



McAuley Catholic College Newsletter

LOCKED BAG 521
GRAFTON NSW 2460

PHONE (02) 6643 1434
FAX (02) 6643 2137

mccgraf@lism.catholic.edu.au
www.mccgrifton.nsw.edu.au

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Dear Parents and all in the McAuley Community,

Evangelii Gaudium (*The Joy of the Gospel*). Another paragraph to ponder... *'I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them. Be renewed. I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her. I mean this is an invitation for everyone, and no one should think they are not invited. If you take the risk of giving yourself, heart and soul, to Christ, he will respond each and every time. He never disappoints. His arms are open. Don't ever stop returning to Christ with your whole heart.'* (para 4)'.

Staff Development Day - Student Free Day Monday 10th August. Please note that Monday 10th August will be a Staff Day and we will have Peter Miles, a Queensland teacher and well-known presenter coming to the school to work with us.

Volume 26 Issue 12

New Principal. You may have noticed in last week's Parish Bulletin that our Parish Priest Fr Jim Griffin announced that Mr Mark O'Farrell has been appointed to the position of Principal at McAuley Catholic College. Mr O'Farrell commences at the beginning of the 2016 school year. He is currently Director of Curriculum at Waverley College, Sydney.

Congratulations. It is with pleasure that we congratulate our student counsellor, Dr Jo Kelly, who has been awarded a PhD in Education in the field of Art Therapy.

Safe Partying. The P&F and the local Parent Assembly group have organised a parent evening to discuss this all-important issue. Guest speakers will be a local Police Officer and Ambulance Officer who will be able to share both legal and medical insights into the various aspects. This is happening on Tuesday 18th August at 7.00pm sharp. We will have some 'nibbles' and light refreshments starting at 6:30 pm. All parents, carers and interested people are welcome to attend.

Uniforms 2

Busy times. The Year 11s have been on Retreat this past week at Lennox Head. Thank you to all staff who gave up their family time to be with our students - Mrs Thomson, Mrs Warby, Mr Isaac Day, Mrs Robinson, Mr Bancroft, Mrs Lee and Mr Kealy Day. The Year 10 Reflection Day is next week and we are very fortunate to again welcome Mr Michael Fitzpatrick, a well-known Retreat Leader from Queensland, who will be with the Year 10s during the day.

Careers News 2

AIME 3

Assumption. Don't forget that next Saturday 15th August is the Feast of the Assumption. We will celebrate this Solemnity on Friday with a prayer service at school.

Sport 3

Internet disruption. We are undergoing a server upgrade next week. There will be no internet available Monday (a student free day) and limited availability over the following 2 to 3 days. Please be patient during this time.

Board Games 4

A paragraph from Steve Biddulph's book 'Raising Girls' ... In one section of his book, Steve talks about nurturing any spark of interest which your daughter may show. *'There is another reason why an activity or interest enriches or strengthens a girl. It provides her with an alternative reference group that may give her a much larger and more positive view of herself. Often girls are trapped with only one friendship group, - the accidental assemblage of same-age girls they meet at school. Apart from home (which also has its ups and downs), they have no other view of themselves. A girl can easily find her spirits sinking dangerously low because her peer group is too negative or destructive. But an interest group may be much more 'her kind of people'. Also, there may be mixed ages, with all the benefits this brings; interesting, feisty and eccentric older men or women, friends from other schools or suburbs who are much more her maturity level or interests. This gives her a different mirror to see herself in. There are astonishing ranges of interests from Latin dance to rock-climbing, quilting to scuba-diving. There are hundreds of ways to volunteer and be useful. Think outside the square of pre-packaged activities that girls are 'supposed' to do, to things that people in the adult world pursue with passion. Don't merely crowd her life with multiple classes or activities after school; instead, help her to search for just that kind of group where she feels really at home, and support her in letting that blossom.* From 'Raising Girls' by Steve Biddulph. *continued over the page*

Youth and Family Mass 4

Careers News

Uniforms. Thank you for your support with uniforms. Our footwear policy has not changed (heels have always been required for normal school shoes) but we have had to be flexible and adjust our implementation of policy for a short period of time. Those students whose parents need some time to purchase proper shoes have been listed on a register. I remind parents that *Vans*, *Converse*, *DCs* and similar fashion or 'surf' shoe alternatives – whether leather or not – have never been allowed and there have been numerous references to that in newsletters over recent years. Also, **nose-studs** and **other facial piercings** have never been allowed and there are no exceptions to this rule so I ask parents to help us avoid un-wanted conflict by not allowing these to be done. Similarly, our policy prohibits *extremes of hairstyles, including colours*.

Parish and College accounts. The second and final instalment for fees is now overdue. We continue to have problems with finances due to non-payment of fees. Sadly, we have to take the position that if no contact is made with the Parish Office and College Office to set up payment plans or explain financial hardship, then End-of-Year reports and references will not be issued and students will not be able to attend non-compulsory excursions and sports trip or represent the College. Please contact the Parish Office (6643 9017) or the College Office (6643 1434) if you are enduring short-term or long term financial hardship and arrange to talk to the Principal or the Parish Manager. It is always possible to arrange extra time to pay or exemption or partial exemption from fees but this can only be done if details are explained confidentially to the Principal or the Parish Manager.

