



College Newsletter



McCarthy Catholic College
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WESTERN SYDNEY P-TECH PARTNERSHIP

MCCARTHY CATHOLIC COLLEGE

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19th December 2018



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and friends of the McCarthy Community

This is my final newsletter message to the McCarthy learning community for 2018.

In reflecting on the year, we have achieved an incredible amount as a community. Together we have improved our commitment to learning through the exciting implementation of the **Student Learning Performance** grade (SLP) which has been a great strategy to enable our students to set goals for their overall learning through the five components. Teachers discuss the learning with students using this frame which has allowed very deep learning conversations to occur, as well as the opportunity to set goals for the next semester of learning as they move forward. These goals need to allow all students to grow as learners and be challenged to undertake robust learning tasks in the future. The SLP grades are released for students and parents every five weeks and are very helpful to students in guiding them to the next level of challenge and growth.

In 2018 we have enjoyed the **Mackillop Learning Centre** (MLC) as a centre of contemporary learning for all students Year 7-12. I am very grateful and appreciative of the staff who have clearly demonstrated their passion for teaching with a focus on 21st Century Learning skills: communication, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking. Developing these skills will ensure that McCarthy students will be able to have strong pathways for future employability and career pathways. As we commence 2019 we will have two new spaces opened to commence the great year of learning: the Junior and Senior Inquiry Hubs. We are very excited about the new learning opportunities that will present for our students, in particular the Project Based Learning sessions in Year 7 and 8.

We farewell many staff leaving McCarthy at the end of this year and wish them well as they retire or continue on at other schools. God bless and farewell to all the following staff leaving:

Hayley Bassett
Craig Beacroft
Brayden Hall
Andrew Heath
Ben Hunt
Norman Hunter
Leah Martin
Patricia Murnane
Paul Rochfort
Evalda Wilson

May the spirit of Christ fill your hearts as we await the birth of Jesus during this time of Advent.

Thank you for your support in 2018 and best wishes for a beautiful break during the school holidays summer break!
I look forward to seeing you in 2019 when we return.

God Bless

Mrs Tania Cairns
Principal Leader





FROM THE COLLEGE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Dear McCarthy Parents, Guardians and community,

I hope this newsletter finds your family safe and well.

McCarthy is a place of learning and we have high expectations of ourselves and of one another. The learning happens everywhere for our students and staff, in and outside of our classrooms. This term we have welcomed our new Year 7 2019 students and their families to our college at an information night and also at a fabulous daytime orientation. Mrs Petrovski led us with care and expertise, with many of our teachers and students volunteering their time to welcome our new families at the start of the day and then welcoming our students during sample lessons in various KLA subject experiences. There was so much energy and excitement. I loved watching our current Year 7 and 8 McCarthy student representatives care for our new students and witness so many students from different feeder schools beginning new friendships with open hearts. At the end of the day it was also lovely to watch our new Year 7 2019 students tell their parents/family how much fun they'd had and how welcome McCarthy made them feel.

We've also celebrated our Year 12 formal at Penrith Panthers this term. Everyone had a beautiful night of celebration and we are so proud of our graduating class of 2018. Our Year 10 formal was held last week and was also a beautiful night of celebrating friendships and the positive connections our students have to McCarthy. A huge thank you to our parents for your support of your child at our school and congratulations for the young adult your child has grown into. We also acknowledge the generosity of our teaching staff whose talents, commitment and care shown at these formals to add so many extra bits of formality and fun to the night. A very special mention to Mrs Peta Weber who led the Year 12 formal event, and to Mrs Marian Samuel who is leading the Year 10 formal.

In the past weeks we have been finalising the 2019 student diary with the book publisher. During 2018, we have worked with students, parents and staff to negotiate changes to the uniform jewellery requirements. You may have noticed that your child was directed to overwrite in their diary, earlier in the year. We plan to have the final copy of the diary uniform pages sent out to you on our Skoolbag app before the year ends so we are all clear on the College expectations. If your child has been discussing piercings with you, here is a section of our 2019 diary so you are able to discern what will be a good decision that is in keeping with our enrolment agreement.

Jewellery Years 7 - 12

Ear: Two pairs of silver, gold, clear plastic stud/sleeper or hoop earrings. Jewel/coloured stones are permitted. Ear studs should be no bigger than 4mm in diameter. ● Ear sleepers or hoops should not exceed the diameter of a 5 cent piece.

