

St Bernadette's Primary School, Dundas Valley Parents and Friends (P&F) Association Meeting 19 May 2014 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present:

Margaret Flitcroft	Sonja Simpson	Greyci Zapata	Amanda Reicher
Patricia Abraham	Carol Burleigh	Tahala Perigo	Cathy Nagy
Barbara Young	Anthony Kensell	Leanne Cakmakci	Mary Ann Gatt-Petrini

Apologies:

Angela Shehadie	Amanda Geraghty	Kate Hunter	Cathy Moriarty
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1. The meeting opened at 7.35pm

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the previous minutes. Minutes were accepted by Amanda Reicher and seconded by Trish Abraham.

3. Incoming & Outgoing correspondence

Invoice and orders for the Mothers Day stall, most of which have been paid.

4. Treasurer's Report

- Tahala advised that we started the year with a balance of \$15,465.60. Balance as at 19 May 2014 is \$19,632.62. (Attached)
- Sonja advised that parent levy for 2013 was approximately \$14,000
- It was noted that \$2,000 for Maria's readers was not on the Treasurers report. This was agreed to in the previous meeting

5. Leadership Team Reports

Religious Education:

- Y2 visited Tebbutt Lodge in May where they were warmly welcomed and eagerly anticipated.
- This term sees the introduction of individual class liturgies which parents are also invited to attend.
- A letter will be going out regarding the Diocesan Works Fund. Students and parents are being asked to support the Diocese in their fundraising.

Mathematics:

- The Woolies maths resources have arrived and the kits are being put together.
- As the new syllabus is being implemented next year, a lot of staff training is underway.

PDHPE:

- Bounceback is working well – students are using strategies in the playground to solve problems.

- The school sent a large squad to cross country. Good result with 1 person through to the State Catholic level. Have also had the girls soccer gala day, with the boys to follow soon.
- Athletics carnival to be week 8, 20 June.
- Swimming – Despite a lot of searching, nothing could compare to Homebush. It is a State venue, so is heavily subsidised for schools. Anthony was able to push the swimming back by 2 weeks.

Literacy:

- Barbara noted that the new curriculum is going well.
- There was a Kinder info night concerning reading/literacy.
- Staff are working on tracking students reading and comprehension levels.

Technology:

- Mary Ann advised that some laptops will need replacing as they are unable to be upgraded to Windows 7 (CEO is implementing the Windows 7 upgrade). Also, the ultimate aim is to have a bank of laptops per classroom.

Building & Maintenance:

- Trees were checked and lopped during the school holidays
- Shade structure – Tahala is waiting to hear back from her contact regarding a quote. Mary Ann has received 4 quotes, 3 were around \$21,000 mark and the other (Half price Pergolas) came in at \$12,000 -13,000 mark. This was for a structure over the play equipment, high at the front sloping down to the fence. Colorbond roof with galvanised steel posts.

The CEO has advised there is no standard or specification on such a structure, simply that it has to be safe and meet OH&S issues.

Discussion moved to:

Do we want/need such a structure? If so, where should it go? It was raised as a point from the P&F Surveys sent out in 2013. Amanda Reicher stated that she was one who noted it as an idea, but was thinking of a cloth shade/sail over the top basketball court.

If we were to cover the basketball court, would we want the structure to be waterproof? Where do the students go now on rainy days during recess/lunch (classrooms and undercroft areas, which seems to work okay).

Expansion of the school was discussed – previously Jan Hawes had mentioned that she had a goal of dual stream within the next 10 – 15 years. Father Christopher was keen to expand. However, based on the planned developments in the area not happening (ie, Telopea mixed housing build), it looks as though the population wouldn't support dual stream, therefore no extending of the classrooms/school in the foreseeable future..

Would we be able to get a grant for a shade structure? Or corporate donations? What about clubs ie, Vikings? Trish and Amanda will look into this. Amanda asked whether there are any problems with schools accepting corporate donations – Mary Ann will check with CEO

Mary Ann will ask the quoting companies to re-quote for a cloth shade over the basketball area.

This will be a long term purchase item.

Other:

- NAPLAN – has been held and Mary Ann advised that the children were well prepared for the tests.
- Kinder enrolments – there will be 1 class of Kindergarten in 2015. Letters of placement have been sent out. This year some interviews were conducted on a Saturday which eased the pressure mid week for Mary Ann and Barbara and allowed for both parents to attend if wished.
- Mary Ann advised that she and Barbara placed posters in approximately 15 local preschools. Most enrolments have come from Sophies Cottage and siblings. Mary Ann advised that word of mouth seems to be the best advertisement for the school!
- Mary Ann advised that approximately \$700 was raised from the Scholastic Book fair.