Travelling to and from school in cars. Students who want to travel to or from school as a driver or as a passenger in a car driven by another student MUST have lodged a permission form with our office staff before they travel. A random decision to travel in other cars is not permitted. Access to student vehicles during the day is not permitted as a security measure. The revised *Permission to Drive to and from School* forms and policy are available from the Office.

Enrolments for 2016. Interviews are proceeding for places in Year 7 for 2016. If you know of Year 6 students at other schools who want to attend MCC, please ask parents to contact the College Office to get an enrolment pack.

Leon Walsh
Principal

2015 “Student for a Day”

Last week nine McAuley teachers participated in a professional development initiative called “Student for a Day”. The purpose of this professional development opportunity was firstly to experience first-hand what it is like to be a student at McAuley Catholic College, and secondly, to observe teaching pedagogy of other teachers throughout the day.

Congratulations go to all the teachers participating and thank you to all other teachers, and students, who also embraced this initiative. There were many positive outcomes resulting from “Student for a Day” which will now become opportunities for continued improved teaching and learning at McAuley Catholic College.

Leanne McLennan



KEY DATES

End July UAC pin mailed out

5th August Application

30 September On-time application close

30 October Applications close with higher charge

30 November Applications close with higher charge

16 December NSW HSC results released

17 December ACT Year 12 results released

17 December ATARs released

Year 10

A representative of Southern Cross University, Ms Ellen Fleeton, will be visiting McAuley College on Tuesday 11th August. Ellen will speak to Year 10 students about the University's Head - Start program. SCU Head-Start provides an opportunity for Year 11 and 12 students to gain direct entry and advanced standing into a variety of courses offered at Southern Cross University. Free from university fees, the program offers students the chance to gain a taste of university life, stimulate their interest in academic pursuits and enhance their educational performance and long term aspirations.

Then she will talk to interested **Year 12** students about the **Star Early Entry Scheme**. This is for students motivated to receive early entry based on their academic performance, particular skills, talents and passions.

During Careers Class in Year 11 this Term the students will be involved in an exciting initiative called My Future Finder. This program has been provided to MCC free from the University of New England and we thank them for their generosity.

My Future Finder helps students -

- understand their strengths and the careers that best match these strengths
- explore career opportunities
- understand their potential contribution to the workplace
- career planning leading to selecting appropriate education pathways
- identify career aspirations based on personal talent.

After students have completed My Future Finder activities parents will receive a copy of the student's report via email, a matching Parent's Guide and the opportunity to complete their own report.

To make My Future Finder successful parents / guardians are asked to ensure their child has their parent's / guardian's email address. Thank you in advance for ensuring this occurs.

Rod Paton

Careers Adviser

YEAR 8 SUBJECT SELECTIONS

Students in Year 8 will have a meeting regarding Subject Selections for 2016 in Week 5. They will be issued with a Stage 5 Curriculum Handbook as well as a selection form. Parents are invited to the College on **Tuesday 11th August for an Information Evening starting at 7pm in L4**. This is an informative evening to gain an understanding of Stage 5 curriculum requirements and an introduction to the Record of School Achievement (RoSA). Parents will then have an opportunity to discuss subject options with Leaders of Learning. Students are encouraged to come along on the evening to discuss options with their parents and teachers.

Kathy Warby

AIME 2015



Thursday, 30th July two of our Year 10 students attended the first of five AIME days to be conducted at Southern Cross University - Coffs Harbour this year. Tahnae Pacey and Jordan Monaghan were MCC's two representatives and were joined by students from Grafton and South Grafton High Schools.

AIME stands for **Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience** and was founded by Jack Manning-Bancroft in 2005, It's a dynamic educational program that is proven to support Indigenous students through High School and into University, employment or further Education. AIME sets out to give Indigenous students the skills, opportunities, belief and confidence to grow and succeed. One of the themes at AIME this year is "No shame at AIME." Students are encouraged to be proud of who they are and not to be afraid to show leadership. They are expected to set goals, have high expectations of themselves and to work hard to achieve their goals.

The AIME manager for our area is a young local man named David Duroux. He went through the AIME program as a student at Grafton High School and then worked his way up through the organisation as a mentor for other indigenous students, an assistant-manager and now works as an AIME manager.

Thanks to David and his team for a great day and to Rachel Johnson for organising our students.

Isaac Day

NRCC AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL YEAR 7-8

The team travelled to Byron Bay to compete in the Northern Rivers Catholic Colleges Competition. The boys were keen but did not have a lot of experience amongst the group.

The first game was against Trinity. At half time neither team had scored a goal in what was an even contest. McAuley went on to win 2-2 14 def Trinity 0-4 4.

The next game was against Woodlawn. They jumped us from the start but the boys worked hard to get back into the game and there was only 1 goal difference at halftime. However in the second half the experienced players in the Woodlawn team took control and we lost. Woodlawn 6-8 44 def MCC 2-4 16.