Other Piercings: No other visible facial piercings are allowed and are not to be worn during any school based activities or school day, excursions, retreats, sport representation/activities/carnivals, mufti days etc.

Keeping a hole open will not be acceptable as an excuse. This means that clear studs are not to be worn in nose piercings as these are visible.

- No band-aids are to be used to cover piercings.
- One gold or silver chain may be worn.
- Necklaces with a crucifix or religious symbol attached are allowed.

Failure to follow these procedures will result in student withdrawal from classes to address the issue.

It is expected that

- The full correct uniform is worn each day.
- The blazer will be worn as the outside garment during terms 2 and 3 and all formal occasions. The sports jacket is only worn on sports days with the sport uniform only.
- T-shirts/undershirts of any colour are NOT to be visible under and/or below the blouse or shirt but are encouraged to keep students warm in cooler weather.
- Only the college hat is to be worn and is encouraged as part of our Sunsafe Policy.
- All students are encouraged to wear sunscreen.
- Excessive makeup is not acceptable and makeup should be a 'natural' look.
- Nail polish must be natural in the look (clear or light pink or light brown is acceptable). Nails that are excessive in length may pose a safety risk or inhibit a student's ability to participate fully in the learning.

You may have heard your child speak of the McCarthy Levels and received Student Learning Performance Grades this year. It is a wonderful achievement that many of our students have reached Levels 5, 6 and 7 this year, with SLP grades consistently 22/25 or above and effort in their classroom learning or wider representation within and outside of our college community. Our staff are very excited to welcome a new management database system that Catholic Education Parramatta has been trialling in other schools as we believe many more students are capable of achieving Levels 5, 6, 7 and beyond next year. Currently, we have encouraged our students to collect all their achievements and submit these to their Year Leader of Learning to increase their award level. In 2019, our College will use the new system's capabilities to improve our ability to better track all the wonderful things our students do both in their academic learning and contribution to our College community. I've included another section of the 2019 diary so you are able to discuss and set goals with your child for next year.

Our staff are looking forward to your child sharing more of their success with you in 2019 and beyond. NB. No other school in our Diocese is using the system like we plan to and we are hoping this leads to increased pride, well-being and student connection at our College.

A. STUDENT LEARNING PERFORMANCE GRADE (SLP)

In weeks 5 and 10 of Terms 1 & 3, and week 5 of Terms 2 & 4, students will receive a Student Learning Performance (SLP) grade report. Year 11 & 12 TTC students will receive the same number of SLP Reports per term but will be issued at different times. All teachers will be observing their students in the classroom under the 5 key focus areas below. Students will be given a mark out of 5 for each area and the total in each subject will be their SLP mark out of 25. Any student who achieves an average of 22 or above in this mark from all subjects will receive 8 Level Points as outlined in the McCarthy Levels information below.

Any student who achieves 12 or less will be involved in a learning conversation with their teacher and parents/guardians to discuss strategies to improve. The SLP Report will be handed out to students in Homeroom or during a Year Assembly. Students must take the report sheet home and a parent or guardian must sign the section at the bottom to signify receipt. Once the receipt has been sighted by the Homeroom teacher, the student is able to keep the SLP Report them in keeping track of their learning

Tools for Learning	Brings equipment such as books, iPad or laptop and PE uniform, has the appropriate attitude, arrives to class on time, lines up quietly, enters the classroom with equipment
Home Based Learning	Homework, flipped learning and assessments completed, notes handed in, incomplete classwork completed & may do extension work for improved learning
Works Cooperatively	Demonstrates respect, works in a team, listens to others, contributes, listens to other students' opinions
Works Independently	Listens to directions, focusses on tasks, responds to instructions, respects the learning of other students
Application to learning tasks and assessments	Completes set tasks to the best of the student's ability, asks questions for clarity, aims to improve their learning & uses feedback to improve learning

5 = All of the time; 4 = Only missed once or twice; 3 = Generally shows this; 2 = Every now and then; & 1 = Never

