

Minutes for Term 1 P&F Meeting  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**MEETING OPENED: 7:06pm**

**Opening Prayer:** All

**Record of Attendances:** John Malicki, Rachael Playle, Nicole Patrick, Angela Stitt, Michelle Perry, Cheryl Walsh, Patti Cox, Leena Han, Lisa Haynes, Annabel Cockerton

**Apologies:** Michelle Cormack, Julia Conroy

**Confirmation and acceptance of previous minutes:** Annabel Cormack, 2<sup>nd</sup> Angela Stitt

**Correspondence IN:** CommPow Flyer, Walking the Way Flyer

**Correspondence OUT:** NIL

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

**CommPow (Sam) – Please see attached flyer**

- Support school communities with fundraising and money saving opportunities for everyday essentials
- Negotiate discounts with large organisations and local businesses for parents/carers of schools
- Its free for schools to sign up
- 50% of the savings is returned to the school, 50% of the savings goes to the running of CommPow
- For example, CommPow has negotiated a 25% discount on energy bills
- The school can choose the categories; the more people who participate the larger the discount can be negotiated
- Parents can access the CommPow website and receive discounts. Discounts are available regardless of the number of people who take up the offer
- It was unanimously decided that we will register with CommPow to see what it can do for St Patrick's school community
- Details will be sent out in the next newsletter and home with students

**Walking the Way (Jo) – please see attached flyer**

- Jo from Catholic Mission Services Office provided us with an inspiring presentation on how the Walking the Way program will be rolled out to the Broken Bay Dioceses over the coming months
- Walking the Way is a four-step program to assist parents in the sacred task of accompanying their child in faith

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Please see attached

**P&F PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Please see attached

**Security of Primary Side:** A locking system is in scope for the remaining funds we are to receive from the CSO. However, due to recent events, this has become a more urgent

matter. Locks have been purchased and to be fitted ASAP. The security company will be conducting more on-site rounds at unpredictable times.

#### **P&F TREASURE'S REPORT:**

- All accounts are with the auditor
- We have passed audit but just pending sign off, this should arrive the week of the 13<sup>th</sup> March
- Our main focus for 2017 is paying off the remaining air-conditioning balance
- In addition to our fund raising, we are seeing an average banking of \$1500 per week from canteen

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

2017 Fundraising: to pay the balance of the new air-conditioning units:

#### **EASTER RAFFLE: TERM 1**

- After the success from last year, we will be inviting families to participate in this year's Easter Raffle
- Donations of Easter eggs, bunnies or non-edible Easter items will begin shortly, with a donation box available in each classroom
- Donations will be accepted until Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March
- Students will also bring home raffle tickets: 50c each, 5 for \$2.00, book of 10 for \$4.00
- Winners to be drawn on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April
- We will need parent/carer helpers on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April for 1 -2 hours to collate all the prizes. To volunteer please email Michelle at: [michellecormack@bigpond.com](mailto:michellecormack@bigpond.com)

#### **ST PATRICK'S COLOUR FUN RUN: TERM 2**

- To be held on Week 2, Term 2: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May at Hilton Moore Oval
- Students to run/walk with coloured powder to be thrown throughout the course
- The coloured powder we use is made from corn-starch and natural food dyes. It will wash out of your clothes. But to be extra safe, only wear what you're willing to get colourful.
- Students will be allowed to wear mufti, white t-shirts encouraged to display the colours
- Students raise money by sponsorship
- Sponsorship information to be sent home before the end of Term 1

#### **MOTHER'S DAY STALL: TERM 2**

- Thank you to Michelle, Ange and Annabel who were super organised and have placed orders for our mother's day stall gifts
- The stall will take place Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May, with a Mother's Day Mass to be held Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May
- Prices have increased to \$6 due to the increase in cost for the gifts
- We will be needing parent/carer helpers on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May for 1 – 2 hours to assist with the stall. To volunteer please email Michelle at: [michellecormack@bigpond.com](mailto:michellecormack@bigpond.com)

### **SCHOOL DISCO: TERM 2**

- Another popular event with the kids
- A very big thank you to Emma Paulley Hughes who has offered to be our DJ
- As per previous disco's, there will be an infants and primary time slot
- To be held Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June in the school hall, primary side

### **TRIVIA NIGHT: TERM 3**

- Another successful event from 2016 that we have decided to make this an annual event rather than bi-annual
- To be held on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August, in the school hall primary side
- More information to be announced closer to the date