6. Activities since the last meeting

Mothers Day Stall – Thanks to Margaret Flitcroft and Angela Shehadie for running the wrapping and the stall. The stall nearly sold out of everything, including items held over from last year.

Canteen days have been going well. Healthy morning tea on 16 May was a little disappointing, however all of the fruit and vege was donated by Carlingford Fruit World so little outlay by P&F. Subway meal deal was well received.

7. Canteen

We have a rice meal deal planned for 6 June and ice cream day for 27 June.

Sonja suggested we have another Subway meal deal this term for the athletics carnival (20 Jun). We can mention in a letter that there will be 2 meal deal days and parents can choose either or both. Everyone thought this was a great idea. Also, parent helpers could order too.

Cathy advised that Subway will be putting up their prices as of Term 3 – 6” subs will be \$7 instead of \$6 and 12” will be \$10 instead of \$9. Rebate to the school for the 1st meal deal was \$94.36.

8. Class Parent Reps

This is not going as well as hoped. Sonja will contact again.

9. Working Bee and Gardening

Mary Ann mentioned that there were some small jobs that needed doing such as: A desk in the library needs shortening, one of the basketball posts needs welding, gardens needs mulching and the doors on the display shelves in the breezeway are dangerous, can the hinges be fixed? Sonja will check with Paul Harrigan/Roland Simpson to find a suitable date (probably Term 3).

10. Upcoming P&F Activities

Fathers Day Stall – Margaret Flitcroft and Angela Shehadie have volunteered to organise.

Fathers Day breakfast – Mary Ann will call for volunteers.

Disco - will be run by Caroline and Rheem.

Trivia – main concern is prizes, this is addressed below.

11. New Items submitted for discussion

- Skoolbag app – this is a communication tool between the school and parents. This item was deferred to the next meeting.

- Fund raising

Tahala has approached the following shops at Carlingford Court asking for donations:

Liquorland – will give a wine basket

Carlingford Fruit World – will supply a fruit basket

Bush's meats – will donate a meat tray

Travel agency (Travelscene or Travel world?) - will contribute something (not sure what)

Target have also been approached, but we are not sure what they will do.

We need to put together a letter for all of these companies to facilitate donations.

Tahala is keen to have the community raise funds for us, instead of having parents contribute more money to the school. Therefore, she would like to organise all of the above into a big raffle, take students to Carlingford Court etc and sell tickets.

When would the raffle be held? Before Trivia, to coincide with trivia or closer to Christmas?

- The idea of a fete was raised – no one on the committee was keen as a fete is a lot of work.
- Sonja had an idea for a book fair. Her father runs one at Coffs Harbour for the Rotary Club. The idea is to ask students of our local high schools ie, St Pats, Marist Eastwood and OLMC to donate their 2nd hand books. Have the schools store the books, then we pick up on the Friday, sort the books in the CAR on the Saturday, then sell them on Sunday at 10:30am to catch church parishioners etc. Any leftover books can be sold on Monday morning for school families and remaining books go to Coffs Harbour with Sonja's dad. Pricing – could be charged \$2/binding cm. Term 3 looks very full at this stage, and term 4 is a short term so it was decided to hold this over until term 1 2015.
- Trivia – Sonja would like assistance with gathering prizes. We need to ascertain who was targeted for the Y6 mothers day raffle so we don't ask the same people. Tahala will do the rounds and we will see what we come up with.
- Greyci Zapata put forward the idea of offering a martial art program. Would it be possible to hire out the CAR after school for parents/children to learn taekwondo? Mary Ann advised that the CAR is used for parish sacramental lessons and also by COSHC on a regular basis. Anthony advised that gymnastics and dance are a curriculum requirement, we then do swimming as well as the St Pats sports program, he doesn't think we have room for it at present. He will think about it for the future.
- IT Wishlist – Mary Ann would like to have at least 5 laptops per classroom. Ipads are working well, and we also have some chrome books. The chrome books are good for the older students who use google docs. A mix of technology is needed. Macbooks are around \$1200 each, whereas chrome books are about \$300 each.

It was agreed that P&F would give \$12,500 to the school for technology ASAP, with another \$12,500 to be given by the end of the year (subject to a reserve of approximately \$5,000 being kept in the P&F account for expenses).

Meeting closed at 9:30pm