

# Parent Advisory Committee Meeting 1 – 2023

## Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, Week 4

9:40am members present

*In attendance, Cath, Adele, Talia, Kate, Steve, Luisa & Marcel apologies from Kylie and Bec.*

### **Small amount of general business before the meeting opened:**

- Quick chat about Easter Hat Parade (not on the agenda but brought up by Kate).
- After a short discussion, it was decided we have a session in class where parents will be able to make hats with the children. There will then be a parade in the Hall for parents to attend. The hat making and parade will run from 9am-11am on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April, week 10.
- Luisa suggested the kindy children could walk to Glengara after the parade in their hats and sing to the residents.
- Kate will contact Glengara and make arrangements.
  
- Marcel mentioned that in week 1 term 2, Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April will be staff development day. As ANZAC Day is Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>, this will mean families can have a longer holiday. It was discussed that Marcel will add this to school Calendar ASAP and put in Friday's newsletter to give families as much notice as possible.

*Welcome to Country & Prayer by Kate.*

### **Agenda Item 1. Overview of the purpose of the committee and introduction of new member.**

- Kate introduced Adele Toomey, parent of Archer in Kindergarten as our new member.
- Kate then went through the purpose of the committee and presented everyone with an amended overview (which Honor had originally presented last year). This overview will be the basis for the Advisory page on the SJF website.
  
- Marcel will meet with Tash next week to discuss changes to the website.

### **Agenda Item 2. Names for house colours**

- Marcel to talk to Jodie and ask her to come up with a few indigenous theme options and accompanying names e.g Indigenous Sports Heros (2 male and 2 female), Indigenous Plants etc.
- Once options are decided, a form will go home to families to "vote" in the hope they will have meaningful discussions as a family.
- Eventually we would like to have a "mascot" for each house.
- Once names are decided Steve will have flags made up for events.
- House colours will be worn on Cross Country Day. Kate will advise parents.
- We discussed having points for non-sporting events. For academic achievements, awards and other reasons.
- No assembly on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>, Cross Country Day. Marcel will advise community. The following assembly on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> will be class awards, growing in faith and knowledge awards and cross-country age champions.

### **Agenda Item 3. Round Table topics to be discussed and how the night will run.**

Kate and Marcel explained last years' surveys. Members were given copies of the questions and an overview of the common responses. We then explained how the round table will work.

The Advisory will come up with 5 questions. Members/Staff will be responsible for a question each. The question person will move between each table and start discussions about their particular question. They will take notes or "minutes" from each group.

Each question will last for 10 minutes maximum.

Questions were discussed and the following were decided upon:

1. Please list any projects, ideas, changes you would like to see implemented at SJF which support community engagement, wellbeing and/or faith development.
2. Please list any projects, ideas, changes you would like to see implemented at SJF which support learning and academic development. (wording may be changed)
3. Are there any skills, expertise, interests you would like to share within our school community? *(Cath will look after this question)*  
*- would like feedback in this question about how parents skills can help students, by doing talks etc. How can we use these skills practically? Possibly having a parent team to run this (Kate can head this up once a solid plan is in place.)*
4. How do you think school and parents can work together to boost student learning and community? *(Kate will look after this question)*
5. What does your family enjoy about our school community?
6. Any other table raised questions or comments.

School will provide nibbles and beverages.

Kate will put in PEC section of the newsletter this week and put a form on Compass for RSVP's. Marcel will put in newsletter on following weeks.

### **Agenda Item 4. Harmony Day Fundraising Ideas.**

Luisa gave us an overview of Harmony Day at SJF and what we have done in the past. She suggested we approach the parish to see if they are supporting any initiatives we could help. Possibly a children's based charity or something locally within the community.

Children will be able to wear full orange mufti this year, not just accessories. Lots of parents had been asking.

Kate will ask Helen (Canteen Manager) to offer orange cupcakes to fundraise and possibly an international food option as has been done in the past.

### **General Business**

Canteen was discussed as many parents has questions about the changeover of management. Helen has struggled to get help for the first couple of weeks, so some changes had been made. Marcel put out a call on compass which had many parents offering to volunteer.

We will get a price list organised for parents.

- Talia asked about parents being more informed about what children are learning in class. Not just literacy, but other areas of study, especially mathematics.  
Luisa and Steve explained why the school does not use traditional “homework” structure. Years 2-6 are using teams and parents will be able to track class progress through there.
- Steve suggested a “Math & Munchie” evening. Math games and pizza dinner at school
- Adele suggested a “Leadership” section in the newsletter where we highlight different year 6 leadership groups. They can be introduced with a picture and explain some of their initiatives.
- Marcel & Steve working out a way to get our school YouTube channel happening so assemblies, mass and meeting are more easily accessed.
- We will have a second meeting later this term to discuss feedback from the round table.

Meeting ended 10:40am