### **SCHOOL ADVISORY GROUP 2017**

- Please see the Principal's report for further information
- Any questions please email Cheryl Walsh or Michelle Perry: [speg@dbb.org.au](mailto:speg@dbb.org.au)

### **CENTRAL COAST HEALTH – SCHOOL CANTEEN UPDATE**

- Ange Stitt attended a meeting for school canteens on the Central Coast
- St Patrick's is not great in terms of meeting the healthy canteen guidelines due to the fact we are open 1.5 days per week
- Over the next 3 years a star rating system will be implemented and the traffic light system will be phased out
- This means 75% of items we sell in our canteens must be over 3.5 stars, with 25% of items allowed to be under 3.5 stars
- We will need to review our menus to ensure we comply with new regulations
- Unfortunately introducing fresh food will not make us money
- Any questions or suggestions on how we can improve our canteen star rating please email to Angela Stitt: [angeanddave97@hotmail.com](mailto:angeanddave97@hotmail.com)

### **SCOPE IT EDUCATION**

- Scope IT Education is a full-service solution for schools across Australia to have their students learn technology-based subjects.
- Year's 3 to 6 are currently enrolled in the Google research and learning skills program
- The school is currently funding this program
- Future courses for students may be at the cost to parents of around \$50.00 per student

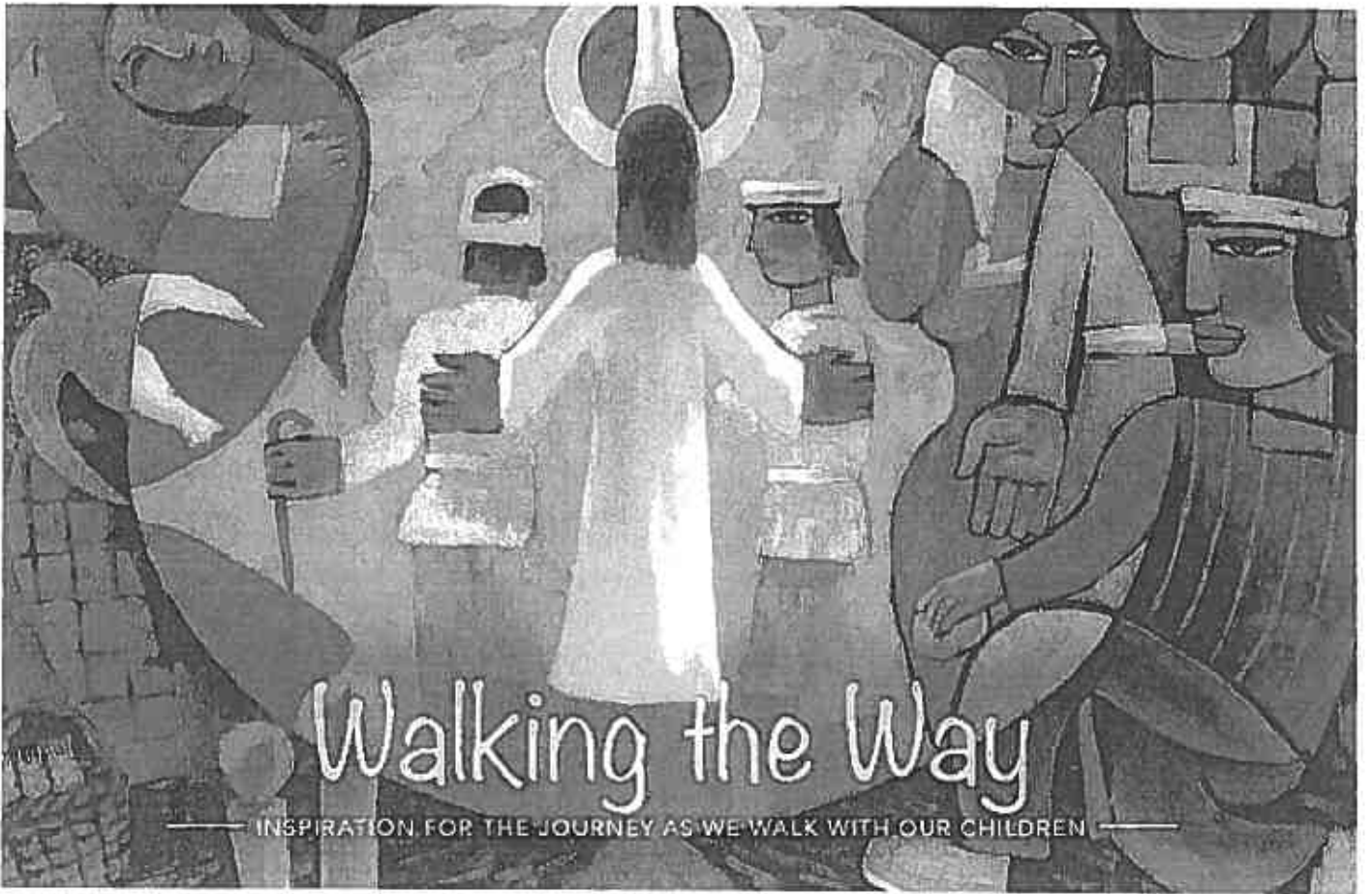
### **QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS**