B. McCarthy Levels

Level	Opportunities
Level 7 (Gold)	I can show evidence of outstanding learning behaviours and my positive contribution to the College community is also at an outstanding level. (60+ Points)
Level 6 (Silver)	I can show evidence of substantial learning behaviours and my positive contribution to the College community is also at a substantial level. (40 to 59 Points)
Level 5 (Bronze)	I can show evidence of good learning behaviours and my positive contribution to the College community is also good. (20 to 39 Points)
Level 4 Starting Point	I can show evidence of satisfactory learning behaviours and my positive contribution to the College community is also satisfactory. (-19 to 19 Points)
Level 3	I can show evidence of some satisfactory learning behaviours and my positive contribution to the College community happens inconsistently. (- 20 to -39 Points)
Level 2	I need support to show evidence of satisfactory learning behaviours and my positive contribution to the College community is minimal and inconsistent. (- 40 to -59 Points)
Level 1	I need a high level of support to show evidence of satisfactory learning behaviours and my positive contribution to the College community is rare and inconsistent. (- 60 Points)
Level 0	* Continued Level 1 behaviours leads to serious questions about my future education at McCarthy Catholic College

Pts	Ways to achieve Level Points	Pts	Ways to achieve Level Points
1 to 3	General Merit	3 to 5	Student Leadership/Mentor (Per Term)
1	Cooperative Learning	5	Student Leadership Team
1	Improved Learning	5	Class Captain
1	Excellent Assessment work	3	Bus Leader
3	Extra-Curricular activity eg. In school or out of school	3	Reader/Writer
3	community service (eg. Assembly, Mass, Liturgy, Open Day etc), Social Justice, music, debating, student leadership.	3	Peer Support
3	Sustained class learning	3	In School Tutor
3	Supporting the wellbeing of others	3	Other
1 to 3	Significant improvement in learning		
3	Other		

Lastly and most importantly, it has been a big year for your child and all of us at McCarthy this year. We have so much to be proud and grateful for. Each of us, walk with Jesus and try to build a Kingdom of God by loving one another and forgiving our brothers and sisters in Christ when relationships have been broken and need to be healed. In this season of Advent I thought it was timely to share some of my Holy Lands Pilgrimage again with each of you.

As you are probably aware, I was very fortunate to travel on a Holy Lands Pilgrimage to Jordan, Israel and Italy a few months ago. I visited Bethlehem, the City of David and stood in the Shepherd's Field. I imagined how scared the shepherds must have been at the appearance of angels on that first Christmas night. "When they had seen him, they *spread the word* concerning what had been told to them about this child, and all who heard it were *amazed* at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, *glorifying and praising God* for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told" (Lk 2:8-16).

Our pilgrim group visited the Church of Nativity built over the stable where Jesus was born. We went underground into the Grotto of the Holy Manger. I touched the silver star in the floor that marks the spot where Christ was born and had difficulty thinking that this was the stable under an inn so many thousands of years ago. It felt so surreal then and now I feel awe that I actually experienced all of the places we hear about in the Gospel stories of the Bible.



The Church of Nativity, built over the Inn and stables where Christ was born in Bethlehem, Palestine, Israel.

After a 3 ½ hour queue we went down these stairs underneath the Church of Nativity.



Touching the silver star, in the Church of Nativity, where Christ was born.

Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests" (Luke 2: 11-14).

May your Christmas holidays be safe, joyful and peaceful and I pray that you continue to receive the light God has given to us in Jesus. Share your love, grace and kindness with everyone, your family, neighbours and strangers and see you back at McCarthy in 2019.

God Bless,
Mrs Peta Sparkes
Assistant Principal



FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL TRADE TRAINING CENTRE

During Week 8 we conducted our 2019 Orientation Program welcoming over 90 students from thirteen different high schools in the local area. These students will eagerly begin the new year focused on taking the next step in their educational journey, with employment in their chosen vocational field whilst completing the HSC as the main driver.

It was great getting to know these students and congratulations to those who achieved new qualifications in First Aid and Workplace Health and Safety (Whitecard). We would like to extend a thankyou to our training providers ReViva First Aid and Trans-Plant Training for delivering each of the respective courses with such professionalism.

Our Year 12 students have just completed their three week VET/industry placement block and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our host employers and SBAT employers for taking the time to accommodate our students to assist with mentoring them through this important process.

As always if you have contact with anyone who may be able to assist our students in gaining employment as a School Based Apprentice or Trainee, please contact the TTC office directly on 4728 8129; where our Leader of Learning - Industry and Workplace, Mr Tim Summers will be able to assist you further.

