

# ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## Parents & Friends Association

### Meeting minutes

**Date:** Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Time:** 7:30pm

**Venue:** LARC

**Present:** Kate Hooke, Karen Hardie, Charmaine Andrew, Nikki McPherson, Chris Burns, Honor McGill, Leanne Hanly, Louise Miller, Rhonda Clifford, Natalie Jones, Ben Jones, Angela Powell, Matthew Nicholls, Angela D'Bras, Barry Shanley and Colleen Templeton

---

**Apologies:** Sandra Mahoney and Sonya Wallace

**Meeting opened:** Prayer lead by Natalie Jones

### **Business from previous minutes to discuss:**

Accepted by Rhonda Clifford

Seconded by Nikki McPherson

### **Incoming / Outgoing Correspondence**

Nothing to share

### **President's Report**

Welcome to families to our first meeting and Natalie acknowledged that these meetings are a great way of being involved in our children's schooling.

A reminder to families that if there are any items you would like to have considered for the agenda at future meetings, the email address is [sjf.parentsandfriends@gmail.com](mailto:sjf.parentsandfriends@gmail.com).

## Treasurer's Report

Funds available as at 28th February 2017	P&F Cheque Acc	P&F Cash Mgmt Acc	Total
	\$54 054.99	\$2,403.35	\$56,458.34
Fundraising & Social Events	Funds Raised	Less Expenses	Net Profit
2016 EOY Raffle	7091.60	1808.85	5282.75
Big Arvo	292.30	545.00	-252.70
Newsletter Advertising	Funds Raised	Less Expenses	Net Profit
	\$2,400	\$1,848.00	\$552

Please note that since 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017, \$54,000 has been transferred from P&F account into School accounts. This represents 3 years of fundraising efforts which will be covering the costs of new iPads that are available in the classrooms to enhance children's learning outcomes.

### DPC name change - CSP

DPC is now *Broken Bay Catholic School Parents (CSP)*

### Term 4 Central Coast cluster meeting:

22 November 2016 - Held at St Peter's, Tuggerah. Attended by Karen Hardie and Ellen Allan.

CSP's Focus remains ... "representing and providing opportunities to support the development of respectful and trusting partnerships between home, school and parish to all families in Catholic Schools in our Diocese of Broken Bay."

Next cluster meeting will be held at SJF – newsletter will advise of date and it was suggested that we add the link to upcoming newsletter about CSP on-line resources.

## **Social Committee**

**Kindergarten Tears & Tissues** –It was lovely to welcome the Kindergarten families to our school. Thank you to Siobhan Sharp, Charmaine Andrews and Louise Young for helping to set up a lovely afternoon tea.

**Big Arvo** – Thank you to everyone that came along to the Big Arvo. It was lovely to see so many families enjoying themselves and having the opportunity to socialise with other families in our school community.

A special thank you to all the parents who volunteered on the night and to the King family for the disco set up.

### **Up-coming events -**

- Sport-a-thon – major fundraiser – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2017
- Mother's Day Stall – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May
- Mother's Day Breakfast – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May
- Disco – 19<sup>th</sup> May 😊 - Crazy Hair - \$5.00 per child
- Athletics Carnival – BBQ ?
- Bricks and Pavers - ?
- Disco – Term 4 - \$5.00 per child

## **Principal's Report**

### **Out of School Hours – OOSH**

It is going to be ready to start Term 2. SJF have spent quite a bit of money to help prepare the Parent / Community Room – Opening hours are from 6:30 to 8:30 and 3:15 to 6:30pm.

The school will still have access to the Parent room and Barry indicated that in time Vacation Care will be available.

### **General Business - Uniforms**

Angela D'Bras, Michelle Sweeney, Barry Shanley and Leanne met to discuss potential changes to our uniforms.

Angela & Michelle presented to Gosford Tailoring that there are a number discrepancies in the quality of the products that are being issued from their business eg. Difference in colours of shirts, sizes not equal.

Discussion and decisions regarding uniforms:

1. Change the colour of boys & girls sport shirts  
Gosford Tailoring is company we use it. Shirt samples shared amongst the group and everyone.  
Majority of green shirt – appeared to be in favour  
All agreed that Gosford Tailoring shirt – the lighter weight material was most popular.
2. Sport shorts shared with parents. Everyone likes the shorts that have a zipped pocket and the new feel was well received. Questions rose about length of shorts. Everyone is in agreeance about shorts presented.
3. Removing tie from the uniform for both girls and boys. Winter shirts will then become an open collar, square waist that sits nicely over the top of their pants. A question was asked as to when this is expected to take effect. Barry is hoping that this will come in winter 2017. A majority of parents are happy to lose the tie from the winter uniform. A number of parents do like the tie, however majority rules.

4. Gosford Tailoring suggested that a lot of schools are now getting rid of long sleeve winter shirts and simply use a short sleeve that is used both winter and summer. A discussion arose about the pros and cons of long versus short sleeved shirts. Majority of parents would prefer to see a long sleeved shirt as preferred option.
  
5. Girls winter tunic. It would appear that in Year 6 girls wear a skirt. Majority of parents preferred to buy the girls tunic – everyone appear happy to keep the girl's uniform as is.

## **Fundraising Levy**

Natalie presented the notion of introducing a Fundraising Levy. Information has been shared from the Diocese in how we proceed with this in the future. A fundraising levy would remove the Sport-a-thon and End of Year raffle. A fundraising levy would not be compulsory. It will save an enormous amount of time that is invested in organising fundraising events. Fundraising may still occur but they are optional events.

The plan will be to issue a letter to families early Term 3, to outline the proposed Levy and a vote would follow in the Term 3 meeting.

Parents were asked what they thought should go in the letter and the following ideas were offered.

- Cost - we are looking at \$100 per family.
- Parents need to be able to see what P&F fundraising has paid for over the past years.
- What is the school budget covering on an on-going basis? Eg. Cleaning, wages,
- What is the Building Levy?
  - This replaced the old envelope system where the Church / Father would release funds to help pay for school expenses.
  - Bishop David introduced the Building Levy, which then is distributed to school's maintenance budgets as well as collective

pools that are used to build new Catholic Schools within the Diocese.

- It was suggested many parents don't really understand this.

A show of hands was asked who would be happy to pay a Fundraising Levy. A large majority of people present were in favour of a fundraising levy. Everyone also appeared in agreement with \$100 levy.

St. John Fisher is the only Central Coast primary school that doesn't charge the Fundraising Levy.

## **General Business**

- Nikki McPherson asked if Alison Prellar is still at the School. Nikki emphasised that she is now the only person at the school that is involved in School Banking. Nikki needs an assistant. Leanne Hanly has volunteered to assist Nikki in School Banking.
- Ben Jones asked whether it is possible to have a yearly calendar for families that need to submit leave to attend different school events six months in advance. It was suggested that a link can be given to the website to these events and Social / Fundraising can share the upcoming events with Barry so that he can also add school events.
- The SJF App / website needs to be updated. A parent was trying access something and everything indicated "To be updated".
- School Bags are on the ground outside classrooms for years 3 and 4 and there was a question about the possibility of hooks or the bags to go into the classroom bag shelves. Barry and Chris to explore

## **PT Sessions**

- PT sessions are about set to run. Parents will be doing these PT sessions on a Monday morning after morning assembly. Trialling for the last 3 Mondays for Term 1. \$5.00 per person. Jeanette will provide her Certificate of Currency for Insurance. Would be good to promote this for parents in the evening or other days too. This is a great networking, community spirit building opportunity and also demonstrates to their children, parents engaging in physical activity.

Meeting closed at 9pm.