In the next game the boys set themselves to improve on their previous effort. We showed much better teamwork and had a comfortable win over Xavier College. MCC 8-2 50 def Ballina 1-1 7.

All teams [except Casino] had lost 1 game each and so the day was to be decided on percentage going into the final round. We needed to have a big win over Casino. The boys showed a lot of determination and won - MCC 14-5 89 def Casino 0-0 0. However we only just fell short and finished 2nd to Woodlawn. Best players on the day were Hamish Ellem, Jack Cooney, Lachlan Clark, Eli Fahey and Bill Bolte.

Damian Humphries

RUGBY LEAGUE 16'S TITAN'S SHIELD

Thursday, 30th July McAuley played in the Annual 16's Titan's Shield at McKittrick Park. With only 12 players prepared to put their body on the line, we were up against it from the start. A solid effort against Grafton High saw us go down 20-10. The boys then had to back up immediately against South Grafton High with a better performance the team had a loss 22-16. Great commitment was shown by all who played with bumps and bruises. Special mention to captain Cooper Woods, Bailey Sinclair, Lawson Bell, Oliver Scott and our rising star Kane Rose who won a pair of footy boots for his efforts!

Craig Nipperess Coach

Michael Burton Manager



REMINDER

Daily Examiner Netball Final

We have 2 teams competing in the Daily Examiner Netball Final on Thursday 13th August at Grafton Basketball Stadium.

The Year 7/8 Final starts at 4pm.

The Opens Final starts at 5pm.

The teams would love the support of our College community.

Student for a Day



Library News



HELP!!

I am going to start **Games** Thursday in the Library for Junior Students but I only



have cards, chess and UNO. Does anyone have any old board games they no longer use? It doesn't matter if they have some pieces missing. Donations can be left at the front office or brought directly to the Library. The Federal Member for Page, Mr Kevin Hogan, has kindly donated some terrific books to be given to students. For the next few weeks every student that borrows a book will get a raffle ticket. The raffle will be drawn in Book Week. The library currently has a display of the shortlisted novels for the **Children's Book Council** 'Book of the Year'. Behind the front desk is also a book box that has been assembled to tie in with the Year 8 English Iranian Film Unit. There are some great novels in the box that are often from the perspective of young people growing up and living in the Middle East.

Mark Bellamy

THE PARISH FAMILY OF THE CLARENCE VALLEY, WITH CATHOLIC YOUTH PROMOTE THE:

youth & family mass

**St. Mary's Catholic Church
Grafton**

August 23rd 2015 at 5pm

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED, CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE ON [02] 6643 9017

MASS TIMES

St. Mary's - Grafton
Saturday Vigil 5pm
Sunday Mass 8am

St. Patrick's - South Grafton
Saturday Vigil 5pm
Sunday Mass 9.30am

Cowper
Sunday
8am Mass

Copmanhurst
First and third Sunday of the month at 10am

St. James - Yamba
Saturday 5.30pm

St. John's - Iluka
Sunday 5pm

St. Mary's - Maclean
Sunday 8.30am

CANTEEN ROSTER

August

Mon 17 M. Creighton
Tue 18 J. Hatgis, L. Lougher
Wed 19 K. Barnett
Thu 20 B. Walker
Fri 21 A. Geary
Mon 24 J. Arnott
Tue 25 J. Hatgis, L. Ougher
Wed 26 **HELP NEEDED**
Thu 27 B. Walker
Fri 28 A. Geary
Mon 31 C. Scurrah, J. Arnott

September

Tue 1 J. Hatgis, L. Lougher
Wed 2 S. Parker
Thu 3 **HELP NEEDED**
Fri 4 K. Barnett, R. Mathews

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 10 Pupil Free Day

Tue 11th Year 12 Reference Applications available
Year 8 in to 9 Parent information sessions 7pm

Thu 13th Year 10 Reflection Day
Diocesan Athletics
Daily Examiner Netball Finals

Sat 15 Feast of the Assumption

Mon 17 Year 12 Wellbeing Day
Year 10 Literacy /Numeracy Test
Brainstorm Years 11 and 12 9.30am
Years 9 and 10 11.30am

Tue 18 2016 School Captain nominations close
P & F Meeting 5.30pm

Woolworths Earn & Learn 2015

Dear Parents,

This year we will be participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. Through this program we will be able to get new educational resources for our College. From Wednesday 15th July to Tuesday 8th September, we are collecting Woolworths Earn & Learn Stickers. You will get one Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker for every \$10 spent (excluding liquor, tobacco and gift cards). Place the Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker onto a Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheet and when it's complete, the Sticker Sheet can be dropped into the Collection Box here at the College or at Woolworths.

Happy Birthday

Lachlan Willis, Jacob Dawes, Taylor Hughes, Jackson Campbell, Jeffrey Richards, Savannah Allen, Bailey Lawrence, Rebekah Lougher, Annie Swadling, Hamish Ellem, Melissa Donohoe, Bonnie Bates, Saje Butler, Taylar McPherson, Henry White, Zoe Bennett, Lawson Bell, Emma Howell, Laura Moloney, Harry Gillett, Harrison Keene, Luke Arnott, Morgen Parking, Grace Young.