

# MCCARTHY CATHOLIC COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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19 March 2009

Dear Parents & Students,

## Prayer

Father,

You have taught us to overcome our sins  
by prayer, fasting, and works of mercy.

When we are discouraged by our weakness,  
give us confidence in Your love.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son,  
Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit  
One God, forever and ever.

Amen

## Reflection

We need the season of Lent if we are to live in the imitation of Christ, to be Christians. We need to work out for ourselves what it is in our lives that need to go, to be no longer part of our lives. If we are able to achieve this, to sweep out the negatives, then Easter will not be a shallow celebration but one full of meaning, for we will be totally aware of the new birth that started in the Resurrection of Jesus.

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## Performing Arts Centre

The Catholic Schools Office has engaged a facilities management and construction company to manage the cleanup from the fire in the PAC. The process of recovery is still in the very early stages and the project will take many months to complete. Patience will be the key while we manage alternative classroom and performance spaces.

## McCarthy Board

An extraordinary meeting of the Board was held before the regular meeting on Tuesday 17 March. Thank you to the parents who responded to the call for nominations. The following parents have been elected to the Board: Vicki Cooper, Laura Hughes and Trish Thornberry.

The office bearers for 2009 are as follows:

Chairperson: Tania Roberts  
Secretary: Vicki Cooper  
Treasurer: Laura Hughes  
MCC Association Representative: Tania Roberts

## New staff

We welcome the return of Miss Sarah Easterman in the areas of Drama and English as she replaces Felicity Sawtell for the duration of her maternity leave.

## Schools' Show

On the weekend of 21-22 March a Schools' Show will be held at the Showground. Please feel free to visit the McCarthy exhibition. Thank you to Jodie Herden and Janine Way for designing and constructing our display.

## Violence

There have been a number of incidents involving violence already this year. Students and parents are reminded that there is a zero tolerance of violence in the school. All schools

uses violence toward another member of the community will be suspended and in some cases, expelled. Police may also be asked to intervene. It is important that we educate students about such issues to best prepare them for life in the broader community where they may be charged with assault and even jailed.

Mrs Kate Rayment - Principal



## DIARY DATES



20 March: Diocesan Soccer  
20 March: Years 11 & 12 Interim Reports issued  
23 March: CCC Girls Hockey Trials  
23-26 March: Warraymalaya Aboriginal Retreat  
25 March: The Annunciation  
25-27 March: Year 7 Outdoor Education  
3 April: Years 7-10 Interim Reports issued  
5 April: Palm Sunday  
8 April: Regional Rugby League  
9 April: Holy Thursday  
9 April: Term 1 concludes

## ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL MATTERS

It is concerning that graffiti is once again becoming a major issue in the school. Disappointingly, the new toilet blocks have been a target and require regular maintenance to remove ugly graffiti. Students are reminded of the Code of Conduct - Care, Courtesy, Respect and Responsibility, that underpins our interactions here at school. Defacing school property is disrespectful and ignores the responsibility of all students to do the right thing. If any student has information regarding graffiti appearing in the school, they should pass this on to either their homeroom teacher, Year Co-ordinator, or to myself.

Mrs Sally Sparke - Assistant Principal

## PASTORAL CARE

### Condolences

Our thoughts and prayers are with Ryan Gleeson, Alicia Downey, Nick K Walters, Emma Trickey and their families following the deaths of their grandfathers.

### Vaccinations

The first round of vaccinations for this year has been completed. Year 7 received the Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccine and the girls also received the first dose of the HPV vaccine. Year 10 received the combined Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough vaccine.

For those students who missed the vaccinations:

HPV - may be obtained at the Community Clinic, Johnson House on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month or from your GP.

Varicella or DTP - may receive injection at school early Term 2.

Please note that local health services are concerned about the increasing incidence of whooping cough and that we have had cases at school.

Students and parents are encouraged to file vaccination

### Valuables

Please encourage your child **not** to bring valuables to school. If this is unavoidable, the money or item should be carried in a zipped pocket, stored in their locker, or left at the office for safekeeping.

