



ST JOHN'S PARENT & FRIENDS COMMITTEE

Bowen Street
ROMA QLD 4455
secretarypf@outlook.com
www.stjohnsroma.com.au

St John's P & F Association General Meeting

Date 17/3/21

The White Bull Tavern

MEETING OPENED: 5.40 pm

PRESENT: Anita Crawford, Judy Hafemeister, Kylie Sabine, Kristie Pym, Jim Brennan, Rachel Stanford, Kiara Williams, Katrina Barden, Leesa Murray, Brad Murray, Caren Brindley.

APOLOGISES: Kate Henderson, Ally Watson, Sam Allwood, Megan Hornick

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS GENERAL MEETING

Minutes Previous General Meeting Minutes for February were tabled to be true and correct.

Moved: Judy Hafemeister

Seconded: Leesa Murray

REPORT ON ACTION OF MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

To be discussed in General Business

SECRETARY ADVISE OF ANY CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence received

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Anita Crawford

Nothing to report

TREASURERS REPORT

P & F Account Balances as at

St Johns P&F	Balances at 28/2/2021
Tuckshop Acc	\$46,296.66
Savings Acc	\$36,280.76
General Acc	\$3,796.91
Race Day Acc	\$11,490.33
Moonlight Saving Acc	\$17,698.16

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Moonlight General Acc	\$20,393.39
Total	\$135,956.21

Judy Reported on the outstanding Tuckshop accounts to be paid

Tuckshop Accounts to be paid as

Tuckshop Outstanding Accounts 16/3/2021		
PFD	Feb account	\$448.80
Qld Country Meats	Feb account	\$280.64
Western Bakeries	Feb account	\$1597.48
Western Food Wholesales	Feb account	\$3970.75
GR & AV Webb- Lion Franchisee/Dist	Feb Account	\$1906.90
	Total	\$8204.57

General outstanding accounts 16/3/2021		
Catholic School Parents Qld	Levy 2021	\$4927.00
DJ & D Sullivan	Audit 2020	\$440.00

Judy proposed that the individual accounts with Westpac be joined. All fundraising accounts be made to one – Both Moonlight Fair accts and the Race day Account be combined to be the Fundraising Account.

And then the Savings and General Acct be combined with the tuckshop Acct. Leesa Murray and Judy Hafemeister to be signatories on all accounts.

Moved: Kylie Sabine

Seconded: Kiara Williams

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Jim Brennan

Principal's P&F Report

17 March 2021

Dear Board members

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On Wednesday 3rd February we celebrated our first full school assembly, which was an opportunity to welcome back all students, staff, and families for the beginning of the new school year. It was pleasing to see so many parents attend the assembly to acknowledge the Academic and Veritas Award recipients from semester 2 2020. Students who achieved these awards demonstrated a commitment to learning through the highest standards of effort, behavioural, attendance and homework completion. These achievements uphold the Mercy values of excellence in relation to a positive attitude to learning and improvement in results.

(Wednesday February 10th), Fr Gerado blessed the ground for the new secondary building site. The sod turning ceremony was attended by representatives of the School Executive Leadership Team, School Board, Parents & Friends, Aspect Architecture and Hutchinson Builders. The building is scheduled for completion by the beginning of Semester 2. Services for the new building have now been laid along with the slab for the two -story building. External walls have now commenced. Aspect Architects have undertaken to design a landscaped area between the new building and ITD.

Ash Wednesday (Wednesday 17 February) marked the commencement of the Lenten period this week and students and staff came to together to observe this occasion through liturgy. This year due to COVID restrictions ashes were not distributed. Traditionally Ash Wednesday falls 40 days before Easter Sunday and is a time of reflection, repentance and fasting. The ashes represent death and repentance and that ultimately the human body returns to dust or ash. The preceding day is known as Shrove Tuesday and Christians previously used the opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast. Today pancakes are used as a ritual on Shrove Tuesday and this week senior students helped prepare pancakes for younger students to mark the occasion.

At the last School Board meeting it was determined that a new Student Leader Structure would be implemented for 2021/2022 and beyond. The new structure will see the Introduction of a male and female School Captain position which will complement the existing House Prefect positions whereby two Prefects will lead each house for Xaverian, Theresian and Marian. The composition of the House Prefects may be a variety of both male and female combinations. The new leadership structure will provide a focal point for student leadership whilst embracing the existing House Prefect culture. The student leadership program formally begins in week 10 of this term when Year 11 students travel to Columboola Environmental Education Centre for a leadership camp. This will be followed by a nomination, speech, interview and voting process during term 2. The newly appointed student leaders commence their duties in Semester 2 as is school tradition at St Johns. This process has now been communicated to students via assemblies and the community via newsletter. A new nomination process outlining the positions and responsibilities is almost complete.

