



St John Fisher Parents and Friends Association

Term 4 Meeting 2020

Date: Tuesday 24 November 2020

Time: 7:30pm

Venue: Executive Team in office and Zoom online meeting

Present:

Barry Shanley, Honor McGill, Rhonda Clifford, Leanne Hazledon, Kate Hooke, Vanessa Turner, Christine Davidson, Irene Reid, Gary Webb, Kellie Smith

Apologies:

Isabelle Desquesnes

Welcome to Country:

Lead by Barry Shanley

Opening Prayer:

Lead by Vanessa Turner

Minutes from previous meeting:

Adopted by: Rhonda Clifford

Seconded by: Kate Hooke

Gary asked for an update on the uniform item discussed at the previous meeting. Barry confirmed that the girls can now wear the same shorts as the boys if they choose to.

Correspondence

Nil Received

Catholic School Parents Cluster Report

Vanessa provided an update on the Catholic School Parents Cluster:

- At the previous meeting a guest speaker from the Catholic Schools Officer advised they were currently determining their strategy and direction towards 2025.
- SJF is the recipient of a \$300 grant which will be spent on a garden at the school, to be commenced next year.
- Next meeting of the Catholic School Parents Cluster is 25/11/2020.

Social Committee Report:

There were no events in term 3 due to covid-19 restrictions on activities.

Kate presented some of the events being planned for 2021.

The Big Arvo which is usually held in February will be pushed out to later in the year, date to be confirmed.

Louise Miller currently prepares for and runs the Mother's Day and Father's Day stalls, it is her final year at SJF in 2021 and we need a volunteer(s) to shadow Louise next year to learn the ropes and then take over the running of these stalls from 2022.

Social Committee are seeking expressions of interest from people willing to organise the following events in 2021:

- Mother's Day Breakfast
- Father's Day Breakfast
- May School Disco

Can P&F please assist with getting the word out that these volunteers are needed?

Honor confirmed she would promote at the next Kindy 2021 zoom meeting to reach the new families.

Kate will stay on the social committee in 2021 and is happy to provide support.

The social committee will consider further events for 2021 early next year once there is clarity on how the covid restrictions may continue to impact school events.

Treasurers Report:

There has been very little activity on the account lately due to covid-19 restrictions on activities.

Funds available as at 22nd November 2020	P&F Cheque Acc		Total
	\$5245.53		
Social Events	Revenue	Less Expenses	Net Profit
Gingerbread House	0.00	-\$481.81	-\$481.81
Teachers lunch	0.00	-\$436.00	-\$436.00
Expenses paid out to date for other events	No expenses to be paid at this time.		

Principal's Report:

Barry provided an update on all that has been happening in the school, despite the many restrictions still in place.

Professional Learning is currently on hold due to Covid

The new strategy for Catholic Schools is coming in early 2021.

Mr Burns has been continuing with the extension maths groups.

The school has acquired "Spheros" to help with teaching coding.

Pastoral Care continues to be a priority with the Weaving Wellbeing program – including the weekly column in the school newsletter and significant resources in classes to support teachers in carrying the themes through the classrooms each week.

The school continue to utilise the Dojo (K-1) and Seesaw (2-6) applications for communication between school and home. This worked especially well during the home learning period. Next year we will go to Seesaw across the grades to assist parents with continuity.

The school also set up the Google Learning from Home Program this year to support students and parents during home learning.

Barry noted that the kids have been settled since returning to school and everything is “back to normal” for students.

School has been adapting quickly to the changing restrictions and providing opportunities for the students wherever possible such as:

- K-2 Swimming Program
- Athletics Day
- Year 6 Camp
- Year 6 Touch Footy Gala Day
- Year 6 Grad with 2 parents present (currently problem solving how this will work)

There will be 3 Kindergarten classes in 2021 so an additional Kindy teacher will be commencing. There will also be an additional Learning Support Officer commencing to support Mrs Wallace.

General Business

1. Can we have healthier options at the canteen for recess?

Several parents have suggested that the school offer items such as seasonal fruit, yoghurt and muesli bars. There has already been discussion between the Principal and the Canteen Manager to review the healthy options and it is noted that we are on the highest level of Healthy Canteens, The P&F agreed that this could be revisited next year when the canteen is able to be fully staffed by volunteers again as currently the canteen is operating with only 1 helper due to covid restrictions.

2. Can the school do more to celebrate multiculturalism?

The school already celebrate harmony day and would like to consider how this could be extended and built upon to encourage a greater understanding of different cultures. Honor confirmed this is currently on the agenda of many school and the Family Liaison Officers have noticed cultural diversity is increasing across all schools.

Some suggestions made included having more diverse books in the library, including dances and other cultural practices in Harmony Day celebrations, students doing a family tree and then talking about the different practices in their families, grandparents etc.

3. Honor reminded the P&F about the Covid fee relief being offered by the Catholic Schools Office and encouraged attendees to get the word out about this. Anyone wanting to apply should contact Barry or Honor.

Meeting closed at 8:30pm