### Labelling Clothes

With falling temperatures, students are beginning to wear jumpers. Please check that jumpers and tracksuits are labelled, as they are often handed in to lost property.

### Theme for the Week

Courtesy was the theme for Week 7. Students were reminded to say please and thank you and to greet people. They also practised introducing people.

*They say courtesy is contagious, so why not start an epidemic? (Anon).*

Most students have assessment tasks over the final weeks of term. Study tips were given in Week 8. For extra information for students and/or parents, please see page 21 of the Student Planner.

*Mrs Julie McGregor – Pastoral Care Co-ordinator*

## CURRICULUM MATTERS

### Interim Reports

2009 is well underway and Interim Reports will be issued to all students in Years 7-12 before the end of term. Years 11 and 12 will receive their Interim Reports on Friday 20 March and Years 7-10 will receive their reports on Friday 3 April. These reports are a snapshot of how things are going for your child at school, and can alert staff and parents to issues that might need to be addressed.

### Smartboards

A large number of staff have signed up to attend Inservice sessions for the Smartboards that are starting to have an impact throughout the school. They have certainly generated a lot of interest (and competition) amongst staff. The Inservice sessions are being conducted by ex student, David Harvey, who has established his own IT consultancy business.

*Mrs Sally Sparke - Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator*

## CAREERS NEWS

### Careers Expo at TRECC

This will be held the first Wednesday back in Term 2 for all Year 10, Year 11 and Year 12 students. Students are to bring \$2 for the bus, to be paid as they get on. It is a great opportunity for students to see the range of courses and careers open to them, and to talk to local employers and representatives from various career areas, TAFE, colleges and universities.

*Mrs Susan Barrett - Careers Advisor*

## SCIENCE & ENGINEERING CHALLENGE



On Wednesday, 11 March, fifteen Year 10 and nine Year 9 McCarthy students, accompanied by Karen Dickinson and

Brian Kells, participated in the Tamworth Science and Engineering Challenge at the TRECC. Our team competed against Tamworth area high schools to organise employees in a music company, supply power and water to a city with limited resources and design, build and test hovercrafts, airships, eco-friendly houses, helicopter arms and bridges. After spending most of the day in the lead and scoring over 1000 points in total, McCarthy was beaten by a mere 6 points – despite our most successful design ever, “The Bridge” remains a challenge yet to be overcome by McCarthy! The winning school qualified automatically for the Science & Engineering SuperChallenge in Newcastle; once again the McCarthy team has a nail-biting wait ahead to see if our second-place points score is high enough to qualify to compete in August.

I would like to thank all 24 students who represented the school in this year’s Tamworth Challenge. It was a pleasure to watch them at work and to see their efforts rewarded in the best first-round result McCarthy has ever gained. Well done!

### 2009 Challenge Team Members:

Year 10 - Bodhi Betts, Adam Drew, Ryan Gleeson, Patrick Hughes, Kate Lumber, Acadia Lyons, Tristan Newmann, Caitlin O'Rourke, Jenna Philp, Brittany Rae, Lauren Schnebli, Shayne Spencer, Ethan Thompson, Jed Trow.

Year 9 - Josie Cannon, Lachlan Maloney, Kieran MacRae, Zoe O'Sullivan, Shae Parsons, Ben Paynter, Luke Shields, Melissa Sweeney, James Tarte.

*Ms Karen Dickinson - Science Teacher*

## SCIENCE

Students were confronted with the distressing scene of the fire gutted PAC on the morning of March 3. However, this did not diminish the enthusiasm and interest of 300 Year 9, Year 10 and senior Science students. In true McCarthy spirit, the students participated in the 'Smart Moves' event which was conducted by a visiting team of presenters from Questacon in Canberra. The event took place in the school hall and hovered around the theme of Innovation through Science and Design. This industry and government funded presentation consisted of interactive activities involving problem solving with an emphasis on encouraging young people to be innovative in solving everyday practical problems.



