

Holy Family School Merewether Beach

Minutes of Parents and Friends Meeting

August 28th 2017

Commenced: 9.05am

Attendance - Sue Porteus; Sue Thatcher; Liesel Allen; Caitlin Byrnes; Fleur Forbes; Chrissy Wasik; Kelly Cowper; Tracey Wall; Steven Allen

Apologies – Sidonie Coffey; Kristy Noonan; Lisa Gill; Sandy Mantach; Cath O’Sullivan; Mark Vella; Kieren Hazell; Melanie Renfrew; Kath Reilly; Kylie Burrett; Jackie Lind

Minutes from the previous meeting-

Accepted by Tracey Wall

Seconded by Caitlin Byrnes

Business arising from previous meeting-

Liesel presented quote for new playground preparation - \$3,000 and motioned for it to be accepted. Seconded by Tracey Wall and Caitlin Byrnes. Accepted by all.

Working bee during holidays – date to be decided.

P&F Conference – Liesel and Mel attending – request for funds for shared accommodation – motioned by Liesel – Accepted by all.

Plastic Police Partnership Program –Visit from Samantha Cross. All soft plastics will be collected by school, which will be turned into playground equipment or furniture. This can then be purchased by the school at a reduced cost. Sustainability Leadership Role for Stage 3 students to be involved. The program requires a parent co-ordinator – Steven Allen has volunteered to take this on.

Correspondence-

Roger O’Sullivan Family, School and Community Partnership Award – discussion about applying for this.

Principals Report-

Our school is a family among the communities of families we serve. We inspire excellence in learning. We nurture respectful, loving relationships. We actively live our faith in Jesus Christ.

Students:

Enrolment: 243

All students from K-6 participated in a Mission visit from Richard Cootes. He talked, sung and displayed information about Catholic Missions and raising funds for the upcoming Socktober fundraiser.

Ruby Vella performed in ASPIRE’s “The Hoarders Next Door”, in her first speaking role for ASPIRE. An excellent performance! Jeanette Chapman, our dance, drama and music specialist, did an amazing job, particularly with the vocal ensemble.

A number of Year 6 students attended the Science Gifted and Talented Day at St Columba's Adamstown.

A large number of students participated in the ICAS Maths and English tests.

All students K-6 participated in CoGAT testing. Some students who were absent have had the tests made up. All papers have been collated and will be sent to USA for marking. Results should return within a week of being sent. These will form part of our data gathering for identification of gifted students.

Holy Family Year 6 school leaders along with Madeline (Yr4/5), Luke and Hugo (Year 3), Year 4 girls Charlotte, Scarlett, Kayla, Sarah, Phoebe, Ava and Amalhi and Benji Rowe (Yr 3) and his father Bryan contributed to the 20th Annual Special Needs Mass at St Joseph's. Many families and staff attended to celebrate and embrace diversity within our communities.

Many Holy Family students attended the Parish Youth Mass at the Junction on the 13th August followed by fun outdoor games and morning tea.

All students, along with some staff, participated in the Book Parade on August 17th. The students looked amazing and truly brought their personalities to the fore in their wonderful costumes. Great work from Janet Carmichael, Tracey Newcombe and teachers for organising the event and for enabling the associated class activities. This event was also well supported by parents and community members. Book Fair was an enormous success, raising approx. \$800 for the school through the sale of books. Gabbi Sutherland from the CSO took photos and they are now on the CSO website.

Stage 1 classes experienced an Awabakal excursion on Tuesday 22nd August. The students had an excellent day with fine weather and comfortable temperatures.

Stage 2 experienced an excursion to Taronga Zoo on Wednesday 23rd August. The parent helpers were greatly appreciated.

Holy Family students had great fun at the disco. It was wonderful to see so many students attend to support our school community and the P&F. Thanks to the P&F, especially Kieran and Kristy for their planning and enthusiasm, and to all helpers who contributed to its success. Thanks also to Disco Kev!

Staff:

Stage 3 teachers Jane Dougherty & Joe Hamilton participated in a writing analysis workshop with Virginia Milliken from Teaching & Learning CSO. Writing, inclusive of spelling, is a whole school focus based on data collection. Analysis of student work, which has occurred from K-6, provides teachers with information regarding student performance, strengths and areas for improvement.

Joe and Sue attended an online NAPLAN training day at St Mary's Gateshead. The training involved how to set up and administer the tests. NAPLAN 2017 school readiness test will take place in week 9 – Monday 11th -13th September for Years 3 & 5. No results will be received. The tests are to provide staff and students with the opportunity to engage and become familiar with the assessment platform, gain insight into the administrative procedures and to provide valuable feedback on areas in which schools need additional support.

For the period of Sidonie's leave, Sue Porteus is Acting Principal, Bridie Stanger is Acting Assistant Principal and Bernadette Mitchell is Acting REC. Miss Abbie Corby is teaching Year 3.

Bridie attended the Assistant Principals' day at the CSO.

Chris Tanchevski and his wife Emma welcomed baby Elliot Jack into the world on 23rd August.

Kerrie Wallace (EST) will be returning to work in Week 4 next term.

Parents/ facilities/ resources

Holy Family have purchased 2 Smart TVs and a new projector (\$7469). These TVs will be used for Stage 3 classrooms and the new projector will replace the one in Year 1 (Carolyn Taylor's room). The projector from Year 4 (Chris Tanchevski's room) will be relocated to Year 1 /2 (Guilia Drinkwater's room).

20 sets of headphones have been ordered for use during the NAPLAN school readiness online testing in Week 9. Cost \$350.

Sue

Coming events:

Director's visit today at 1-2pm

Yr 6 Sports Day @ St Pius X (Wed)

Fathers' Day stall (Thurs)

Fathers' Day breakfast & Liturgy (Fri)

Science & Engineering Challenge Yr 6 (5th Sept)

Assembly Year 1/ 2 (6th Sept)

NAPLAN online Week 9

Treasurer's Report –

	Value	Comment
Current Funds at Hand	\$64, 906.76	As of 27/8/2017
Current Commitments		
• Playground Commitment	\$25,000.00	

BALANCE \$39,906.76

Uniform Committee –

Discussion about potential danger of cords around necks on hats. Further discussion about changing style of hat will be held over until next meeting for Uniform committee to be present.

Canteen Report –

Kath Reilly relinquishing her position as coordinator as end of 2017. Chrissy Wasik expressed an interest in being involved. Kath to contact her and discuss responsibilities of the role. Any other interest is keenly appreciated, as it is a role that has previously been shared.

Discussion about possible equipment updates (such as thermomix, blender, etc)

Discussion about creating ‘kitchen gardens’ in the planting tubs.

Discussion about using ‘insulating lunch bags’ instead of paper bags.

Fundraising Report –

Current strategies:

Father’s Day stall Thurs - 31st August

Photos with Dad at Father’s Day breakfast – 1st Sept

Grandparents Day – 22nd Sept

Election BBQ - 9th September

Movie Mum’s night at Tower Cinema- 3rd November

Year 6 mum’s farewell dinner -10th November

Disco – raised \$1923.63.

General Business –

Janet Carmichael emailed her thanks to all parents for supporting the Book Fair. Over \$800 raised.

Liesel raised issues with main toilets – no soap in dispensers; smells coming from the area; and disinfecting of all toilets after gastro bug. Sue P to follow up with cleaners.

Next meeting: 17th October, 7pm.

Meeting Closed: 10.30am