

PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

- The children started the year with their Maths Interviews (MAIs) and the results were sent out to parents. Our Kinder children also completed a Best Start Interview. All these assessments give our teachers valuable data that they use to teach our children at their point of need.
- We welcomed new staff in 2015 : Mr Toomey as our new Principal, Jacqui Fletcher as Religious Education Coordinator, Clare McNally as year 1 teacher and Numeracy Coordinator, Jade Conwell as year 4 teacher, Renee Rigny as year 5 teacher and Natalie Introna as the school secretary.
- The School / Parish relationship was strengthened again with the Sacramental program for Confirmation, Reconciliation and Eucharist. We had several of our teachers volunteering their classrooms and time to assist with the program.
- We continued to celebrate Mass with the Parish every Wednesday and Thursday, as well as special feast days.
- The children in years 3-6 participate in Reconciliation and the whole school attends Adoration each term. During Lent we join our Parish Priests in The Stations of the Cross and in October we pray the Rosary.
- It is important to note that the staff continue their spiritual journey through weekly staff prayer times and their Spirituality Day with Robyn Gallagher.
- Our Religious Education Coordinator, Ms. Jacqui Fletcher, has prepared beautiful liturgies and provided numerous opportunities to develop and deepen our children's faith relationship. She is still encouraging our parents to take advantage of forming their own parent prayer group and participating in parent spirituality days.
- Jacqui has made Scriptural story telling boxes to use across the school, particularly in the infants, to immerse the children in the Gospel readings in a way that invites them to manipulate characters and settings that provide them with a better understanding of the Gospel message.
- We also shared with the parish the 50 year Church anniversary, celebrated by Bishop Peter Comensolli with a small group of children doing a moving liturgical movement.
- There were many opportunities to engage our parents in the school community by: Parent Information night, reading education sessions, Parent teacher interviews, Masses, sport days, St. Patrick's feast day, wellbeing week, Around the World day, assemblies, school Trivia Night and the annual Dinner Dance.
- We had new Interactive projectors installed in K and Year 1 classes and later in the year we were able to install them in year 2, 3, and 4. We purchased 30 iPads and accessories for our stage 3 children and our teachers undertook Professional Development around the use of these in the classroom.
- Staff have been working hard on a new PD program to assist with mental health and social and emotional well-being. This culminated in our wellbeing week. Meditation Monday, Thankful Tuesday, Wellbeing Wednesday, Thoughtful Thursday and Fantastic Friday with a Picnic lunch at Elizabeth Ross Park with all our families.
- We undertook a few big repair and building jobs which saw the school finally have one dedicated sport shed, instead of having sports equipment stored all over the school, the construction of a new shade area to the primary playground after the last one was ripped to shreds in the storms, the new roof on the primary side, light and painting in the thoroughfares on the infants campus and blinds installed in the LARC.

- During term 3 we had Tier One, non-curriculum compliance audit that included areas such as WHS, Child Protection and Safety, Attendance and Risk Assessments. We had ten people over two days checking our school and proudly I can say we have come through with flying colours.
- The school Face Book is up and happening. This seems to be another form of communication with parents that is highly appreciated with notes, reminders and lots of photos from excursions, etc
- Mrs Suzi Morris, our wonderful music teacher who goes above and beyond her duty had the Choir singing at the Presbyterian Aged Care home and created a pen pal program with the residents. They also sang at the Preschool across the road from school and our Year 2 children performed at Erina Fair as part of the junkyard orchestra. They were fantastic and won the school \$3333.33. Mrs Morris is planning to purchase some new music equipment.
- Kinder Orientation went well. The children were perfect and their parents were pretty good too! We had two sessions with the parents, one for school information and the other for school scenarios that children or parents find themselves in. This was a great opportunity for the new parents to get to know one another. Kindergarten classes have about 22 -23 children in each class.
- The Infants Playground was planned to be redesigned over the school holidays but the weather wasn't good and put them behind. It's still happening ASAP.
- Lots of sporting opportunities were provided to the children, including, Year 1 and 2 annual swimming program, years 3 -6 Surf Fun Days, gala days, Athletics carnival, Swimming carnival and cross country. In term 3 we had Sports in school which concentrated on Gymnastics.
- The school concert was Monday 14th December at St. Eddy's Hall and even though it wasn't a dance concert, the children had a great time and all the families appreciated the Christmas themed singing performance.
- The school experienced a change in Principals at the beginning of term 3 but this didn't impact on the everyday running of the school. 2015 was another great year and we look forward to 2016 being even better with our new Principal, Mrs Cheryl Walsh.

P&F President's report 2015

The P&F of St Patrick's has a proud history of having a positive, active and effective role in the way our school, provides a high standard of education for all our children.

We do this by giving support to a wide range of activities and events that our school undertakes. I personally believe that everything the P&F is involved in is to benefit the children – our children. We were pleased to be involved in many events in 2015 which included hosting two school discos, Pancake Tuesday, St Patrick's Day sausage sizzle, St Patrick's Day Trivia night, Mothers and Father's Day stalls, World Teachers Appreciation Day, Kindergarten orientation and the annual Dinner Dance.

