Dear Parents and all in the McAuley Community,

Evangelii Gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel). Another paragraph to ponder… ‘Challenges exist to be overcome! Let us be realists, but without losing our joy, our boldness and our hope-filled commitment. Let us not allow ourselves to be robbed of missionary vigour.’” (para 109).

Safe Party. The evening talk, organised by the P&F and Parent Assembly group was very informative and enlightening. Guest speakers included a Police Officer, Phil Benfield, an Ambulance Officer, Chris Webb and a Drug and Alcohol counsellor for Community Health, Ian Davis. A very useful website was mentioned if parents are thinking of - or are about to organise a party involving teenagers: (mynite.com.au). Sadly, only a few people attended, which has perplexed the organising group. There were several apologies and that’s expected, given there will always be clashes of dates and commitments for some. That aside, we can only conclude that the issue is of no or little concern to the many parents who did not attend, despite frequent calls in the media and through parent surveys to provide more help for parents and better communication around these difficult issues. Thank you to the P&F and the PA for this initiative and to the Hospitality class who prepared a very pleasant supper.

Social. This is on Tuesday 1st September and starts at 6.00 pm and finishes at 8.45 pm for students in Years 7, 8 and 9, with the rest finishing at 9.00 pm. This ‘staggered’ finish is necessary to minimise parking and traffic congestion out the front. Please ‘angle-park’ in both the car park ‘drop-off’ zone and the bus-bay at the front of the school. Again the P&F will operate a canteen to provide food and drinks, so if you can help, please contact the Office.

Thanks to Athletes’ Foot for donating $225 to the school as a result of an in-store promotion which they have run for some years. The money has been converted to vouchers and will be used for prizes for the end of the year.

Busy times. We celebrated the Solemnity of the Assumption last Friday with a prayer service in the Hall. The Year 12s had a very beneficial and successful ‘Wellbeing’ day to assist them with the stress of preparing for HSC exams. Many of our students turned out last Tuesday for the Vietnam Veterans’ March in Grafton to pay respect to the many ‘Vets’ who not only served our country, but then had to endure many hard years when they returned. Many students attended the CSYMA gathering ‘Shine’ on Thursday and Friday and it is very encouraging to see the number of students taking advantage of faith enrichment programs now on offer through Proclaim Lismore Students.

Calendar change. Please note the Family Mass for our Year 12 students in their last week will be on Tuesday 15th September at 5.30pm in St Mary’s Grafton – not on Monday as scheduled previously.

Youth and Family Mass this Sunday at St Mary’s Grafton at 5.00pm.

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. Please remember to address the issue of overdue accounts and contact us if you have problems with 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.

(Continued over page)
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

Careers News

Students and parents are reminded that a Universities Guide, the Australian Apprenticeships site, UAC Universities Admission Centre, QTAC Queensland Tertiary Admission Centre, NSW TAFE and The Australian Job Guide can be accessed from our school website by going to Community, Careers and clicking on the links.

KEY DATES
5th August UAC Application open
30 September On-time application close

A representative of Southern Cross University, Ms Ellen Fleeton, visited McAuley College, Tuesday 11th August. Ellen spoke 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 Ellen spoke to interested Year 12 students about the Star Early Entry Scheme. This is for students motivated to early entry based on their academic performance, particular skills, talents and passions.

Year 11 Careers students will be completing 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
- 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.

Wednesday, 19th August McAuley College had a visit from the University of New England's Liaison Officer, Zoe James a former pupil of our College. Zoe spoke to interested Year 12 students about early entry to UNE and answered any queries the students had on university life.

Rod Paton
Careers Adviser

Special awards presentation
Special awards were presented at our week 3 assembly in front of the school and a large group of parents and grandparents. These awards acknowledged students who achieved outstanding academic achievement and displayed outstanding effort in their first semester reports. Thank you to the families who were able to join us for this special presentation and congratulations to the students on their outstanding achievements.

Assumption Prayer Ceremony
The Feast of the Assumption was celebrated on Saturday 15th August. As a school we held a prayer service on Friday, 14th August. The students were very reverent and respectful as they entered the hall and throughout the prayer service. A highlight was listening to the hymn “Gentile Woman” and viewing the many images of Mary. The message for the students was to model Mary in their everyday life.

Brainstorm Production
Yr 11 & 12 attended a Brainstorm production called "Wired!” on Friday 15th August. This show addressed issues of mental health, anxiety, stress, relationships, resilience and other senior school issues. Yr 9 & 10 attended the show titled “The Hurting Game” which addressed bullying, exclusion and respect, empathy, cyber footprint, peer pressure and wellbeing. Both these shows complement and add to the pastoral programs offered at the College.

Yr 10 Reflection Day
All year 10 students participated in a fantastic Reflection day led by Mr Michael Fitzpatrick. Michael is a talented facilitator who was able to engage students in discussion and song around thought provoking issues. These reflection days are an important part of our Pastoral Care and RE programs as it gives the students an opportunity to explore issues relevant to them at this time in their lives particularly relationships, decision making and risk taking. Reflection days are preparation for entering senior school and for the 3 day retreats they participate in, in Yr 11 and Yr 12.

Yr 11 Leadership
Congratulations to the Yr 11 students who participated in their week 4 retreat. One aspect of the retreat is developing leadership in preparation for the roles the students take on in term 4 of this year as the senior students of the College. The selection of leaders is an important process in our school year and students take these prestigious positions to hold. Nominations for 2015 school captains have been accepted and speeches were given this week. Congratulations to the 16 candidates who have put themselves forward. All are worthy of the role of School or Vice Captain. The Captain positions will be announced in week 7, then House Captain nominations will open as the next part of the process.

