

Holy Family School Merewether Beach

## **Minutes of Parents and Friends Meeting**

**March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Commenced: 7.10pm**

**Attendance** - Sue Thatcher; Liesel Allen; Sidonie Coffey; Lisa Gill; Kristy Noonan; Jade Courtney; Mark Vella (phone)

**Apologies** – Rachelle McDonald; Kieren Hazell; Christine Wasik; Caitlin Byrnes

### **Minutes from the previous meeting-**

- Accepted by Lisa Gill
- Seconded by Kristy Noonan

### **Business arising from previous meeting-**

Liesel presented a Powerpoint presentation of the results of the parent survey. Some discussion. Further discussion will occur at coming meetings.

Jade Courtney was nominated by Liesel Allen to take on the **Beautification role**. Seconded by Sue Thatcher. All in favour. Thank you Jade.

Bathrooms revamp – Sidonie is funding the retiling and painting, which is planned for the school holidays. Painting working bee to be organized. Electrical switches have been changed. Plumbing quote for changing the tapware was very expensive, and the plumber could not see the value.

Paper towel dispensers for each classroom - Staff feel this is unnecessary and not a current priority.

### **Correspondence-**

2 x CDF statements for Treasurer.

### **Principal's Report –**

#### **Students:**

Total enrolments: **253**

Girls: 132

Boys: 121

Eldest: 173

Youngest: 173

- Two new families have joined the school...Welcome! Harrison Clack Kindergarten) and Gigi (Year 4) and Jaxson (Year 1/2) Brown.
- Kindergarten now almost 'weaned off' their Year 6 Buddies! It's great to see them navigating the playground with confidence, holding their own in the Canteen line, enjoying the different play spaces in the school and doing their Michael Buble' impressions on the microphone at morning assembly! They're a great bunch of kids!

- Alex Noonan has enjoyed wonderful success at Regional and Diocesan swimming carnivals, progressing to the mighty PSSA Swimming Championships at Homebush in the last week of term. Alex will be in the catholic/Polding team swimming against NSW Catholic Diocesan Teams, DET and Independent Schools....a fantastic achievement!
- Lucas Burton has been selected for Polding Golf.....Regan Jose for Polding Football selection Trials and Khiana Murphy for Polding Basketball Trials
- Deb Docherty and Clare Howlett accompanied Mini Vinnies Leaders and School Counsellors to a presentation by San Clemente students at Honeysuckle yesterday
- Enrolments for Kindergarten 2018 have opened and we've had keen interest shown by new families. I have already held a number of interviews....lovely new families.
- All students participated in the Holy Week Liturgy yesterday. We saw a beautiful drama presentation that captured the Holy Week story in a way kids could see and understand. Having our liturgies on a Tuesday means we have the advantage of the exceptional piano skills from Jeanette Chapman. The school Folk Group are doing a cracker of a job under the musical expertise of Joe Hamilton. Joe and Jeanette? A winning combination.
- Stage 1 kids had a fabulous excursion on the Historic Newcastle Tram. They loved the experience and learnt many new things about this historic and ever changing city. Parents went to a lot of trouble to dress the kids in period costume. The kids looked fantastic! Loved those mop caps and braces!
- Our first K-6 Merit Award Assembly was held last week. We were treated to the most beautiful piano playing from Alana O'Sullivan and Cecilia Vo, both in Year 6. They made our hearts sing! Such talented kids who have demonstrated that hard work.....and continuous practise brings amazing results! We were also treated to a drama production from our Student Leadership team. Their brief? A drama piece that reflected the theme for that day....National Say No to Bullying and Violence in Schools. Mighty impressive presentation.....they role played a number of scenarios, showed some very savvy drama tricks and ended up with a very powerful message to the kids.....that NO means NO!
- Mini Vinnies kids (all 64 members!) did a fabulous job running our St. Patrick's Day celebrations. They were very creative with the range of activities and the kids had a fun filled, green day!
- Sidonie and Clare accompanied School Leaders to the catholic Schools Week Mass at the Cathedral.

#### **Staff:**

- Early Stage 1 and Stage 1 teachers attended PD, 'Teach Reading Write'....cost to school? \$2,400 (Casual release)
- Early Learning Framework launch was a great success. Our school was showcased to academics from Newcastle University, Diocesan Principals, Early Stage 1/Stage 1 teachers from our Diocesan schools and Heads of Services from the CSO. Feedback has been so affirming of our kids, their welcoming manner, staff engagement and hospitality on the day. We were all very proud of our school!
- All Executive Staff (Sidonie/Bernadette/Joe....Sue was on LSL) attended a PD training course on NESA ( NSW Education Standards Authority ) and Professional Standards for Teachers. We will be supporting all our pre 2004 teachers in this journey of Maintenance at Proficient Level. The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers are a public statement of what constitutes teacher quality. They define the work of teachers and make explicit the elements of high-quality, effective teaching in 21<sup>st</sup> century schools that will improve educational outcomes for kids.
- Giulia Drinkwater on Long Service Leave last two weeks of school. Bridie Stanger on Long Service Leave last week of school

#### **Parents/Facilities/Resources:**

- The school has spent **\$29000** on **I.T resources for Kindergarten, Year 1,2 and 3.**

