interviews will be held in the hall from 4-7pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

An important date for Year 10 students to circle on the calendar is Tuesday, 7 July. On this evening, commencing at 7pm, we will be discussing the Board of Studies requirements for Preliminary and HSC years, the process for selecting subjects for Year 11 2010 at McCarthy and how 'line patterns' are established. Staff will be available to answer subject specific questions. Prior to the night, students in Year 10 will be given a 'Senior Students' Prospectus' which contains valuable information related to this process.

Mrs Sally Sparke – Assistant Principal

GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Geography students from McCarthy demonstrated key geographical skills and knowledge in the 2009 National Geographical Channel Australian Geography Competition. The National Geographic Channel Australian Geography Competition attracts students from all over Australia – almost 90,000 of them each year.

Having just received the results of the Competition, Geography teacher Mrs Stuart said the students' results and the school's overall performance were very encouraging.

We have twenty-three student geographers at our school, and they performed at a very high level in the competition this year, with 2 gaining high distinctions, 5 distinctions and 9 credits.

Congratulations to the following students:

Patrick Hughes and Mikala Dickie (*High Distinction*)

Tristan Newmann, Josef Atkinson, Zac Bordley, Yosphol Sundaravej and Josephine Thornberry (*Distinction*)

Lucy-Anne Camilleri, Fletcher Davies, Adam Brook, Joe Gagie, Keegan Gaskin, Anna Howard, Brooke McAlister, Caitlin O'Rourke and Aleena Slade (*Credit*).

Mrs Sharon Stuart – Geography Teacher

CAREERS NEWS

Work Experience in July Holidays

Any student in Years 10-12 wishing to do work experience in the next school holidays must see me before Friday, 19 June to make sure it conforms to school policy and to begin the large amount of paperwork that must be completed for the work experience to be legally allowed to go ahead.

The policy can be found on the McCarthy Careers page at:

http://www.mccarthy.nsw.edu.au/careers/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=54

Year 12

I am organising RSA, RCG and Senior First Aid courses for Year 12 students to be run at school after 3pm. Payment is now due. I am also organising a trip to Newcastle University for their Schools Open Day on Thursday, 9 July.

Mrs Susan Barrett – Careers Advisor

MUSIC

Last Wednesday students and staff from McCarthy competed in the Tamworth City Eisteddfod. The results were as follows:

Secondary Choir: 2nd place

Small Vocal Ensemble: 1st and 2nd place

Secondary Folk Group: 1st place

HSC Music Section:

Laura McInnes and Jeremy Hatfield: 1st place

Harriet Molony, William Cooper and Jacob Cameron: 2nd place

Alana Bennett and Kristen O'Reily: 3rd place

Many thanks to: Jack Rayment, Brianna McCowen, Stephanie Elsley and Josh Carter for accompanying the performances and Patrick Hughes and Josh Carter for being stage managers.

Finally, many thanks and congratulations to all who participated in the eisteddfod and we look forward to beginning work on our next musical event which will be the *McCarthy Creative Arts* evening in Term 3.

Mrs Libby Molony, Mrs Suzanne Perfrement, Mr Gian Parodi and Mr Ronny Rindo



CASINO BEEF WEEK

Late Thursday, a team of 10 (6 students and 4 steers) headed off to the somewhat wet town of Casino. The competition began with a very early start on Friday morning, so early in fact that we were washing steers in the dark. A full and successful day of judging cattle and parading through the mud followed with most of the team bringing home at least one trophy. Blake Hallam was awarded first in his age group for junior judging and went on to win Grand Champion Junior Judge, from a field of over 130 other competitors. Kate Lumber also won her age group for Junior Judging, Courtney Hallam placed 3rd and Brittany Meissner 5th in their respective age groups. The parading ring was very heavy going with both paraders and cattle ankle deep in mud for most of the day. Again McCarthy had some success, with Sarah Haywood placing 2nd and Brittany Meissner placing 5th in their age groups. Saturday dawned sunny after a rainy night and 'Des', 'Troy', 'Nugget' and 'Roger' were all trucked down to the main street to compete, but not before the cattle truck got stuck in the mud for an hour! A huge crowd turned out to watch the judging and our steers and students represented the school incredibly well. 'Nugget' made the final line up but missed out on a place and 'Troy' placed 4th in his class in the carcass competition. The show was great fun despite the weather and a fantastic experience for everyone.



Miss Leanne Sjollega

YEAR 8

Year 8 Outdoor Education - Trek



The harder excursion involved a trek through Oxley Wild Rivers for five days and four nights. Thirty-six students took up this challenge (12 girls and 24 boys). The teachers set us up with non-perishable foods and showed us how to waterproof our bags before we headed out to the wilderness. We were in a really pretty area and each morning mist hung around the mountain tops. On the first day we only trekked a few kilometres, but with an extra fifteen kilograms on our backs - it was not a walk in the park! Each day we cooked on a Hexi stove and ate out of a Dixie set. The nights were cold



and uncomfortable, so each night we all took turns at getting a fire started to keep us warm. The second day was the hardest. We had to walk twelve kilometres and go through some really tough river crossings. Wednesday was an eventful day with a visit from the Westpac helicopter to pick up a student who had injured her ankle. The next two days were great but by Friday we were all missing the comforts of home - especially toilets! Over the whole trek we all had an awesome experience, doing many things we would have never imagined. Thank you to the teachers who came with us - we had a great time!

