



MATER CHRISTI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

It is my privilege and pleasure to present to you the 2020 Board Chair Report.

As board member our primary role is to act as a sounding board and advisory committee for the Principal and the School Executive on various matters and it is a credit to the diverse background and nature of the Board and the school that it was able to achieve what it did this year. Besides COVID there was plenty the school had planned and executed with some small examples being:

- The migration from MAZE to AoS – From admin enrolments, student details, caregiver details, communications and pastoral care. To the financials in billing, end of month, end of year, asset registers, financial reporting the list goes on
- Further planning with Department of Water and City of Cockburn (CoC) regarding future Oval facilities, use, maintenance and irrigation
- Progression along the Capital Development Master plan with stage 15 only millimetres away and Stage 16 planning and submissions underway
- Working with the parish to complete all sacramental programs
- Refurb/maintenance work in Drama and Music, Year 2 Block and Kindy
- Working collaboratively with CEO, the Archdiocese, CoC and the community to future proof the school and it's surrounds ongoing

Well what a year it's been, we certainly didn't have COVID in the reports and planning when we stood up here a year ago. I wrote a piece for the newsletter in term 3 thanking the staff, the school and its community on the work they had done to ensure the best for our kids, and I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge those efforts throughout and ongoing. I quoted Aristotle in that piece however tonight I'll quote Darwin by saying "It is not the strongest of a species that survives, nor the most intelligent, it is the one that is most adaptable to change" I think MCCPS has shown all three this year by being strong for our kids, resilient in their dedication to work, intelligent in their approaches and extremely quick and agile in adapting to the fluid environment that was 2020.

I'd like to acknowledge the P&F we are extremely lucky to have such a dedicated and caring group of volunteers. 2020 has been a difficult year with opportunities falling by the wayside due to government restrictions and guidelines however they have continued to work tirelessly with the school to deliver on existing much-loved programs and events whilst developing new and exciting ideas for community interaction and engagement

I'd like to acknowledge Father Dat, Father Joe and Marina as well as the sacramental teachers that worked so well in trying conditions to deliver on the spiritual journey of our children through the completing of the sacramental programs. I know this was touch and go for a significant portion of the year. It was also a credit to the parish for their delivery of Live Streamed masses and radio broadcasts

I would like to give a couple of special mentions thankyou to Jacynta Wake for stepping in this term for Laura Barker at short notice, to the groundsmen Anthony Jenkins, Luke Scott and Ed Martin for ensuring the school physically looks great whilst also working on the bigger project of the irrigation master plan. Lastly Amanda Burke who without I am fairly certain the school and the school board would not function at all, thank you for all the help you have given me personally in my first year as Board Chair

There are too many people to thank individually however to all the Mater Christ staff you have been sensational this year from the admin team, the executive team, cleaners, groundsman, and teachers alike what you have achieved as a team is nothing short of amazing, thank you for making Mater Christi the envy of other communities.

It is at this point that I'd like to acknowledge the staff that we won't have with us next year Robin Giles Retiring (finance), Kirsty Cunningham 2nd Child (2B), Nick Magry (4C) professional journey continuing with John Bosco, Nicole Woodhouse Parental Leave (AP) and Tony Schneider retiring (Psychologist). We also have some board members who are at end of term or not continuing in Mark Rheinberger, Olivia Rodriguez and Michelle Hall as P&F Representative.

I couldn't leave this part without the special mention of Robin Giles. Robin has been with the school for 10 years, with Catholic Education for 30 years and working life of over 57 years. He has seen and guided the Mater Christi through meteoric growth and in the past 3 years has overseen the change from Cash to Accrual Accounting and the cutover from MAZE to AoS, he has had to put up with board treasurers with the patience of a saint, I cannot thank him enough for his commitment and love of the school. He will be sorely missed.

In closing I'd like to thank the 2020 Board members, it has been challenging at times given moratoriums from Catholic Education Office, working within the constraints of COVID government restrictions, trying to progress long term projects and newly arising whilst also balancing day to day commitments. The school is in a very strong position spiritually, financially, educationally and embarking on a bold path of development for the future. We look forward to working with new and existing people in the Parish, the school, the board, the P&F and continue to deliver an outstanding experience for the kids and the community.

Luke Zammit

Board Chairperson