



St John Fisher Catholic School

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Wednesday 30th August 2017

RE: INTRODUCTION OF A P&F CONTRIBUTION FROM 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

This is a joint letter on behalf of the School Leadership and P&F Executive to the school community. Over the last year there have been a number of requests to replace the fundraising activities of the school with a P&F Contribution which would take the pressure off the small number of active P&F Members who organise the fundraising activities at St John Fisher. This is certainly a trend amongst other schools on the Coast and beyond, and in fact we are one of the last schools not to replace major fundraising activities with a contribution.

Over the last several years the funds raised by the P&F have made a very significant improvement to both students learning as well as the general resources of the school. Some of these improvements include introducing technology into the classroom including the purchase of multiple iPads into every class as well as the computers in the Library. Apart from the many learning resources, the P&F contributions have allowed us to develop significant projects including building the COLA, placing air-conditioning in all rooms and building playground equipment. With the success of the introduction of iPads the staff is very keen to broaden the number of tablets in each room and the P&F contribution will allow that to happen. The P&F Contribution is also crucial in providing the association with a source of funds to resource the community building events such as the Mothers' Day, Fathers' Day and Grandparents' Breakfasts.

The P&F Contribution would take the place of the major fundraising activities of the P&F and allow them to concentrate on engaging with the community through their community building activities. It would be a non-compulsory charge billed by the school over and above Tuition, Building Levy and Resource Fees. It would be charged at \$95 per family which would provide a similar contribution to what has been raised by the P&F each year. It would be adjusted each year in line with Tuition Fees and could be revoked through a process of consultation between the Principal, the P&F Executive and the School Community.

Information regarding the introduction of the P&F Contribution has been discussed at P&F General Meetings as had consultation on the process of introduction. If any parents / carers have any further questions they are welcome to contact the principal and/or President of the P&F.

In following procedures of the Catholic Schools Office it is proposed that there be a vote through a secret ballot at the General Meeting in Week 3 Term 4. It is proposed that for the P&F Contribution to be introduced, support would constitute 65% or over in favour of the Contribution.

Regards

Barry Shanley

Natalie Jones

Principal

P&F President

Questions and Answers

Question: Does this mean there will be no fundraising at the Sport-a-thon and no raffle each year?

Answer: Yes, this will replace the major fundraising events in which all families are expected to contribute.

Question: Does this mean that the P&F can never charge for any activities?

Answer: The P&F and School Leadership will make decisions which events they fund fully such as the Mothers' Day Breakfast but will charge a fee to cover costs for events such as school disco.

Question: Does this mean we can never have a School Fair again?

Answer: No, the school can choose to have a School Fair. Having the P&F Contribution will take the pressure off the fair as a fundraising activity and allow it to be built as a Community Event. If it makes some profit that does not contradict the rationale of the P&F Contribution.

Question: Is the P&F able to continue to provide parents/carers with activities such as the Entertainment Book or the Family Name Pavers?

Answer: Yes, these small activities are fine and because of their support of the P&F Contributions there are no obligations for parents/carers to be involved in these projects