Stephanie Elsley - Year 8 Trek student

YEAR 9

The term is sailing by and as we head towards Semester 2, here are a few reminders to students:

1. All students need to have their planners with them each day and in it should include a copy of their timetable.
2. There may be a need to replenish stationery supplies - such as pens, glue sticks, rulers and writing books.
3. Be on time to class - 10 minutes late to class is definitely not acceptable!
4. Stay on task in class, maximise your learning opportunities and those of others around you (your classmates).
5. During the next week or so students will get results of their exams. It is important that the feedback that teachers give you is a valuable learning experience. Some students will receive results that they are pleased with, while others may be disappointed. It is important that all students find a time to learn, maybe the attitude "I'll do better next time", or "I'm learning from my mistakes" is a more proactive approach than discarding the experience as a negative one.
6. Be considerate of others - be respectful to your teachers, visitors to the school and students.

7. Above all remember and follow our school Code of Conduct, "Care, Courtesy, Respect and Responsibility".

Year 9 students were invited to attend a lunch time seminar today on "Preparing a Resume". Many students in Year 9 are seeking employment on a part-time basis and the first step is to prepare a resume outlining your credentials. Students can collect a pamphlet on how to set out a resume from Mrs Barrett if they were absent from school today.

Earlier in the year, Year 9 students were given information about their annual excursion program. This program has been altered and students have been informed about the changes. The excursion for this year will be to the Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens during Week 8, Term 4. Next year in Year 10, the students will attend a week long excursion to Canberra. A note outlining the costs and payment schedules (to allow for budgeting) will be sent out early Term 3 once costs have been finalised.

Mrs Sharon Stuart – Year 9 Co-ordinator

YEAR 10

All students have completed their Half-Yearly exams and are, no doubt, looking forward to their results. We appreciate parent support in keeping students focussed on their school commitments and ensuring they meet expectations regarding behaviour, application and attitude.

Mrs Libby Molony – Year 10 Co-ordinator

BOYS EDUCATION

As part of the McCarthy Boys' Education program, JT Fossey car dealership has agreed to conduct a basic car maintenance course for Year 12 boys. The course will be conducted on a Friday between 3.30pm – 4.30pm, for a cost of \$10.

An opportunity will exist for Year 12 girls to undertake the program at a later date.

Mr Dave Coupland, Mr Luke Adams – Boys Education Co-ordinators

EX-STUDENTS NEWS

Tracey Gurd (HSC class of 1991) has a combined Arts/Law Degree with honours from the Australian National University in Canberra and a Masters Degree in Public and International Law from the University of Melbourne. Her work has often focussed on human rights issues and she has been employed as a journalist, a legal academic and international policy adviser for the Australian Government in Australia and central Europe. She has co-edited an academic collection on women and armed conflict (*Listening to the Silences, Women and War*). Her current employment is in New York as the legal officer for International Justice, focussing on human rights abuses in Cambodia and Sierra Leone.

David Brooks – special guest at the NSWCCC dinner in Tamworth during the recent CCC Rugby League trials. David was in the 1979 Australian Rugby League team which toured Britain and France and went on to a distinguished career in League.

Rosemary Chatwood – employed at the Tamworth Blood Donor Centre.

Steve Blanch – Tamworth Regional Council Youth Services Co-ordinator.

Rachel Goodman – Wests Entertainment Group Marketing Executive.

Simon Haire – Tamworth Regional Council Sports Development Co-ordinator.

Kaitlyn McCowen – one of the violinists at the Tamworth Regional Conservatorium Orchestra Festival.

Eryn Williams and Deirdre Burke – in the Tamworth Musical Society production of *Beauty and the Beast*.

Michael and Rebecca Fox – with family members including Garry, Michael and Leonie – starring in the Tamworth Tenpin's Twilight League Competition.

SPORT

NSW CCC Touch Football

Brittany Coe and Rachel Halpin have been selected in the NSW CCC Touch Football teams – Brittany in the Under 15s and Rachel in the Opens team. They will travel to Narrabeen for the NSW All Schools Touch selections in August. Congratulations and good luck girls.

☛ MCCARTHY ASSOCIATION ☛

Important Notice

The Contiki People to People program has been cancelled this year due to the Swine Flu problem. Letters have been sent to those families directly involved in this program and The Association apologises to all families for any inconvenience caused. Please feel free to contact either Tania Roberts on 6765 2283 or Tracey Carrington on 6765 2927 if you have any problems. This was very disappointing news but fully understandable.

Items discussed at the next meeting.....

Uniforms, Year 7 – transition to high school, Country Music accommodation, Clothing Pool. Please join us if you are interested in any of these topics and would like to contribute your thoughts and ideas.

Important diary date.....

Cybersafety parent information session 13 August (Term 3)

What's new.....

Don't forget the very informative parent information packs that are now available from the school office. They include:

- * Cybersafety
- * Alcohol and celebrating safely
- * Driving safely

If there are any other topics you would like to see covered, please contact Tracey Carrington with the details.

Coming soon – Bully free DVD will soon be available for parents to borrow from the school.

Next meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 17 June at 7.00pm for 7.15pm. **Please note earlier starting time.** If you wish to contribute your thoughts on the items listed above please join us at the next meeting. Tea, coffee and a light supper will be provided. If you require any further information about any of the above please contact me at the number below.

Tracey Carrington – Publicity Officer (ph: 6765 2927)