We wish all our students and families a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to working with you all in 2019.

Mr John Wills
Assistant Principal
Trade Training Centre



Year 11 2019 Orientation Day



McCarthy Catholic
Trade Training Centre



Year 12 Formal



16th November 2018





*Year 10
Formal*



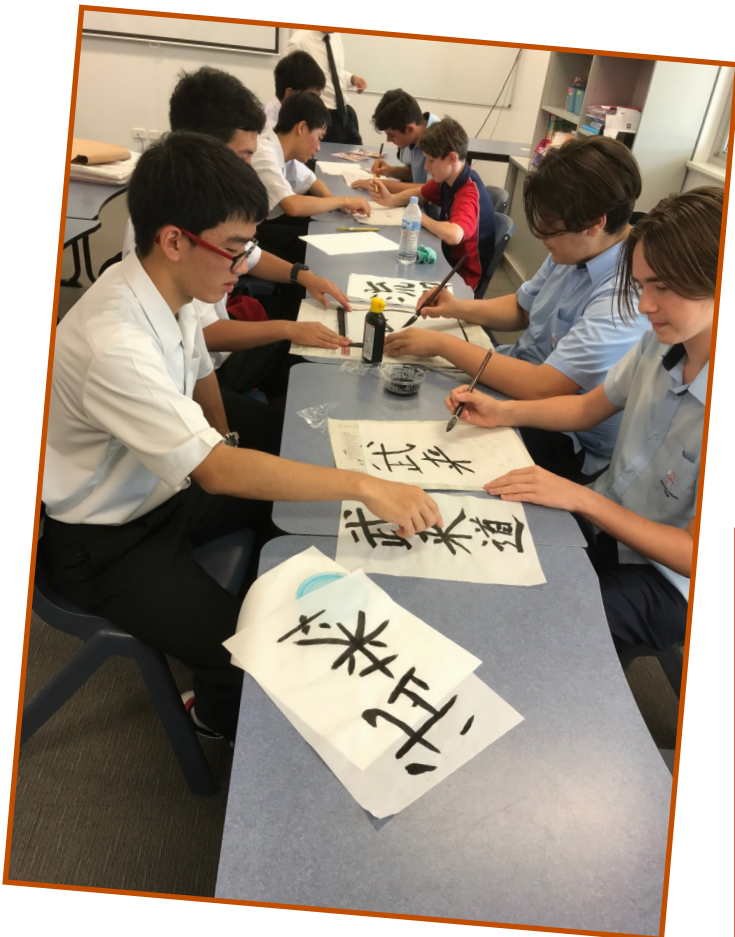
10th December 2018



JAPANESE STUDENTS VISIT TO McCARTHY...

During Week 9, The McCarthy community welcomed 48 students from Miyakonojo High School located on the southern island of Japan called Fukuoka. Students from Year 7 to 9 first taught our guests how to play OzTag, Bullrush and challenged them in mini-soccer matches before going inside to learn about traditional Japanese activities. Some McCarthy students mastered the Kendama (cup & ball game), while others took up Shodō (Calligraphy) and Origami (paper folding). Many thanks to Mr Cuneo, Ms Cunningham, Mr Duval, Ms Brookfield and Mr McGinnis who helped facilitate this wonderful learning experience.

Mr Lee Sullivan
Japanese Teacher



SEMESTER TWO AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received an award at the Semester Two Awards Presentation last week:

YEAR 7:

Zavier	Button
Grace	Caruana
Serenity	Clinch-Phillips
Espri	Footman
Byron	Gillon
Melissa	Giugovaz
Jessica	Hall
Shay	Kennedy
Sonny	Lucas
Aleks	Maksimovic
Nicola	Manning
Brooke	Morgan
Chloe	O'Hara
Alexis	Pepper
Zachary	Price
Luke	Sammut
Shreya	Singh
Cooper	Stafford
Zac	Stevens
Mia	Urquhart
Lexy-Lee	Wheeler
Josephine	Yu
Sebastian	Zinghini

YEAR 8:

Emily	Attard
Olivia	Auddino
Harrison	Bolton
William	Burrell
Chayne	Davis-Vassallo
Tanisha	Dutt
Broc	Geronimi
Lauren	Haly
Melita	Haramis
Ryan	Hope
Tristan	Isaia
Torrance	McLean
Stephanie	Moore
Samantha	Rowe
Olivia	Whitehouse
Danielle	Yates

YEAR 9:

Isaac	Bartolo
Lucrecia	Carter
Corey	Doyle
Kiara	Duffy
Samantha	Durik
Isabelle	Fogg
Madeleine	Haley
Brooke	Hine
Caitlin	Hume
Lachlan	Moore
Emily	Norris
Lily	Reid

YEAR 9:

Anneleise	Shapcott
Ebony	Sorini
Liam	Taylor
Jesse	Warner
Katelin	Watts

YEAR 10:

Hayden	Baker
Annabelle	Burrell
William	Cauz
Matthew	Clark
Joshua	Delanoue
Christopher	Dixon
Morgan	Douglass
Esha	Dutt
Ethan	Henfling
Thelma	Kwaramba
Jai	Lane
Mikayla	Morgan
Isabella	Newman
James	Paterson
Chloe	Posadas
Max	Prendergast
Marc	Spokes
Siobhan	Stevens
Sharna'e	Tanti

YEAR 11:

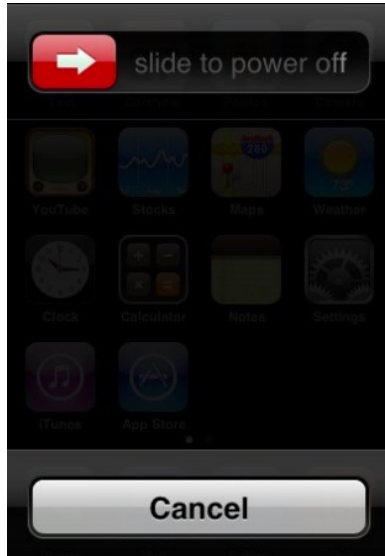
Raquel	Bugeja
Declan	Cashman-Jones
Justin	Cooper
Gabrielle	Gregory
Siosi	Kaufusi
Lily	Meyer-Gleaves
Kunashe	Mudzimiri
Caitlyn	O'Toole
Tiana	Pienkosz
Lachlan	Roet
Emerson	Rovere
Aidan	Rowe
Aidan	Rowinski
Ethan	Young

MAJOR AWARDS:

Lions Club	Andrew Prentice	Year 12
Long Tan ADF	Emily Smith	Year 12
Long Tan ADF	Zion Tauasa	Year 10
Stuart Ayres	Akshay Wakankar	Year 11

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Switch Off During The Holidays



As the end of the year is fast approaching I would like to encourage all McCarthy students to follow these 4 steps when using their device during the holiday period:

1. Backup your iPad or laptop to your iCloud account or to an external hard disk drive.
2. **Switch it off** during the holiday time and enjoy the time with family and friends.
3. A week before school starts for 2019 update your Operating System to the latest version and update all of your educational Apps.
4. Delete out of date emails on your school email account. Mark all as read so that you can start 2019 fresh.

Turning on Screen Time

From time to time it is important to track how often we are accessing certain Apps and when and ensuring we are not distracted by non educational or age inappropriate Apps on our iPad or iPhone. The Screen Time feature on our iDevices can help our students, parents and teachers ensure our devices can support the teaching and learning at McCarthy Catholic College.

I would like to thank Juli Clover from Macrumors for providing the McCarthy Community with a detailed description of how to use the Screen Time feature on our iDevices.