*Matt McKinnon and Jacqui Brandenburg solving a fluid transfer problem with the assistance of the Smart moves presenter.*

The following week, fifteen Year 10 and nine Year 9 students participated in the Tamworth Science Engineering Challenge under the guidance of Ms Karen Dickinson and Mr Brian Kells, in what ended up being a 'nail biting' finish. I wish to thank all students who participated so enthusiastically, and especially to Ms Dickinson and Mr Kells for giving up their time to organise and prepare the students for this event. Special thanks must also go to Mrs Melissa Lees for organising the Astronomy event that was held at the school yesterday and last night. Details will appear in the next Newsletter.

*Mr James Vella - Science Co-ordinator*

## MATHEMATICS

All students should have Mathematics textbooks. We still have second hand Year 7 and Year 10 5.3 texts.

### World Maths Day

During Week 6, we had 259 of our students participate in an online, worldwide Mathematics competition, called World Maths Day. The aim of the competition is to have as many

students as possible doing maths at the same time. Over one million students from 160 countries participated. A world record was created with four hundred and fifty two million, six hundred and eighty two thousand, six hundred and eighty two questions answered correctly. We answered 70,012 questions correctly spending 6,264 minutes on the task.

**π** Pi Day was held on Saturday March 14. We will celebrate this special mathematical day, belatedly, in Week 10.

### Assessment Tasks

Students in Years 7 and 8 will have Assessment tasks in Week 8. Year 9 will have a task in Week 9 and Year 10 will have a task in Week 10. Year 12 will have a double period assessment task in Week 10.

### Hotmaths

Hotmaths is an online mathematics program that the school and the Catholic Schools Office have made available for all students in Years 7 to 10 for the 2009 school year. Students access this via the following website: [www.hotmaths.com](http://www.hotmaths.com) Students should receive their user name and password from their teacher. The program provides instruction, examples, questions, quizzes and interactive activities in all areas of mathematics. It is a very useful tool for students to help reinforce classroom learning as well as develop, extend and challenge their understanding of concepts. Parents can also access this resource when their child logs on using 'share with parents'. If any parent would like further information about Hotmaths, please do not hesitate to contact the Mathematics department at school.

*Mrs Jane Ashcroft - Mathematics Co-ordinator*

## YEAR 11

Assessments are starting to come regularly for Year 11. Students will need to be organised. They cannot leave tasks until the last minute, and have tasks completed and handed in on time. All students should read the Assessment Booklet to check requirements for submission. It is vital that parents ring the office if their child is sick/absent on the day a task is due.

Students who are interested in joining Toastmasters this year must give their names to me. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to improve their confidence and public speaking abilities. McCarthy students, who have participated in the past, speak highly about this experience.

We have our first Year 11 student driving to school. Please remember that driving a car to school comes with responsibilities. Students need to register with me when they get their licence and begin to drive to school. Students' passengers must have permission to travel in the car. Students are not to leave the grounds without signing out at the office with a note or verbal parental permission. The carpark is also out of bounds during the day.

Thank you to Year 11 students. I have had many positive comments on behaviour, effort in class and quality of assessment tasks.

*Mrs Jane Burt - Year 11 Co-ordinator*

## YEAR 12

Year 12 students are well into the assessment mode at this stage of their HSC studies. They are reminded of the protocols that are essential in the organisation and submission of these tasks. We are at the halfway mark of the HSC year at the end of this term!

Congratulations to Tayla Maloney and Beth Gooch who participated in the Lions Youth of the Year competition within local Lions Clubs. Both of these students are a credit to the school. The competition involves giving a planned speech, impromptu speech and interview. Beth progressed in the competition and last weekend participated at Port Macquarie where she was successful. She will now compete at the State Finals.

I have also had exceptional reports from Mrs Duns on the recent Hospitality excursion to Seaworld Resort. Students' behaviour and work ethic were outstanding. As always these

extracurricular activities go a long way to promoting our school community to the outside world.

2009 Year 12 McCarthy jerseys are in the planning stage. We should have more information towards the end of term, including costing and design. Stay tuned.

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

### Women's Business (WB)

WB is off to a great start this year with over 50 regular members. The young ladies this year are very keen to support charities, such as Caritas and Vinnies, as well as organise some great social events for McCarthy's female population.

