

President Report - AGM
Wednesday 18th November 2020

Good evening and thank you everyone for coming. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Stephanie Gill and I have the honour of being the President of the Mater Christi P&F in 2020. I have two boys at the school, year 2 and PP, and little Samuel.

Coming into this role, I had big shoes to fill after the stellar commitment Michelle Hall brought to the role the previous 2 years. In my case, perhaps COVID was a blessing in disguise! Still, the P&F managed to achieve quite a lot this year within restrictions.

We started the year with the Sundowner in Term 1, which was a lovely evening here in the Community Centre. Thank you to Vicky, Jennifer, Louise, Sinead, Barbara and Andrea for volunteering for this event.

The following week, the P&F hosted Clinical Psychologist Karen Young, who gave a fascinating talk about kids and anxiety. She blew us all away with her knowledge and style, and her willingness to connect with many families and provide advice for their individual situations. The City of Cockburn generously co-funded this event through a grant, meaning we had many people from the general public as well as from our own school community.

The Dads and Kids Camp Out looked like it would be postponed due to bad weather, then quickly was cancelled due to Covid restrictions. Unfortunately, the event was unable to be rescheduled in 2020. Thank you Corey for your time organizing the event both last year and this year. I am sure your knowledge will be useful for the coordinator of the event in future.

The Good Cup Cafe, coordinated by Adele, was able to be held in Term 1 as an outside only event. Thank you Adele and your team of helpers.

The students' Easter colouring competition was able to go ahead at the end of Term 1. Thank you to all students who submitted their very creative artworks, and Thank you to Mark and Leah Rheinberger for again sponsoring the prizes for the colouring competition.

Returning to some normality in Term 2 was reason to celebrate! The P&F provided a "Back to School" raffle where each student was out in the draw for their own class to win a prize. Thank you Jen for arranging the prizes.

Unfortunately, the much loved and anticipated Mother's Day Stall in Term 2 had to be cancelled, but not before Chiara put in countless hours arranging the products. These have now been stored for next year. Thank you Chiara and Dave for coordinating the purchase and storage of these items.

The Australia's Biggest Morning Tea event was up in the air for a while. Eventually, we were able to change the format of the event and hold it in Term 3 alongside the Good Cup Cafe. Thank you Michelle for your coordination of the raffle, and all those who helped sell

raffle tickets beforehand, and provided treats to eat on the day. Thank you Adele for again holding the fort at the Good Cup Cafe. Janelle was again able to secure a beautiful diamond, and I would also like to thank all others who were able to donate towards the raffle.

The Executive Committee had many discussions with school leadership about which events would or could not go ahead. It was decided there was too much indecision around government lifting restrictions to warrant arranging the Quiz Night and this was put on the back burner for next year.

The Fathers Day Breakfast was also cancelled, after much discussion about changing the format. In the end, The decision to cancel came from the very top end of Catholic schooling, much to the disappointment of many. Thank you Oscar for your enthusiasm for this event and your willingness to arrange it in the face of restrictions.

Which brought us to a very busy start to Term 4! The cake stall at both Junior and Senior Athletics Carnivals was again a raging success! Thank you Guilia and your team of helpers, including those able to serve on the days and those who donated many delicious treats.

The major fundraiser for the year, the Colour Fun Run, was again extremely well received by all accounts! Thank you Michelle for your work coordinating this event, and your team of helpers on the day! The funds from this event go towards next years Year 6 graduating class, with any additional funds going straight back into the P&F.

Adele again coordinated the last Good Cup Cafe for the year last week. Thank you again Adele for always putting your hand up to help at this amazing community event, helping frazzled parents find their calm after school drop off.

Other fundraising initiatives which gained momentum in terms 3 and 4 are the Entertainment books, coordinated with thanks by Brooke, and the Wise Wine fundraiser, coordinated by myself.

Both of these are extremely easy to run and quite lucrative for the P&F. The Entertainment Book is an ongoing, year round fundraiser. The Wise Wine fundraiser has now finished.

Finally, the 30th Anniversary Mater Christi cookbook, "30 Years and Still Cooking" has arrived. Leah it looks amazing! Thank you to you and your helpers for arranging this amazing commemorative item for our families past and present.

Apart from events, the P&F were also able to make the full \$20000 contribution to the Nature Playground debt this year. The P&F were also able to purchase required uniform items for inter school sports teams. The funding for the current year 6 graduating class was also available from last years fundraising efforts. We have also met the fundraising target for next years graduating year 6 class.

Thank you to the School Leadership, Toni, Nicole and Julie. Your support and attendance at all P&F meetings is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to Amanda for fielding one million and one emails from us, and to Paula and Rebekah for all of your assistance.

Thank you to Kristie and your team of class reps. You are the link between the P&F and our families, and I appreciate the time and energy you have all put in to not only provide P&F information to your class parents, but also to improve the sense of community and belonging through class parent and family events.

Thank you to the P&F Committee members, both those in named positions and those in general positions. The time you have taken to volunteer throughout the year, attend P&F meetings, and offer your opinions on all P&F matters is greatly appreciated.

Lastly, thank you to my fellow executive. Louise, you have such flair in your writing, I am so glad you were providing the newsletter blurb each week and not me! Jen you kept us all in line when it came to the budget. Thank you for helping us meet all financial commitments this year while still being able to provide some fun stuff!

Vicky your organizational skills are exceptional! I truly appreciate that you had your finger in every single P&F pie and you reminded me always of what needed to be done. You are a true asset and next years president is so lucky to have you!

In closing, thank you everyone who is nominating for positions next year. If you are here tonight, and you haven't nominated for the P&F, and you aren't sure if you can do it. Please remember, there is no such thing as too little. Every little bit helps. The P&F is an entirely voluntary organisation and exists solely for the benefit of all school students and their families. I encourage you to sign up as a general committee member in 2021. Come to as many meetings as you are able to. Volunteer as much time as you can. I understand, we are all busy with children, extended families, work, home making, sports, holidays, homework. Just find one little thing you can do to help your P&F. Not only will you feel immense pride in the success of the event or fundraising that you are able to contribute to, but you will also feel a real sense of belonging to the school community.

Thank you.