



**St Patrick's Catholic Primary School  
P&F Association**

**Minutes for P&F Meeting – Term 4, 2015**  
**Thursday, 5 November 2015**

**Meeting opened: 6.35pm in the infant's library**

**Record of Attendances** – Belynda Vassallo, Katie Talbot, Rachael Payle, Adrienne Prazauskas, Annabel Cockerton, Marcus Hams, Michelle Cormack, Michelle Perry, Fiona Bolton, Father Tadeusz

**Apologies** – Ange Stitt, Patti Cox, Jacqui Fletcher

*Please note that there were not enough parents in attendance to form a quorum, therefore we are unable to vote on any issues tonight.*

**Opening Prayer – Slide show** – photographs/song prepared by Jacqui Fletcher. Thank you Jacqui!

**General Business**

**Confirmation and acceptance of previous minutes** – adjustment required to attendances then accepted Annabel Cockerton, 2<sup>nd</sup> Katie Talbot

**Incoming/Outgoing correspondence**

- letter from Community Audit Services Inc. outlining a \$250 donation back to the P&F for the auditing of our books from 2012, 2013, 2014

**Infants Playground**

- At the beginning of the year Paul Toomey flagged the need to update the infant's playground. Last year, numerous trees were removed from the playground (as occurred in most schools due to a tragic accident where a young girl was killed by a falling branch in her school playground). With the removal of these trees our infant's playground lost shade and screening from the Central Coast Highway.
- Our playground has not been updated in many years and is looking tired and outdated.
- In Term 3, 2015 the P&F voted unanimously to pay for the upgrading of the infants playground. The CSO recommends that P&F's fund school projects which benefit the school community as opposed to spending small amounts on various day to day school needs.

**Special Guest Speaker**

**Sally Harrison, Early Learning Education Officer from the Catholic Schools Office (CSO)**

- Sally has been involved in the design and development of the new playground.
- Early learning is no longer considered up to 6 years of age but now includes children to 12 years.
- Design was presented. The new playground will assist children with social and emotional skills and allow them to do make-believe play, constructive play and physical play. Design includes raised sand pit, car race track, shop fronts, raised stage for children to perform their own "show".
- At this stage, builders hope to commence work in the Christmas holidays and be ready for Term 1, 2016. (Weather permitting). We could then have an official opening and Family Celebration.

- Some ideas presented could also be incorporated into the Tranquility Garden on the primary side e.g. wheelbarrows, ½ wine barrels to include pebbles etc. to allow children to play act.

#### Parish Report – Father Tadeusz

- 2016 Men Alive conference to be held on the 22 – 24 October. Father encourages all men in the school community to consider attending. More details at a later stage (nb – Dinner Dance will need to change dates next year to accommodate this conference.)
- Parish Christmas Carols to be held Saturday 12 December. Suggestion for School Choir to participate.
- Year 3 Children preparing for the sacrament of First Eucharist on the weekend of 21 – 22 November
- Family Mass will be held Sunday 29 November, last one for the year.
- Christmas Eve Mass will be held at St Edwards at 6pm. Children encouraged to join in the nativity play.

#### Principals report – Michelle Perry

- See written report attached

#### Treasurers report – Annabel Cockerton

**Canteen Balance as of 4/11/2015 -**

**\$13,684.63**

No outstanding invoices – want to have all invoices paid by Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December and books to Auditor prior to Term 1 2016.

Canteen income down as Canteen has not been opened on both side every Wednesday and Friday.

**P & F Balance as of 4/11/2015 -**

**\$35,108.90**

Still to pay half for sports uniforms \$764 – invoice came in higher than quoted – Patti to follow up.

Received a cheque from Community Audit for \$250 as a donation.

Full financial year report to be completed in December for final newsletter of the year.

#### Canteen – Michelle Cormack

- Constant struggle to find volunteers. Committee meeting needed for action plan for next year. – **ACTION: Michelle C to organize.**
- Adrienne unable to work in canteen next year due to work commitments. Will continue to do the rostering. Thanks Adrienne.