- If you have a suggestion or feedback for the P&F please email: [speg@dbb.org.au](mailto:speg@dbb.org.au)

**P&F Executive Meeting: Term 2, Week 5 – date TBC**

**Next P&F Meeting: Term 2, Week 6 – date TBC**

**CLOSE: 8:25pm**



# Walking the Way

INSPIRATION FOR THE JOURNEY AS WE WALK WITH OUR CHILDREN

**Life is difficult.  
And it is also blessed and graced.**

Pope Francis speaks often about *accompanying* one another amidst all life's joys and struggles on the journey of faith.

To 'walk with' another is a precious and noble task.

This is especially true of parents as they walk with their children in life and faith.

In the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Broken Bay:

## ***Walking the Way***

is a four-step program  
to assist parents in the sacred task of  
accompanying their child in faith.

*Upon enrolment of their child, parents receive:*

**1. An attractive booklet *Walking the Way*:**  
a source of inspiration and practical ideas for  
walking with their child in their growth to spiritual maturity.

**2. A weekly eBulletin.**  
Designed to be read on a phone or tablet in just 30sec,  
it offers parents practical tips for taking a step in faith with  
their child, this week.

*Each year, parents are invited to:*

**3. An annual retreat.**

Invest one day of the year in an uplifting experience of  
nourishment for your own spiritual journey as a parent.  
Various options are offered.

**4. Local parent gatherings.**

Offered each term within the local school community, these  
sessions are designed to nourish parents' own spirituality as  
well as teach simple, effective spirituality tools to assist faith-  
sharing faith with one's child.

**When? How?**

*Walking the Way* will be rolled out during 2017 across Broken  
Bay Diocese, as schools are ready to participate.

Eventually every family who enrolls their child in a Catholic  
school of Broken Bay Diocese will be automatically enrolled  
in the *Walking the Way* parental accompaniment program.  
Information and invitations will be received via  
a weekly eBulletin.

Further info:

[www.dbb.cso/walking.com.au](http://www.dbb.cso/walking.com.au)

*"Let everyone admire how you care for one another,  
and how you encourage and accompany one another."  
(Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel 99)*

*- not live yet.*

## Canteen Report - Term 1, 2017

Ange and I reviewed our menu before the opening of the canteen in early February. We removed carbonated fruit juices (quench drinks) from the menu in line with many other school canteens on the central coast. This hasn't had too much of an impact on drink sales. Kids have swapped quench drinks for juice, milk and flavoured water. Some other menu items increased in price due to suppliers increasing their costs. Unfortunately we had to pass these on.

We continue to use Impulse Foods (local family based business at Wyong) as our food and drink supplier. Margaret and Kevin offer wonderful service and it is a pleasure to do business with them. Thompson's Pies (a Newcastle based bakery) continue to supply our bakery items, delivered fresh every Friday.

Lunch orders are down in our infants canteen but term 1 is generally slow as our kinder kids haven't cottoned on to Friday lunch orders yet! In previous years it grows term by term. Our primary canteen is receiving a good volume of lunch orders on a Friday with year 6 (our biggest grade) our best customers.

Ange has organised for one of the infants helpers to lend a hand in the primary canteen on a Friday between 11.30 and 12.30pm to help with making the wraps, sandwiches etc. This can be a busy time of day so the extra hands are appreciated.

The primary canteen renovation is on hold at the moment. Cheryl has more information on the time frame on this one.