Accessing Screen Time

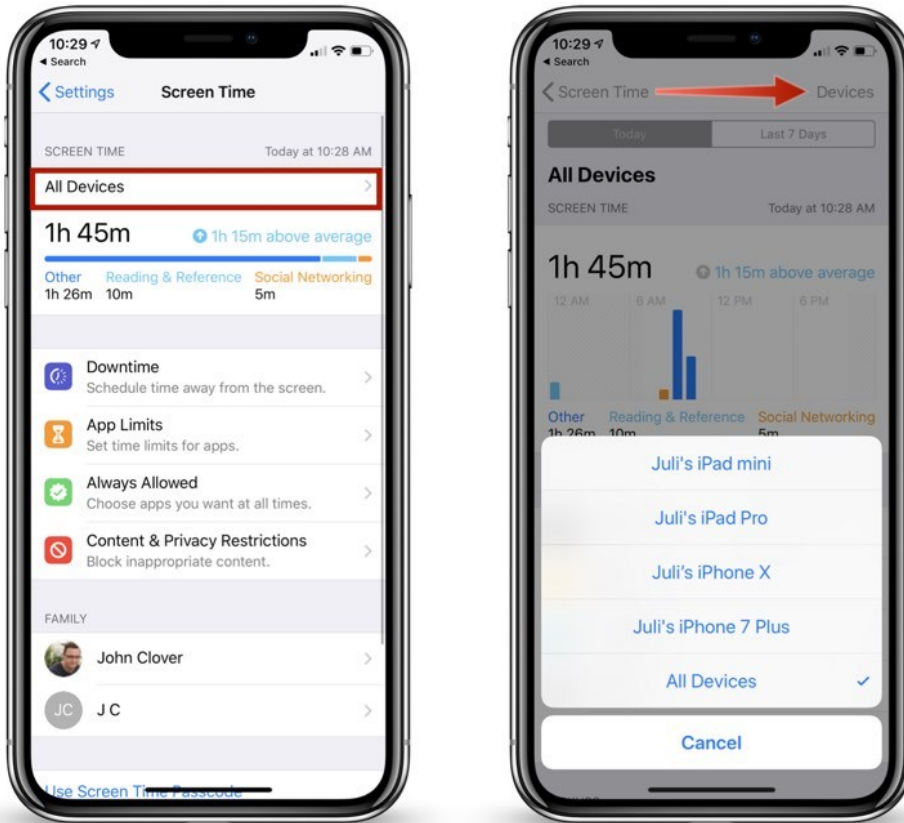
There's no dedicated app for Screen Time, so it might not be immediately obvious how it's accessed when you first install iOS 12. All Screen Time features are actually available in the Settings app.



1. Open up the Settings app.
2. Scroll down to the "Screen Time" section that's grouped with Notifications, Sounds, and Do Not Disturb.
3. Tap on "Screen Time" to see your usage statistics.

Screen Time Syncing

Screen Time statistics are collected from all iOS devices running iOS 12 where you're logged in with your iCloud account. That means it will aggregate data from all iPhones and iPads that you use during the course of a day.



You can view your data across all devices or on a per device basis. To view other devices, tap on the "All Devices" label on the main Screen Time screen and then choose "Devices" from the upper right hand corner.

Info Available in Screen Time

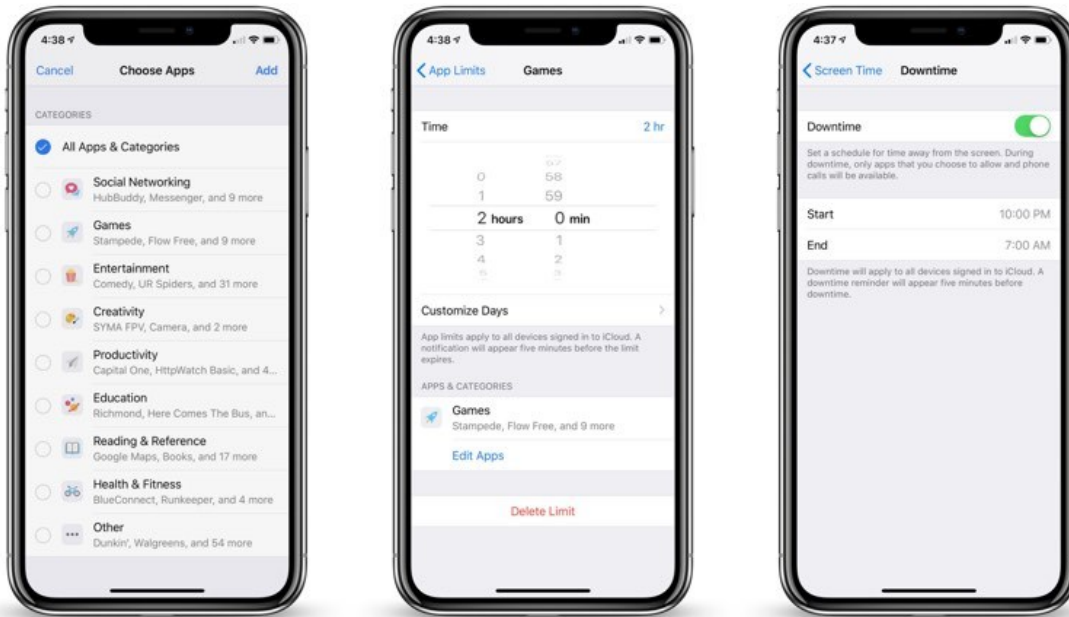
When you open up Screen Time, a chart is displayed with information on your last 24 hours of iPhone usage, organised by each individual app or which app category you've used the most, such as Productivity, Games, Creativity, or Messages.