- Parent Workshops were run throughout Catholic Schools Week. Joe ran Number Strategies in Mathematics, Bernadette ran Blooms Taxonomy and Higher Order Thinking Skills, Janet ran I.T Information Skills, Rebekah ran STEM workshops and I ran Reading Strategies and a session on Resilience.
- Lovely gathering of Mothers for the HF Mums Welcome at Queens Wharf earlier this month. Kristy and Kieran did a great job organising the event. Special thanks to owners, Ben and Claire Dawson. Unfortunately Claire was unable to attend due to a long standing family commitment, however she made sure her staff looked after us all, so well. Perfect venue....beautiful afternoon....and a wonderful group of women to be around. Congratulations to Jackie Lind who won my Lucky Door Prize!
- Dad's Fridge to Fridge was a huge success! New friendships made, old ones rekindled and from what I hear, a great afternoon/night had by all. Well done to Steve Allan and his team of DOHF's who nailed it!
- School has purchased new tiles for the kid's toilets. The school will be paying Wayne Gill to lay the tiles over the next school holidays. Hopefully this will address the issue of odour.

#### Coming Events:

- Celebration of the Resurrection Liturgy, Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Hat Parade will be held on **Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April**.
- Pupil free Day for Term 1...**FRIDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL** All teaching staff will be attending a one day conference at NSW University on differentiating teaching content for gifted students.(We're catching a bus at 5.30 a.m.!!!!)
- Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held on **11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> April**.
- K-6 Merit award Assembly on **Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> April**
- Vietnamese Food Truck rolls into school on **Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> April** for a special 'last day of term' lunch. Parents most welcome to join us for lunch and stay on for the Assembly.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this great school.

Cheers, Sidonie. X

Handout tonight for Parents: ***Ability Study 'Selective Schools do more harm than good: Expert...Sydney Morning Herald***

#### Treasurer's Report –

Current Funds at Hand	\$46,624.25	As of 27/3/18
Unpresented Chq	\$ 7,500.00	Cadbury Easter Egg Drive
Unpaid Canteen Invoices	\$ 2,028.00	March invoices to pay on statement
IT Funds 2018	\$ 8,000.00	Promised to school
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>\$29,096.25</b>	

#### Uniform Committee –

N/A

#### Canteen Report –

Sub-committee meeting 1.30 Tues 10th April

Term 2 menu to be decided upon – this will be brought to an extra-ordinary P&F meeting for approval (TBA).

#### **1. General Report**

All reports from the canteen are great. We had a rough start to Term 1 nutting out any problems with service and volunteer duties. Thank you for all your patience and feedback it

has helped overcome these problems and things seem to be running much more smoothly now.

It's been lovely to hear so much positive feedback about the canteen, and I am pleased to present tally reports and financial reports reflecting this feedback.

## **2. March Canteen P&L and Tally Reports**

As you can see in the attached 'P&L Report', at the beginning of the year there was an outlay of costs to upgrade some equipment, in the current month and year to date the canteen is making a healthy profit. Chopping boards, mop, sharpening of knives has been purchased and completed.

Looking at the 'Comparison Tally Report' (please note these figures are from Qkr! sales only, they don't include cash sales), we can see the canteen usage has doubled since this time last year. No wonder volunteers have felt run off their feet, it seems to be a much busier canteen this year. Hopefully by looking at installing additional oven shelves the canteen will be able to keep up with the outstanding number of orders.

Another note to point out is the impressive amount of 'Trial Items' (indicated in blue font) that have sold so far this term (of course remembering these are Qkr! sales only). Bliss Balls selling more than Chips, way to go!

## **3. Debit Card Expenses**

In the process of obtaining new debit cards. Hopefully this will make it an easier job for Treasurer to cost and separate canteen and fundraising expenses.

## **4. Faulty Freezer Insurance Claim**

Last P&F meeting we discussed an insurance claim for the loss of stock from October 2017 and February 2018. Do you need any further information from me to proceed with this claim?

## **5. Canteen Committee Meeting**

The next Canteen Committee Meeting will be held at 1:30pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 in the OOSH room. Agenda items are:

- a. Acceptance of previous minutes
- b. Follow up of action items from previous minutes
- c. Term 2 Menu
- d. Canteen Committee Roles
- e. Fundraising through the canteen
- f. Other Discussions

Apologies for not being able to attend the P&F meeting tonight. If there are any items which require further discussion I am happy to phone into the meeting to answer any concerns regarding the canteen.

Thank you. Christine.

### **Fundraising Report –**

Fundraising Meeting about the trivia night – 18<sup>th</sup> May. Kristy motioned to have the event approved and to be granted up to \$1000 for expenses. Seconded by Lisa. **Motion carried.**

Easter egg drive – Thank you to all families who contributed to this. Profit of approx. \$5,800.

Easter Egg Hunt (\$1 per child- not for profit) will occur on 4<sup>th</sup> April.

Mothers Day Stall – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May; Wrapping Monday, 7<sup>th</sup>.

Movie night – The Incredibles 2 – June.

### **General Business –**

Wish list from staff via Kerry Wallace for Sports Shed & playground equipment. Kristy motioned that further funds from Easter eggs go towards this (along with the Classroom Sports kits approved at the previous meeting). Seconded by Sue Thatcher. **Motioned carried.**

Liesel introduced the idea of a School Year book. She surveyed parents and received 36- yes; undecided -11; no-9. Lisa suggested finding out from staff their interest, as this might be a class based activity. Sidonie to follow up with staff.

**Next meeting:** 9<sup>th</sup> May

6<sup>th</sup> June

**Meeting Closed: 9.05 pm**