The first charity event for the year was Carry-Tas, held on Tuesday 10 March, in support of International Women's Day. This event called for students to show solidarity with women around the world, who carry their children with them on their backs during their day's work, by carrying a teddy or baby doll with them for the school day. The day was lots of fun and there was great enthusiasm shown, not just among WB members, but by the whole school.

Congratulations to this year's Women's Business Executive:

President: Jamilla Hile  
Secretary: Ellen Barrett  
Public Relations Officer: Kate Lumber  
Treasurer: Kirenjit Kaur

Please encourage your daughter/s to get involved in this fantastic group.

*Miss Kathryn O'Sullivan*

## SPORT

### Swimming

Congratulations to the following students who were Age Champions at Diocesan Swimming Carnival at Gunnedah last week:

12 year girls: Sara Westman  
13 year girls: Molly Lyden  
13 year boy: Reubben Short  
15 year boy: Richard Burke  
16 year boy: Nathan Robinson

Diocesan Sports Convenor, Tim Kennedy, would like to thank Narelle Burke, Brett Roach and Leanda Greacen for their invaluable support at the carnival.

### McCarthy Basketball Association

The AGM has been postponed until further notice due to lack of numbers last week. Thank you to those who did attend, but unfortunately positions could not be filled.

On May 1, 2 and 3, McCarthy will be hosting the NSW Regional CCC Basketball Tournament at the Tamworth Thunderdome. This is a school based carnival that a number of schools participate in from northern NSW. Each school will be hoping to make the State finals this year, which will be held on the Central Coast.

Any parents who are interested in assisting the organisation and implementation of this huge event are asked to return the slip that was sent home this week to me at school. We require parents to coach, score, cater etc. Remember many hands make light work.

*Mr Luke Adams*

### Netball

McCarthy has 149 players (17 teams) registered for the upcoming Netball competition. The Netball season commences Saturday, 28 March 2009. The first two Saturdays will be grading days. Please check the draw in the Northern Daily Leader. Competition begins on Saturday 2 May.

Balls, bibs etc will be sent to school soon and will be distributed to each team.

There will be a Level 1 Umpire Course Friday 27 March commencing at 5.30pm at the Carter Street Courts. For further information, please contact Lisa Crayn ph: 0408225109.

## BMX

Congratulations to Matthew Shone on his second placing at the ACT State Titles in Canberra recently. This carnival is the second biggest carnival prior to the Australian Titles in Perth. Matt came second in the 15 years boys division. He now has a second ranking leading into the Perth carnival.

## Rugby League

Good luck to the Open Rugby League team as their Arrive Alive campaign begins. Yesterday the boys played against Peel High School and results will be reported in the next Newsletter.

*Mr Mark Falkenmire – Sports Co-ordinator*

## McCarthy Open's Cricket Report

Recently the McCarthy Opens cricket team travelled to Armidale to contest in the inaugural Diocesan Cricket Shield. We unfortunately went down in a close game to O'Connor Catholic College. Jack Rixon, Jack Collins and Matt Cannon were voted players' players. The boys would like to thank Mr Northey for his time in travelling up with the team. Congratulations boys on your school spirit and effort in representing McCarthy.

*Mr Dan Mitchell - Opens Cricket Coach*

## Hat Trick in 14B Cricket Team

The McCarthy 14B team had a good win last weekend against Farrer Blue. The highlight of the game was a fantastic hat trick by Blake Clout. McCarthy scored 7/125, with Nathan Smith scoring 34 runs before retiring; Blake Clout retired 19, Jack Mooney 16 not out and Patrick Baxter 15 not out. Farrer, in reply, were all out for 74 with Blake Clout taking a hat trick, 3 for 9, and Jordan Flemming 2 for 12.