Through the newsletter and school parades I have reminded students and parents of Year 10-12 students that a school blazer is now a compulsory part of the school uniform for 2021. It is important that orders for new blazers are made during this term so that the stock arrives well before the change over to the winter uniform during term 2. The school recently received sample stock of formal shorts and trouser options for girls. Female students have provided advice on the style and fabrics for these options which we will discuss later in this meeting for your consideration. This will ultimately lead to the implementation of above options for girls in the summer and winter uniform respectively to complement existing female uniform options.

I have thanked parents for their assistance with school drop offs from 8.10am each morning and pick-ups from 2.55pm and adhering to social distancing practices at school events. These processes have ensured that as a school community we are being COVID safe. I have also requested that where parents utilise car drop off and collection points, that they avoid parking in these zones or turning across the flow of road traffic when existing. This helps to reduce traffic bottlenecks, especially in the afternoon.

I can confirm from our previous meeting that in relation to the **Kindy students that travel on the bus:**

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1. Kindy students have a tag on their bags indicating their name, bus, parent phone number and buddy.
2. Kindy staff bring the students over to bus waiting area prior to 3pm and personally transition the students to a St John's staff member. They identify the buddy and bus.
3. The St John's staff member ensures the Kindy student and buddy remain together.
4. St John's staff have been instructed that should any student miss the bus including a Kindy student, they will be accompanied to the St John's administration area where they will be supervised, and parents called.
5. Bus companies have all been contacted to affirm a 3.05pm departure by Deputy Principal- Ryan Doig.

Wet weather procedure at end of school

1. A message will go out over the school PA system of the following:
2. Bus students will be taken to P&F shed and grouped by bus runs. Students will be released as buses arrive.
3. Remaining primary students remain in their home classrooms and are picked up from their classrooms.
4. Secondary students gather in classrooms adjacent to Duke street pick up where there is visible line of sight to arriving cars.
5. Message goes out on school app regarding pick up arrangements.

St John's students participated at Roma and District Trials for Basketball and Swimming and South West trials for tennis performing exceptionally well. Equally important was the high level of sportsmanship demonstrated by our students. Congratulations to those students who represented the school and to those who have gained selection at the next level. Lists of selected students have been promoted in the newsletters.

February 22-26, I travelled to Toowoomba to participate in the Toowoomba Catholic Education Principal's Forum, during this time Principals and TCSO staff covered the topics of parent engagement, responding to mental health, RE Project, Strategic Planning and Essential Skills for Classroom Management

Friday (22 February) Bishop Robert McGuckin visited St Johns and took the opportunity to speak with students about the importance of the Lenten period. He also took the opportunity to view the new secondary building site.

We enter the second half of term one this week and students will be fully engaged in learning. For many this will involve working on assessment tasks. One of the key messages I have been providing to students is to ensure they provide the best effort they can muster both within and outside of class. Giving your best ensures a student achieves to their maximum potential and is an important ingredient in developing confidence, resilience, and self-worth. Parents can support their children's development in this aspect by taking an active interest in checking homework and assessment completion. A good place to start is to check homework diaries and assessment schedules. Ask your child to show and discuss their homework and assessment tasks with you. Time spent on these tasks also provides parents with insight into what is occurring in the classroom and your child's engagement. All students in Year 7-12 are provided with a school diary which is utilised to forward plan assessment and homework. The diary also contains important information on school policies around homework, assessment and uniform policies.

Last weekend 6 students, Briony Burns, Hannah Coffey, Patrick Cole, Jake McVeigh-Davey, Tyra Nixon, and Tully Stone participated in the annual search for Lions Youth of the Year. The purpose of the event was to develop personal skills and attributes associated with public speaking. Over the course of the day students were interviewed on global and local topics, required to respond to two impromptu questions in a speech no longer than two minutes, and finally, deliver a prepared five- minute speech on a topic of interest. All students presented to an audience of Lions representatives and supporters which provided a test of character and skill building opportunity. Congratulations to Hannah Coffey who was presented with a public speaking award as one of the overall winners. Briony Burns also was selected to the regional competition which will take place in Chinchilla next month. I commend all the students for the strength they displayed in undertaking this experience which will stand them in good stead.