McAuley Day
On the 4th of September the College community will be celebrating McAuley Day. This is our annual Feast Day where we acknowledge our history and celebrate who we are through liturgy, fund raising, and house challenges. The Sisters of Mercy are invited to join in our McAuley Day activities and all funds raised are donated to Mercy Works.

"Mercy Works supports the local and overseas relief and development activities that are part of the vision and mission of the Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Kate Thomson
On Tuesday, afternoon the College participated in the annual Vietnam Veterans March. We had a large number of students involved and the College Captains, Sarah Harre and David Solomon, laid a wreath on behalf of the College community. The veterans are always grateful to see young people participate and they presented a book to the College library as thanks.

Mark Bellamy

NRC AFL Year 9-10
Our Year 9-10 boys tried hard all day at the NRCC carnival. They won 1 game and lost 2 in the rounds and then in the playoffs the boys saved their best football to completely outplay their opponents, Trinity.

In the first match against Ballina inaccuracy cost the team a possible win as both teams were evenly matched. Ballina eventually winning 3-3 21 to 1-6 12. The second game was against Trinity and was a struggle even though we dominated possession and had the better of the play. The boys got the win 3-6 24 to 2-0 12. The final round game was against Woodlawn and the boys struggled against a much more experienced side losing 8-5 53 to 0-0 0.

In our playoff match we were up against Trinity again and having already defeated them earlier in the day, we went into this game with a degree of confidence. The round games proved valuable for improving our teamwork and the boys won easily 6-3 39 to 1-0 6. Best players on the day were Aaron Ashby, Lawson Bell, Lachlan Goodall, Daniel Norton and Nathan Eddy.

Nikita Robinson

DIOCESAN ATHLETICS CARNIVAL
Thursday, 13 August forty five students travelled to Coffs Harbour for the Annual Diocesan Athletics carnival. All students represented the school with pride and achieved some great results.

Congratulations to the following people. Aaron Ashby 1st in U15 boys 800m, James Bertalli 1st in AWD Senior boys Discus, Shot Put and 2nd in AWD Senior 100m, Shinni Broderick 1st in U14 girls 1500m and 2nd in 800m, Mitchell Christiansen 1st in AWD Senior boys 100m, 200m, 800m and 2nd in AWD Senior Discus and Shot Put, Kooper Culling 1st in U12 boys 800m and 2nd in 1500m, High Jump and 3rd in 200m and 400m, Sarah Harre 1st in Opens girls High Jump and 2nd in Discus and 4th in Long Jump, Adam Kelly 2nd in U14 boys Discus, Dylan Newton 1st in U15 boys High Jump, Peter Redwood 3rd in U15 boys High Jump, Marc Stillhard 1st in AWD Junior boys 800m, 3rd in AWD Junior Discus and 3rd in AWD Junior Long Jump, Breanna Tory 2nd U13 girls Shot Put. A special mention goes to Sarah Harre who broke the Opens Girls High Jump record with 1.56m. Dylan Newton who broke a personal best to win the U15 boys High Jump. Kooper Culling who came runner up Age Champion. Mitchell Christiansen who was the AWD Senior Boys Age Champion. I would like to thank all students who went on the day as well as the staff, Mr Nipperess, Mr Humphries and Mrs Day, for such a wonderful experience.

James Hand

Congratulations to Sam Young on being selected in the Australian under 16 School Boys Hockey Team. This is a well-deserved achievement for a dedicated and focussed player. Sam is also our College under 16 Hockey Captain and a role model to junior students.

Matt Lobsey
**Library News**

### Book Week

The theme for Book Week is “Books Light Up Our World” and next week we have a lot of activities planned with prizes and lots of House points on offer for all those who enter. What are the staff reading? We have posters in the library with 27 staff members and the books they are reading at present. Hints to the answers will be given out each day. Poster Competition: Design a poster that promotes Book Week. Writing Competition: In 100 words explain why “Books Light Up Our World”.

The Grand Finale will be on Friday 28th of August when students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character. There will be a grand parade at lunchtime.

_Mark Bellamy_

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### Happy Birthday

Tahnee Mason, Daniel Smith, Riley Bender, Jesse Day, Keiarna Hicks, William Bolte, Thomas Smith, Cassandra Elward, Darcee Osborne, Caitlin Cooney, Isaiah Durrington, Ebba McCosker, Molly Furlan, Bernadette White, Hayden Baran, Ryley Cropper.

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### Ignite Conference 2015: “One”

**24 - 27 September 2015**  
Mueller Performing Arts Centre, Rothwell (Redcliffe, Brisbane)

The Ignite Conference is the largest Catholic event of its kind in Australia for young people - adults, teenagers and children. The conference includes live bands and awesome speakers, with streams and workshops in areas such leadership, worship, creative arts, mission, culture and prayer!

*Full information online at www.igniteconference.com.au*

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### CANTEEN ROSTER

#### August
- **Mon 24**: J. Arnott
- **Tue 25**: J. Hatgis, L. Lougher
- **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
- **Mon 7**: M. Creighton
- **Tue 8**: J. Hatgis, L. Lougher
- **Wed 9**: HELP NEEDED
- **Thu 10**: B. Walker
- **Fri 11**: M. Ross

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Mon 24**: Science and Engineering Challenge  
  Creative Arts night  
  HSC art works due
- **Mon24/Fri28**: Year 11 Work placement - Metals and PI
- **Tue 25**: Announce School Captains for 2016  
  Year 8 Medieval Experience
- **Wed 26**: 2016 House Captain Nominations Open
- **Thu 27**: Diocesan Netball  
  HSC IT Wood Marking  
  HSC Drama Marking

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### McAuley Bags

For Sale at the College Office -  
Our own environmentally friendly College bag - great for carrying extra sports clothes, shoes, swimming gear, library books etc.....and just $2 each!

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### 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

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

August 23rd 2015 at 5pm