

**St. Mary's Primary School**  
**Parents and Friends Association**

**Minutes for General Meeting**  
**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011**  
**9:00 am in the Library**

**PRESENT**

Tony Hughes, Jennene Gillies, Sharon Nann, Anne-Louise Young, Fran Cutler, Anna Pan, Margaret Seruvatu, Rachel Hogan, Branka Ball, Debra Suffling, Shamiram Yousefi, Srбуhi Avetisyan, Helen Turner, Karen Stewart, Fiona Feher-Hegarty and Paula Gabriel.

**APOLOGIES**

Fr Peter Lamont, Emma Rauniyar, Trish Worsley, Heidi Cleary.

**1. Opening Prayer**

The meeting opened with a prayer from Tony Hughes at 9.10 am.

**2. Welcome**

Jennene welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Helen Boerma, the school Counselor.

**3. Special Guest Presentation**

Helen gave a presentation on her work including:

- a) Role of the Counselor and how this fits in with the school.
- b) How students are referred to the school counselor.
- c) How Helen works.
- d) Things parents can do if they have concerns.

**4. Minutes from previous meeting**

*Motion to accept the Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting. Moved – Sharon Nann, Seconded – Anna Pan. ALL IN FAVOUR.*

**5. Business arising from previous meetings**

Nil

**6. Correspondence**

Nil

**7. President's Report**

It has been a very busy year for the committee with several social events being held. Jennene welcomed the new committee to their first General meeting along with some new faces at the general meeting.

- Father Peter will be celebrating his 25th Anniversary shortly. The parish is organizing a present – a new set of vestments, which is what Fr Peter has requested.
- Kindergarten orientation has gone very well. Thanks to those on the committee who supported the provision of Morning Tea and gave presentations to the group. There are lots of new families in 2012 we look forward to welcoming the families next year.
- Update on the pedestrian crossing at the front of the school. It looks like, after much work and negotiation, this should be completed this year.
- Christmas evening will be held on 6th December which is the last social event for the year. P&F will provide glow stick candles as in previous years.

**8. Principal's Report**

**Religious Dimension**

- Yr 4 RE literacy assessments have been completed

- Our year 2 children will be making their First Reconciliation at the end of November early December.
- Upcoming Mass and Liturgical celebrations include Fr Peters Jubilee mass on Saturday 19th November, End of Year Thanksgiving Mass Thursday 15th December [TBC] and Yr 6 Graduation Mass Monday 12th December.
- Christmas Carol evening to be held on Tuesday 6th December commencing at 7:00pm. Venue Marist Site COLA
- The school has developed a relationship with the Ngalangangpum school in the Western Australia destroyed by the Floods last March. We are currently conducting a lunchbox and drink bottle drive.
- We have successfully introduced meditation into the prayer life at school.
- Teachers in the last few weeks have been involved with a variety outreach projects with the women's Catholic refuge in Merrylands. Simon and I are liaising currently with the men's refuge in Granville

### **Teaching Learning / Curriculum**

- School leadership team is working on consolidating and developing the school educational goals and initiatives for 2012. The major focuses for next year will continue to be Numeracy [EMU project] and Inquiry Based Learning and Formation.
- NAPLAN results were pleasing. Staff working on areas for development.
- Parent / teacher information evenings for 2012 will be held in the first few weeks of term 1.
- Teachers are currently completing assessments and writing end of year reports. Reports out to parents on the 9th December.
- Children in Kinder and yr 1 are completing the early literacy assessments.
- Awards ceremony will be held on Monday the 12th December commencing at 9:15am.
- Our stage three Maths Olympiad team did very well in this years competition.
- Student leadership team elections will be conducted over the next fortnight with the team announced at the awards ceremony in week 10
- Student will meet their 2012 teachers will take place on Tuesday 13th December week 10.
- Kinder have played host to recently hatched chickens over the last two weeks.
- Last terms Creative Arts Expo was a great success.

### **School Site News.**

- BER official opening to be held on the 16th March 2012.
- We are refurbishing the old garden in the Kinder outdoor area. The old garden will be paved. A roof will be constructed over the area with small benches and tables installed.
- New equipment shed has been installed on the Mercy site.
- Late last term several games were painted on the playground on both sites. A majority of the game s was funded by the second hand clothing pool funds.
- I have submitted a grant to fund the possibility of installing artificial turf on the grass area on the Mercy site.

### **Sport**

- Annual Swimming programme will be conducted during weeks 8 and 9. Cost \$100
- The school swimming carnival will be held on Wednesday 14th December Wk 10 at Merrylands Pool. Kinder and yr 1 will participate in sports tabloid day.
- Thankyou to all parents who have assisted with carnivals and Gala day throughout the year.

### **Staffing**

- New staff for 2012 Mrs Margaret Brewster [permanent], Mrs Deb Kemp [permanent] Victoria Temp F/T 2012
- Mrs Brennan and Miss Georgeson will be leaving us at the end of the year.
- Grades and teacher allocation TBA
- Enrolments fast approaching 350 students.

### **Miscellaneous**

- Kinder 2012 Orientation and Transition underway. We have 55 children enrolled for 2012.
- School closes for the year on Friday 16th December. Teachers finish on Monday 19th December
- School for 2012 commences for teachers on Friday 27th January. Yrs 1-6 commence on Monday 30th January with Kinder commencing on Tues 31st January half days for the week.
- Parish and School Directory will be published again in 2012. It will also be uploaded to the school website.
- After school pickup working well.
- Concern still over children being dropped off in the playground before the supervision time of 8:30am
- Council have informed us that a new pedestrian crossing will be installed in Pine St before the end of the year.

### **General discussion**

- Tony was asked if it would be possible for the lines in the car park to be re-done. Tony explained that the car park belongs to the pub and we are unable to do anything without their permission.
- Tony was asked if it was possible to view a copy of last year's survey results. The results have been previously presented at two P&F meetings throughout 2011. Tony said he would be happy to talk anyone through them at any time, please make an appointment.

### **9. Treasurers Report**

As we have a new treasurer information is not currently up to date. Current data will be distributed with the minutes of the meeting.

### **10. Parent Co-ordinator's Report**

Nothing to report.

### **11. Mother's / Father's Day Co-Ordinator's Report**

Nothing to report.

### **12. Social Co-ordinator's Report**

Planning for 2012 will soon start. Any suggestions are warmly welcomed.

- It is anticipated that we will have another movie night as this was greatly successful this year. Suggestions for appropriate movies are also welcome.

### **13. General Business**

- **Tony requested \$10,000 for the purchase of mac ipads or books** - it is anticipated that these will be used in the infants class rooms.
- **Tony requested \$10,000 for General resourcing for 2012** – this will help make up a short fall for 2012. *Motion for the P&F to provide approx \$10,000 for the purchase of new mac books or ipads including relevant software and \$10,000 for General resourcing. Moved – Jennene Gillies, Seconded – Anna Pan. ALL IN FAVOUR.*

### **14. Next Meeting**

The next P&F meeting will be held in early 2012. More information to be advised.

### **15. Meeting closed at 10.45am.**