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On Tuesday last week a few St John's students participated in the regional swimming trials. Congratulations to Isla Allwood (10 Years Girls) and Emily McNaulty (17 Years Girls) who were respective age champions. We wish both girls the very best at the next level of competition.

Last weekend the Adrian Vowles Cup (Rugby League) was held on in Charleville. St Johns was represented strongly from a range of local club sides. Special mention goes to Billy Duff, Reyna Core, Prudence Johnson, and Harry Green who all made the representative Dream Team for their respected age groups. Special thanks go to Mr Valentine and St John's parents who assisted in a variety of positions at the carnival.

New staff

Administration Officer – Jeena Carmer

Cleaner – Rose Hahn

Crossing Supervisor – Madonna Price.

This week St Johns has been involved in a renewal process whereby staff, students and parents provide feedback regarding what is working well in the school and possible enhancements. I would like to thank our reviewers, Jim Midgely Director of Teaching and Learning Toowoomba Catholic Education Office (TCSO), Paul Herbert Senior Education Leader TCSO, Peter Cuskelly Principal of Our Lady of the Southern Cross, and Norm Fuller, External Consultant. All four reviewers worked over the week to collect feedback from over 80 stakeholders. The feedback will form the basis of a report which will be utilised to inform the next school Strategic Plan 2022-2024.

International Women's Day

Last week St John's School celebrated International Women's Day by conducting a breakfast, attended by over 80 staff, students, parents, and community members. It was a wonderful opportunity to listen to inspiring women speak about the successes of women and the challenges that they continue to face. I would like to thank Origin Energy for their financial support of the event and to Katie Shellshear and Ang Millard for organising this wonderful opportunity.

One of the emerging themes from prominent speakers on International Women's Day was the need for women's voices to be heard in relation to workplace assault and bullying. This issue has recently been highlighted in the media by reported incidents in the National Parliament and by female students in high schools in New South Wales. Closely linked with these reported cases is the issue of consent. Following in this newsletter are resources (School TV) provided by our School Counsellor Sarah Clear that cover this issue. Parents may wish to view this resource and consider a conversation with your young men and women about this topic. At St Johns we cover the topics of respectful relationships and sex education through the Pastoral Care Program and Health and Physical Education Program between Year 7-10. In coming weeks St John's will further support secondary students around the legal implications consent by the engagement of outside agencies.

Upcoming events:

Mercy Shield March 19-21

Year 10 Immunisation 23 March

Year 11 Leadership Camp March 30 – April 1

NAPLAN Practice Year 9 and 10 term 1

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General Business

The capacity of the tuckshop is out of control and the power can't keep up with it all. Anita has asked if another phase be added to support it. Approval was given to Anita to go ahead and liaise with Belinda to get this sorted.

Aspect has kindly offered to donate a \$\$ value back to the school. The tuckshop was discussed and put an extension on the tuckshop. Anita to Liaise with Belinda and Jim.

Mercy shield Catering – The P&F will provide a BBQ for the players and officials.

Purchase containers for Sports Jerseys – Leesa asked if we could purchase containers for these jerseys to be stored in. Everyone was in agreeance.

Mother's Day stall – Kiara has said that she won't need to purchase a lot of product for this year – there are items left over from last year. Approved to prepay Kiara for anything that needs to be purchased.

Race Day – Waiting on date from Roma Turf Club for exact date on when we are booked in for. Normally set for the 4th Saturday in August each year. Kylie Sabine, Leonie Whitfield, Jodie Duff and Michelle Neven have said that once the date is confirmed, they will commit to running it. Sam Allwood and Katrina Barden have also said that they would assist with the planning etc.

Moonlight Fair – Leesa has put together a list of what will be required for the committee and each of their roles. It was decided that we would definitely have the Fair. Friday the 26th March was decided that we need to have names for each job by. A notice is to be put out on the App with the roles descriptions. Everyone to send names to Anita.

Rachel has mentioned that the playground floor is coming apart. And possibly looking in to putting in a sandpit for the younger grades. This could be something for the Moonlight Fair money raised to go towards. Anita will discuss with Jim and Belinda in regards to what is needed also in the sporting equipment area. The first step is for a few members of the committee to Walk the school with Jim and Belinda to see where is appropriate to put areas around the school.

Moved that the committee will make a donation of \$500 to the school and we would purchase sporting equipment. This will be for Semester 1. And then it can be revisited in Semester 2.

CLOSED 7.15 pm

Next Meeting April 21st @ 5.30pm from the White Bull Tavern

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