If you tap on that chart, you can see even more information from either the last 24 hours or the last 7 days, including your longest usage setting, the number of times you picked up your device during the day, and how many notifications you got, along with details on which apps are sending you the most notifications.

Other Screen Time Features

In the Screen Time section, you can set scheduled Downtime for yourself to restrict yourself (or a child) from using apps outside of those that have been allowed with App Limits, you can set specific time limits on app categories like social networking or games, and you can access Content & Privacy Restrictions, useful if you're managing a child's device.



If you use Family Sharing with a spouse, friend, or child, and you're the family manager, you'll also see family members' names listed under "Family" and will be able to see and control their app usage.

Disabling Screen Time

If you don't want to use Screen Time, you can turn it off in the Settings app.



1. Open the Settings app.
2. Tap "Screen Time."
3. Scroll down to "Turn Off Screen Time" and tap it.

Turning off Screen Time on your device will delete all app, website, and notification history. You can re-enable Screen Time at any time, but it does not save data nor does it begin collecting data until enabled.

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the following students for receiving PDSSSC Blues Awards in recognition of their sporting achievements in 2018:

Sarah Blair
Joshua Car
Blake Frankham
Chloe Kericopolas
Ryan Koenig
Zion Tauasa
Connor Richardson



Congratulations to **Sarah Blair** who was awarded the 2018 Paul O'Brien Medal for the Most Outstanding Sporting Performance



Congratulations to the following students for receiving McCarthy Blues Awards in recognition of their sporting achievements in 2018:

Sarah Blair (OzTag)
 Janaya Bent (Rugby League)
 Angus Bolton (Swimming)
 Joshua Car (Motor Racing)
 Vincent D'Ermilio (Football)
 Blake Frankham (Speedboat Racing)
 Cooper Halfpenny (Football)
 Chloe Kericopolas (Judo)
 Ryan Koenig (Judo)
 Elissa Lee (Athletics)
 Torrance McLean (Cross Country)
 Connor Richardson (Polocrosse)
 Samantha Rowe (Dance)
 Zion Tauasa (Rugby League)
 Mia Vanooostwaard (Cheerleading)
 Ella Wickenden (Cheerleading)
 Jai Wynbergen-Titoko (Rugby League)
 Mr Ben Hunt (Football)
 Mr John McKnight (Rugby League)
 Mr Brendan Luchetti (Endurance Sports)



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

DECEMBER	
Wednesday 19th	Parent Teacher Interviews: Years 7-11
JANUARY	
Monday 28th	Public Holiday
Tuesday 29th	Staff Development Day - PUPIL FREE DAY
Wednesday 30th	Year 7, 11 and 12 students return to school (including new students in Year 8-10)
Thursday 31st	ALL Students back to school: Year 7 - 12 (Main college and TTC)
FEBRUARY	
Friday 1st	ID Card Photo Day
Tuesday 12th	Year 7 Vaccinations
MARCH	
Friday 8th	College Swimming Carnival

Japanese students visiting McCarthy Catholic College



HOST A JAPANESE STUDENT!

Payment to Host Families: **\$440**

- * One Student per Homestay
- * For **8 nights** from the 15th to the 23rd of March.
- * Students aged 15 to 17 yrs.
- * Host Families with younger children are very welcome!!
- * The students can travel to and from school with your child.
- * 24/7 Support in English and Japanese just a phone call away
- * The students all speak basic English



Japanese students are a pleasure to host and it's a great opportunity for your family to experience another culture and make an international friend.

Please contact: Nathan Evans

Call or Text "**MCC**" and
your **NAME & EMAIL** to:
0414 702 402

Email:
nathan@thegsi.com.au