The P&F also manages the daily running of the canteen. In 2015 we enjoyed hosting a "Green" themed day for St Patrick's Day, Easter recess deal, 2 sausage sizzles for our athletics carnival, Hot Dog day as well as providing a weekly service to the children.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the family members who help run our school canteen and volunteer for other duties throughout the year. Without parental involvement we would not be able to host many of the events that we do. A special mention to Adrienne Prazauskas who worked most Fridays in the canteen to ensure the primary children could have a lunch order.

There are many other mums and dads who regularly answer my call for help and to them I thank you. I would also like to acknowledge the work of Annabel Cockerton, Ange Stitt and Patti Cox who form the executive committee. Always ready to pitch in and help and ensure the kids have fun.

The P&F could not function properly without a strong, respectful and friendly relationship with every staff member at St Patrick's. We appreciate all that you do for our children and will continue to work with you and support you. We single out Michelle Perry for leading our school for the most part of 2015. Thank you for your leadership. We appreciate all that you did for our school community.

To all families (new and old), we strongly encourage you to be part of the 2016 P&F and connect with our school. We have 4 meetings a year and it is a great opportunity to hear first-hand what is happening in our school.

We welcome Mrs. Cheryl Walsh, our new Principal, to our school in 2016 and look forward to a productive year ahead.

We are blessed to belong to such a great community – a community we create by working together.

Michelle Cormack
President

Canteen 2015

The canteens of St Patricks continue to be run by volunteers. In 2015 we acknowledge and thank all of the mums, dads, grandparents and siblings who worked in our canteens to ensure that they opened on a weekly basis. We thank our year 6 students of 2015 for continuing the tradition of assisting with counter sales at recess and lunch. Without our volunteers we have no canteen.

We also recognise the efforts of the following people for their weekly contribution to our school canteens - Rostering - Adrienne Prazauskas Stocktake and ordering - Michelle Cormack and Patti Cox Accounts - Annabel Cockerton

In previous years money was held in trust by the canteen for the completion of the "Garden of Tranquility". In March 2015 the garden was completed and opened to be enjoyed by the students. The canteen was proud to donate \$13,000 towards the project which provides the children with a quiet, tranquil green space on the primary campus.

We did find it necessary to raise the prices of many items in 2015. It had been many years since prices had been reviewed. It must be noted however that our prices remain in line or in some cases cheaper than many schools on the central coast. When setting prices, we take in to consideration the cost of goods, GST and what we, as mums and dads, are willing to pay.

New lines in 2015 included the return of slushies, which have proved very popular with our primary children. New items on the lunch menu included chicken wraps, burgers and toasted sandwiches which are all made fresh in the primary campus. Fresh bakery items including lean beef pies, sausages rolls, finger buns and muffins are delivered fresh every Friday and are a great menu choice.

We enjoyed providing the children with a green themed canteen (all items green) for St Patricks Day, Easter Recess deal in term 1, athletics carnival meal deal (so good we did it twice!) and Hot Dog Day during Wellbeing week.

Our major challenge, as always, is recruiting volunteers. Without volunteers we cannot open, which was the case in some instances this year. We continually see how popular the canteen is (our weekly sales show us!) and how valuable it is to our children - it really does enhance their maths skills and their confidence to make their own decision about their purchase. We hope to continue in 2016 but it solely depends on volunteer availability. It would be such a shame to see the canteen close on a permanent basis but it may be something we have to consider if our volunteer numbers do not increase.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the efforts of Adrienne Prazauskas and Renee Heaney who were instrumental in the setup of the canteen and the way it operates today. These mums will finish their association with St. Patrick's at the end of 2016 but without them the canteen service we have today would not exist. Thank you girls.

Profit & Loss Statement for the Year Ended 31 December 2015

Net Income from Core Activities

Canteen Sales Income	44,999	
less Canteen Purchases	<u>(33,591)</u>	11,408
Mothers & Fathers Day Fundraising Income	4,600	
less Mothers & Fathers Day Expenses	<u>(4,139)</u>	461
Trivia Night Fundraising Income	1,957	
less Trivia Night Expenses	<u>(119)</u>	1,838
P & F Levies Received		25,723
Interest Income		360
Total Income Received		<u>39,791</u>

Operating Payments Made

Sports Uniforms Purchases	(1,492)	
Coin Counter Purchase	(395)	
Audit Fees	(400)	
Staff Gifts - Retirement	(150)	
World Teacher Day Lunch	(178)	
Easter Egg Prizes	(350)	
P & F Meeting Expenses	(141)	
Disco DJ Expenses	<u>(500)</u>	(3,606)
P & F TRADING SURPLUS MADE		<u>36,185</u>
less Donation - St Patricks School (20/03/15)		(13,000)
NET OPERATING PROFIT		<u>23,185</u>

This is represented by:

<u>Closing Bank Balances - 31/12/15</u>		
P & F Tuck Shop Acct - CBA	17,181	
P & F Cheque Acct - CBA	<u>36,972</u>	54,153
less <u>Opening Bank Balances - 01/01/15</u>		
P & F Tuck Shop Acct - CBA	(17,938)	
P & F Cheque Acct - CBA	<u>(13,030)</u>	(30,968)