

St. Mary's Primary School
Parents and Friends Association

Minutes of the General meeting held on
Wednesday 18th May 2010

MEETING OPENED AT 7: 20pm

PRESENT:

Marie Spinetti, Sue Thomas, Fran Cutler, Helen Gosper, Rachel Hogan, Tony Hughes, Jan Schroder, Chris Morgan, Anne Mobbs

APOLOGIES:

Jemma Arathoon, Rosie Gosper, Jennene Gillies

1. Principal's Report – Tony Hughes

Religious Dimension

The children in year three are receiving the sacrament of Confirmation this Friday evening. They will receive the sacrament of First Eucharist at the end of June.

Thank you to all those who assisted in celebrating Mother's Day last week.

In recent weeks we have celebrated Holy Week, Easter, Mother's Day and Pentecost this week.

Year 4 will be participating in the year 4 R.E Literacy assessment in the next few months.

Last Friday the staff participated in our annual spiritual formation day that focussed on our gifts as teachers, working collaboratively, our role in the faith formation of our students and our roles as facilitators of change. Our stage three children are facilitating our weekly Peer support programme this term.

Today several of our primary students attended the local writers' festivals.

Teaching Learning / Curriculum

Children in Years 3 and 5 participated in the NAPLAN exams last week. Results available some time early term 3.

Several children have been entered as a team in this year's Maths Olympiad.

Children from years 3-6 will participate in a variety of the University of NSW competitions.

Staff are currently working on professional learning initiatives relating to both literacy and numeracy and Inquiry Based Learning.

Early next term we will host a cyber safety workshop day for students and teachers with a parent session being conducted in the evening.

Yr 6 are currently on tour in Canberra supporting this term's studies of democracy and various forms of Government.

Reports distributed to Yrs K,2,3,4 and 6 on Friday 25th June [Week 10] parent teacher interviews for these classes will be conducted during week 11 of this term.

Reports for yr 1 students will be distributed on Friday 11th June with interviews the following week in Week 9.

Reports for yr 5 students will be distributed on Friday 18th June with interviews the following week in Week 10.

School Site News

Years 5 and 6 will moving into their new space downstairs on the mercy site next week.

Commencement on the upstairs refurbishment of the Mercy site will commence next week.

Completion of the Mercy site refurbishment mid term 3.

Removalists will be moving furniture etc between rooms this Saturday.

Partial closure and fencing off of Marist playground will occur in the next few weeks.

Work on the Marist site will commence in the next few weeks. The refurbishment of the old library and construction of the new toilets will be followed by refurbishment of year 1 and 2 and relocation of the library.

Completion of the project scheduled for the 30th November 2010.

Sport

In recent weeks our Senior girls won their pool at the stage 3 Girls touch Footy day.

Sixty children from yrs 3-6 participated in last month's Diocesan Cross Country.

Upcoming sporting gala days include our annual athletics carnival 4th June (week 7), Stage 1 and 3 boys soccer days and the Penrith Diocesan netball carnival.

Miscellaneous

Rosie and I are currently conducting Kindergarten interviews for 2011 and will continue to do so for the next few weeks

Spoke to the Sydney regional manager for Lowes who assures me stocks of girls winter blouses and tunics will be in store by the end of week 6

2. Seasons for Growth – Special Presentation – Jan Schroder, Chris Morgan & Anne Mobbs

Trained Companions for the school - Jan Schroder, Chris Morgan & Anne Mobbs, Rebecca Boidin
Seasons for Growth is an education programme to help children deal with their individual responses to change and loss (especially death, separation and divorce).

Children can only participate with their parent's permission.

The sessions and what is discussed is confidential.

It is not counselling or therapy.

5 – 6 children needed to run a group session

Reflects the cycle of the seasons – Autumn (acceptance of change/loss) – Winter (experience pain of grief) – Spring (adjusting to the new environment) – Summer (reinvest emotional energy)

8 sessions are run over an 8 week period during school hours.

At the end of the sessions the group celebrates with either a liturgy or a lunch etc and parents may be invited to attend.

2 Reconnector Sessions are held 6 – 8 weeks after the regular sessions end and before Christmas vacation.

Adult programmes also run through different associations – see www.goodgrief.org.au

For more information please contact (in confidence) any of the Companions or Tony Hughes.