One of the freezers in the infants canteen has a faulty seal. We have talked about replacing this freezer in the past but it will become a necessity this year.

Our year 6 students have been helping out in the canteen again this year. This term 6G are rostered on. 6B will have their turn next term. If you happen to work with any year 6 students, please remind them there is no eating at the counter when they are serving.

Ange will update everyone with the NSW healthy canteen guidelines. The current traffic light guidelines (green, amber, red) will be phased out and replaced with new rules over a three year period.

Our canteens are truly a team effort (even Miss Perry and Mrs Walsh have worked in the primary canteen this term). Thank you to everyone who pitches in to help out. It really is a great opportunity for our kids to manage their money and make their own purchases. In today's cashless society this is the one place you need cash to make a purchase!

## **P&F President's Report - Term 1, 2017**

### **Air conditioning**

We can be very proud of our involvement in the installation of air conditioning in our classrooms. This subject has been raised many, many times over the years. It was always an agenda item at our first P&F meeting every year and in previous years there were valid reasons why this project did not proceed.

Upon Cheryl's appointment last year air conditioning in our classrooms became a priority, one the P&F was 100% supportive of. In Term 3, 2016 we voted to fund air conditioners in all classrooms, beginning with the primary classrooms. The walk-a-thon which was held in October 2016 was a great success and kick started our fundraising for this project. The amount of money raised by this one event was a testament to how important this project was to the families of our school.

We thank Cheryl who ensured this project was completed over the school holidays. Whilst we still have an outstanding loan to repay (of approx. \$12,000) we were able to ensure that all classrooms on both campuses were completed at the same time. With a very hot February we are truly appreciative that all classrooms were completed and the difference this has made to our children and the staff is enormous.

The benefit of this project will continue for years to come and everyone at St. Pats can be congratulated in funding this project - a great community effort!

### **School disco**

Our welcome back disco was very well attended by students. The \$2 entry fee (less the DJ fee) raised \$500.00 for our Minnie Vinnies. This will be donated to Project Compassion. We had over 40 mums and dads help out on the evening. The canteen made a profit of just under \$200, majority of food stock was sold but we still have glow sticks left over which can be sold at the term 2 disco.

### **Pancake Tuesday**

Our annual pancake feast was a great success. We had a dozen mums and grandmas help out on the morning. We were inundated with donations which was wonderful. As a school community we all rally together to ensure our kids have a great time (my main reason for being a part of the P&F!) and we raised \$700 for Project Compassion.

### **Mother's Day stall gifts.**

The gifts for our mums day stall have been ordered and will arrive in the coming weeks. Ange, Annabel and I reviewed the catalogues and we have used the one supplier this year. The cost of the gifts to the children will increase to \$6 per gift this year to cover our costs.

Upcoming events this term include our Easter raffle - details to be published later next week.

## Principal's Report Term 1 2017

- Enrolment numbers are at 369, with 42 enrolled in Kindergarten.
- The electronic sign was installed just before Christmas and we have been utilising it and adding important information for the parish that Father Tadeusz has asked that we include. Thank you to the parish for their contribution towards the electronic sign.
- The P & F had agreed to fund the installation of Air-conditioning in the classrooms. The Primary side was completed first and then it was decided to install air-cons in the Infants Classrooms. Thank you to the P & F for agreeing to assist with covering the cost of this installation. With the funds from the walkathon last year there is still an outstanding amount of around \$12000. We are looking at a colour fun run early next term to assist with covering the cost of the infants classrooms.
- I have information about the cost of powder paint for the fun run and where we can get it.
- The CSO has given \$200 000 for some WHS items to be rectified. Some of the things that were completed with the money were –
  - The installation of the new PA System
  - New ceilings and fans in the Year 3 Classroom Block
  - New ceiling to the veranda of the Year 3 Classroom Block
  - The Colah repairs on the Primary side
  - Additional new deck to the Infants side to cover the uneven surface of the playground
  - Repairs to the pergola area on the Infants side
  - Adjustments to the hand rails on the Infants side
  - Changes to the Admin Building - an AP Office, Some painting in the Admin area, a door to the staffroom from the Admin area.
- We have also had new flooring installed in the Traffic Area of the Admin
- New furniture for the Foyer, Meeting Room, AP and Principal's Offices
- At the end of 2016 some new technology was purchased for the school – 36 new laptops, 40 ipads and 40 chrome books. These have been distributed to classrooms. It did cost the school nearly \$3000 to purchase covers for the ipads.
- I have engaged SCOPE IT to work with the Year 3 – 6 for 5 weeks on Google Tools and Applications. The school will cover the cost which is around \$5000 for this program. I would like to have SCOPE IT come back later in the year to start Creative Coding but this cost would have to be paid by the parents.
- Our Outside Radio Broadcast on 24/2 was a wonderful community experience and greatly supported. I would especially like to thank Father Tadeusz who joined in, all the families who joined us on the morning and the many staff members who came early to assist.
- We had a very successful Swimming Carnival for the Primary and Water Fun day for the Infants last week and came second in the Cluster Swimming. The Diocesan Carnival is on tonight.
- We have our Cross Country tomorrow Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March. We have a new course this year so we are hoping this will be as good as last years.
- We have our 2017 Enrolment information and school tours on 29th March
- We are celebrating Catholic Schools Week in Week 7, 13 – 17 March. We have a Formation Session for Parents called Walking the Way on 13/3 commencing at 9am in the Infants Library. A coffee Van on 13/3 from 8 – 8.45am and ST Patrick's Day Celebrations – Mass