#### Term 1, 2016 P&F Events

- Shrove Tuesday is 9 February. At this stage the school swimming carnival is scheduled for this date. Will action a plan when school returns next year.
- Welcome Back disco – confirm dates of Little Paddies and will then book. Prefer to hold in February if possible. Would also like to look at having a staff member present. In the case of any problems with unsocial behavior, the staff member could deal with the instance first hand.
- **Annual General Meeting is booked for Thursday 10 March at 7.00pm in the LARC. Term 1 meeting will then follow.**

#### Other business

- Year 6 sport shirts. A matter for Michelle Perry and Year 6 parents. Adrienne to speak with Sandy Wilson to organize samples. Suggestion that the current year 6 shirt be used again – it looks good, is different to the sport shirt (and is not white!)

**Meeting closed 8.40pm.**

**ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL PRINCIPAL REPORT TO PARENTS AND FRIENDS**  
**ASSOCIATION TERM 4 2015**

**RELIGIOUS ASPECT**

- At the end of last term our Year 2 children celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. The ceremonies were beautiful, the children were lovely and the Bishop was wonderful. It was a credit to the school that several teachers took on Sacramental classes, assisted in the Sacrament and attended both ceremonies. Thank you to our little Choir who sung at both ceremonies.
- We celebrated our annual Father's Day Mass in Week 8 of last term. Another wonderful turn out of families for breakfast, Mass and Assembly. A big thank you to all the staff for organising and cooking breakfast.
- This term the children have continued celebrating Mass with the parish on Wednesday and Thursdays.
- We have celebrated our Marion Liturgy where the children prayed the Rosary in English, Italian and Polish.
- Last Monday we celebrated Mass for All Souls Day. I had several of the parishioners compliment me on the beautiful behaviour of the children.
- We have started preparing the Year 3 children for Holy Communion. The Sacrament will be celebrated on the 15<sup>th</sup> November.
- The children in years 3-6 will be attending Reconciliation next week and Adoration in week 9.
- Graduation Mass is 10<sup>th</sup> December and the final Mass for the whole school this year is the last day of term, 16<sup>th</sup> December.

**EDUCATION**

Schools are very busy places and since the last P& F meeting there's been a lot happening

- School Reports will be sent home at the end of week 10 – 11<sup>th</sup> December.
- There have been a couple of excursions, Year 1 went to Henry Kendall Cottage last Wednesday, Kinder went to the Reptile Park on the 16<sup>th</sup> October and Year 5 are about to go on their three day Leadership camp at Challenge Ranch.
- Choir singing at the Presbyterian Aged Care and pen pal program.
- At the end of last term 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.
- Around the World Day was again a hit at the end of last term. It's always a great day where the children showcase their learning and celebrate with dressing up in eating a variety of different food from the country they studied.
- This term the staff have been exploring the new History Syllabus and have begun to write units of work for term 1 next year.

- Kinder Orientation went well. The children were perfect and their parents were pretty good too! We've 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 at this stage.
- Last Friday was Teachers Day and on behalf of the staff, I can't thank you enough. The superb lunch that our parents put on for us was so delicious, a few teachers even took a little of the left-overs home for dinner. The kind thought, words and gifts were lovely and it showed a great appreciation for the work they do. Again "Thank you" so very much.
- Mr Peter Hamill the Director of schools was here Tuesday and was very complimentary towards the staff and the great work they do. He had a good look around the school and chatted about some improvements we could do.
- The Infants Playground will be redesigned over the school holidays and we can't wait to see the finished product. Hopefully the weather will be good so they'll get it completed before the children come back to school.
- For the next two weeks, Year 1 and year 2 will be participating in their annual swimming program.
- Starting the week of the 16<sup>th</sup> November, years 3 -6 will be attending Surf Fun Days. Again we hope the weather improves so they all get to go.
- Our final assembly will be Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 9am, followed by our Thank You morning Tea for all our volunteers.
- The school concert is Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December at St. Eddy's Hall.
- The last day of school we have step up, where the children go to their new class and meet their new teacher for 2016. This happens at 10am, followed by recess and our final school Mass at 11.30am. The children are then free to go home.

Thank you for all your support of the school this year and in particular to myself as Acting Principal. It has been a privilege to work so closely with such an amazing bunch of people, especially the P & F exec team. You truly are amazing! We can't do it without you!

## P & F Financial Report - November 2015

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