2. President's Report – Fran Cutler

Fran mentioned the importance to maintain/improve the public face of the school. Two areas were identified:

1. Ensuring our interactions with our neighbours show respect and courtesy (eg children not running in neighbour's gardens, not parking in the hotel's bottle shop car park etc).

2. Improving the street face of the school by developing the garden on Victoria Road side of the Parish Hall.

Kiss & Drop – number of safety issues with parents and children using this 'service'. Discussions to be held about establishing safety expectations and the best way to see that they are followed by all involved.

Action Item: Fran Cutler to meet with Tony Hughes to develop safety expectations and decide on best way to roll these out.

Tony also asked for ideas on how to ease the congestion during dismissal process at the end of the day. Possible ideas – a formal closure to the end of the day (eg prayer). Creating a no loitering zone at the bottom gate (painted yellow square).

3. Treasurer's Report – Helen Gosper

Events

Term 2, 2010

	Date held	Income	Expenses	Profit
Mother's Day Stall	5/05/2010	\$2,347.80	\$2,096.38	\$251.42

Other expenses

Term 2, 2010

School cross country	iceblocks	\$92.03
Open Day	morning tea	\$83.66

Total expenses

\$2,272.07

Bank balance as at 7 May 2010

Cheque Account

Current balance \$ 4,791.95

Bank balance as at 30 April 2010

Savings Account

Current balance \$39,369.14

2010 Mother's Day Stall

4/12/2009Synergy	\$ 104.00
12/03/2010Jennene Gillies	\$ 95.00
12/03/2010Unique Elegance	\$ 162.00
12/03/2010Ltd Promotions	\$ 134.20
26/03/2010Jennene	\$ 63.22
19/04/2010Heidi Cleary	\$ 154.00
23/04/2010Marie Sloane	\$ 68.60
23/04/2010Sue Thomas	\$ 95.00
23/04/2010Synergy	\$ 48.00
23/04/2010Smart Funraisers	\$ 382.75
28/04/2010Ana Fairall	\$ 416.00
10/05/2010Jennene Gillies	\$ 66.66
7/05/2010Sue Thomas	\$ 231.95
7/05/2010Fran Cutler	\$ 45.00
10/05/2010Sue Thomas	\$ 30.00
	<u>\$2,096.38</u>
Money raised	\$2,347.80
Expenses	<u>\$2,096.38</u>
Profit	<u>\$ 251.42</u>

4. Social Co-ordinator's Report – Sue Thomas

*****The constitution was checked and a quorum existed for voting on all motions*****

Term 3 Trivia Night – funds to be used to meet shortfall in costs for library refurbishment

Vote: All in favour

Biggest Morning Tea – will be held in honour of Sue's friend who recently passed away from cancer. Plan to involve the whole Parish – car pool to be offered for parishioners after Mass. Possibility of holding it at St Pat's

Action Item: Sue to confirm venue, set date & advertise the event.

Term 2 PJ Disco to be held at St Pat's

Action Item: Sue to confirm venue, set date & advertise the event.

5. General Business

No Fete will be held in 2010 – due to building works

Action Item: Fete Committee to voted in Term 4 at P&F General Meeting

Concern about the number of people in attendance at the meeting – only one non-executive member! New committee needs to be voted on at the next meeting (AGM – 18/8/10).

Possibility of changing meetings so that Term 1 & Term 2 meetings are held in the evening with Term 2 & Term 3 meetings held during the day. (avoiding winter nights – no daylight savings)

Action Item: To be put to the AGM for a vote – to see if numbers attending would increase.

Motions Voted On:

Motion: Introduction of a working bee once a term – possibly Sunday 10am – 2pm

Vote: All in favour

Passed

Motion: 12 Trestle Tables to be purchased

Vote: All in favour

Passed

Motion: P&F to purchase 12 tablecloths for social functions (including Year 6 Graduation)

Vote: All in favour

Action Item: Sue to provide costing at next meeting. If cost less than \$300 purchase can go ahead.

Next Meetings –

Executive Meeting – Week 2 Monday 26th July 2010 7.00pm

Annual General Meeting – Week 5 Wednesday 18th August 2010 7pm

Meeting closed at 8:55pm