9am, Open classrooms 10 – 10.30, BYO morning tea and activities at Elizabeth Park 11 – 12.30.

- We are at present having difficulties with parents and parking and dropping off and picking up their children, particularly on the Primary side. Lisa Nix, one of our mums, is happy to try to organise a kiss 'n drop on the Primary side and has sent in emails to this effect.
- This year we will hope to be working with Professor Mike Gaffney on Governance to establish a Parent Advisory Group

ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# EASTER EGG RAFFLE

Tickets 50c each, 5 for \$2.00, book of 10 for \$4.00

DRAWN: Wednesday 5th April

*Lots of prizes to be won!*

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All proceeds go to paying off our air  
conditioner loan

**Please donate an Easter Egg, Bunny or Easter Item to a  
box in your class room by the Friday 31st March!**





**CommPow**  
*Connect. Save. Fundraise.*

**SAVE AND FUNDRAISE**  
 WITH YOUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

**We connect school communities online, and empower them to save on everyday essentials – together.**

By bringing school communities together, we can negotiate significant savings through collective buying power. The best part? Aside from generating savings for members, a percentage of every dollar spent is reinvested straight back into your school.

**CONNECT**



School communities come together to demand savings on everyday essentials such as electricity, gas, and groceries.

**SAVE**



CommPow negotiates preferred rates with suppliers dedicated to supporting school communities.

**FUNDRAISE**



A percentage of every transaction goes straight back to your school, to reinvest in important initiatives.



The Jones Family

Monthly Family Budget  
**BEFORE** CommPow

**\$2,160**

Everyday essentials

**\$0**

Funds raised for school



Total annual saving of

**\$2,580**

Monthly Family Budget  
**AFTER** CommPow

**\$1,945**

Everyday essentials

**\$32**

Funds raised for school

Jones Street  
 Primary School



Jones Street Primary School

**250** members

**=\$96,000**

fundraised annually!

**COMMPOW BELIEVERS**

"CommPow is the perfect way to save money and give me peace of mind knowing that I'm contributing back to my daughter's school community." *School Parent, Mosman High School*

"As past President of the P&F, we all know how difficult and time consuming it is to fundraise in schools. CommPow is an ideal way for parents to contribute without putting in the man hours, while receiving personal benefits." *School Parent, Stella Maris College Manly*

"Being a parent of three teenagers, a large proportion of my income goes on daily essentials - food, petrol, school supplies, etc. Having the opportunity to register and join with a group who collectively decrease the amount spent on daily essentials is a no brainer."

*School Parent, Saint Augustine's College Brookvale*

**JOIN THE COMMPOW COMMUNITY**

**1**

**CONNECT**

Register today at [www.commpow.com](http://www.commpow.com) and spread the word throughout your community.

**2**

**SAVE**

Receive discounts on everyday family expenses like electricity, gas, groceries and restaurants.

**3**

**FUNDRAISE**

Raise important funds for your school, simply by paying for the items you need!

Contact us for more information at [hello@commpow.com](mailto:hello@commpow.com)  
 Or register your interest at [www.commpow.com](http://www.commpow.com)