## HOUSE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as House Captains:

### Dominic

Year 12: Luke Shore, Mitch Newman  
Year 11: Liam Richards, Gabby Lord  
Year 10: Luke Krug, Shannan Purdy

### Chisholm

Year 12: Rachel Halpin, Laura McInnes  
Year 11: Mia Bruno, Caitlin Goodwin  
Year 10: Scot Doulis, Luke Halpin

### Edmund Rice

Year 12: Sarah Hetherington, Rachel Ayres  
Year 11: Lori Snowden, Rebecca Snowden  
Year 10: Brad Jeffriess, Roman Jurd

### MacKillop

Year 12: Jessica Etheridge, Steve de Silva  
Year 11: Anne-Maree Artis, Nick Kay  
Year 10: Emily Etheridge, Mark Sfier

## EX STUDENT NEWS

**Louise Murray (nee Fitzsummons)** – In the Tamworth Pipe band, along with her husband, and McCarthy students Joshua, Michael and Sarah.

**Rebecca Ward** – One of 12 NSW contestants chosen to represent her state in the Miss World Australia pageant. Among her fundraising efforts, she raised more than \$600 for the Westpac Rescue helicopter.

**Joanne Maiden** – Advertising manager of the *Tamworth Times*.

**Megan Elsley** – Currently working in an orphanage in India.

**Bob Faulkner** – Gave the "Welcome to Country" at the opening spectacular at the Australian Equine and Livestock Centre.

**Fiona Coote** (Our Lady of the Rosary College), – Was Australia's second heart transplant recipient at age 14,

celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of heart transplants in Australia. Fiona has survived two transplants, works as a physiotherapist's assistant and is looking forward to her 40<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Andrew Davy** – NIAS Coach of the girls hockey program.

## Live the Greatest Story Ever Told

The Iona Passion Play is coming to the Tamworth Town Hall on Saturday 4 April at 7pm and Sunday 5 April at 10am.

Tickets: Adults \$15 Seniors \$12

Child (12 & under) \$10

Bookings: (02) 6767 5300 or online at

[www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/ticketsales](http://www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au/ticketsales)

More info: [www.passionplay.org.au](http://www.passionplay.org.au)



## Join with the touring cast! Why not be part of the show?

You are invited to join the touring cast and perform in the Tamworth production of The Iona Passion Play. No experience is necessary, you don't have to learn lines and costumes will be provided.

So why not join the Roman Army for the weekend or experience the Last Supper as an Apostle. There are plenty of female roles too!

For more info email [info@ipp.org.au](mailto:info@ipp.org.au) or phone (07) 33331993.

OR contact the Religious Education Co-ordinators.

## Community Events

A Talent Showcase is planned for Friday 3 April at the new Capitol Theatre in Centrepoint. Any interested artists between the ages of 12-25, are encouraged to submit a demo recording, or arrange for an audition to be in the running for selection. Submissions are being accepted up until Friday 24 March.

They are also seeking artworks for the YouthWeek Exhibition, and all submitted works will automatically enter the art competition and have the chance to share in \$300 worth of prizes.

For further information contact Stephen Blanch on 67664645

## THE CAREERS SHACK

At Careers Network Inc.

Now open Mondays and Thursdays from 3pm – 6pm  
Located opposite the underground parking entrance to Shoppingworld in Denne Street, Tamworth at the back of West Tamworth School.

The Careers Shack is a free service available to all 13 to 19 year olds. We offer assistance with information on careers, local industry, training, courses, resumes and applications. We also offer supervised internet access and a clean, safe and friendly environment. We also invite parents and carers to visit the centre. Please contact ph: 6765 9334 for more information.



## MCCARTHY ASSOCIATION



The Annual General Meeting was held this week.

Congratulations to the following office bearers:

President:	John McDonald
Vice Presidents:	Tania Roberts, Denise McHugh
Secretary:	John Drew
Treasurer:	Joan O'Sullivan
Publicity Officer:	Tracey Carrington, Kerry Adams
School Board Rep:	Tania Roberts
Committee:	Sr Theresa, Leoni Allwell, Liz Robinson, Dan Daly, Vicki McDonald, Jane Ashcroft

We thank these people for their contribution.

We encourage all parents and friends to come along with their ideas or just listen about what is happening at our school. The next meeting is Tuesday 19 May in the staff room. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend.