

St. Mary's Primary School
Parents and Friends Association

Minutes for General Meeting Term 2, 2011
Wednesday 18th May 2011
7:00pm in the Library

PRESENT

Tony Hughes, Fr Peter Lamont, Jennene Gillies, Sharon Nann, Cathy Vaughan, Heidi Cleary, Dorothy Panas.

APOLOGIES

Anne-Louise Young, Anna Pan, Ana Fairall Trish Worsley, Rosie Gosper, Fran Cutler, Eliza Stefuli, Rachel Hogan.

1. Opening Prayer

The meeting opened with a prayer from Tony Hughes at 7.05 pm.

2. Minutes From the Previous Meeting

Motion to accept the Minutes of the Previous General Meeting. Moved – Dorothy, Seconded – Heidi. ALL IN FAVOUR.

3. Business arising from previous meetings

Nil

4. President's Report

1. Thank you to everyone for taking the time to attend tonight.
2. Quick recap of events since last meeting. Toy Story movie night was a huge success, with many families asking when we are planning on hosting the next one. The new popcorn machine was well used on the night, and will definitely be a useful addition to future fundraising events.
3. This term got off to a busy start with mothers day events and the school open day. All went well mainly due to the ongoing support of the school community.
4. The social coordinators are busy planning out next school event which will be the pyjama disco on June 17th.
5. There is a Year 6 graduation fundraising event coming up in the next few weeks, and I would like to encourage everyone to support this and any future events organised by the Yr 6 graduation committee.
6. Class contact lists will be coming out in the near future. We apologise for the extended delay which was brought about by technical difficulties.

5. Principal's Report

5.1 Religious Dimension

1. Celebrated our opening school mass in week four incorporating the blessing and installation of our new student leadership team and staff.
2. The children in year three will receive the sacrament of First Eucharist at the end of June.
3. Year students will make their First Reconciliation in Term 4.
4. Thank you to all those who assisted in celebrating Mothers day the week before last.

5. In recent weeks we have celebrated Anzac day, Easter, Catholic Schools Week and Mothers day.
6. Year 4 will participating in the year 4 R.E Literacy assessments in early term 4.
7. Our stage two and three children are participating this term in the Stones and Streams / Rock and water programmes.
8. Teachers working with the students in the area of Guided Meditations with a scripture and prayer focus. Opportunities will be made available in the future for parents to be inserviced in Guided meditation.

5.2 Teaching Learning / Curriculum

1. Children in Years 3 and 5 participated in the NAPLAN exams last week. Results available some time early term 3. Thanks to Mrs Gosper for co-ordinating this.
2. Yesterday several of our primary students attended the local writer's festivals.
3. Several Stage 3 children have been entered as a team in this year's Math's Olympiad.
4. Children from years 3-6 will participate in a variety of the University of NSW competitions this term.
5. Staff are currently working on professional learning initiatives relating to both Mathematics and Inquiry Based Learning. Parent workshops will be held over the next few months.
6. Yr 6 will be on tour in Canberra supporting this term's studies of Democracy and various forms of Government.
7. Reports distributed to Yrs K- 6 on Friday 17th June [Week 9] Parent teacher interviews for these classes will be conducted during week 10 [20th-23rd June] of this term.
8. Band day at St Bernadettes Castle Hill on Friday 10th June.
9. Creative Arts Expo Thursday 18th August. The troupe has started rehearsing.
10. Details regarding ticketing etc will be made available in the next few weeks

5.3 School Site News

1. Work near completion. Electricity supplies to be finalised in the next two weeks.
2. Minor defect work being completed over the next few weeks.
3. Opening date to be finalised with the office.
4. Painted playground games will be done in Term 3

5.4 Sport

1. In recent weeks our stage 3 students attended the Touch Footy Gala day achieving great success.
2. Forty children from yrs 3-6 participated in last weeks Diocesan Cross Country. One child through to the next level.
3. Upcoming sporting gala days include our annual athletics carnival June 14th week 7, Stage 2 and 3 boys soccer days and the Penrith Diocesan netball carnival.

5.5 Miscellaneous

1. Rosie and Tony will commence Kindergarten interviews for 2012 on Friday and will continue to do so for the next few weeks.
2. Positions available in all grades
3. Tony spoke to the Sydney regional manager for Lowes who assures us stocks of girls' winter tunics by the 30th May. 50% discount on all new winter tunics purchased. [2010 Tunics were not available till Week 6]
4. Volunteer grant now open. Closes 6th June
5. Assemblies have recommenced this week. Thanks to year 2. Year 4 Assembly 7th June.
6. Tony then lead the meeting through the results of the school survey which was given to all parents at the end of 2011.

6. Treasurers Report

An updated report was presented and is attached.

It was noted that the Commencement Party came in just under budget – well done to the Social Committee. Mothers day income and expenditure is still being finalized.

The purchase of the popcorn maker is included in this report.

The Yr 6 graduation Committee have asked for the promised funds. Jennene to talk with the committee about the need for funds to go through the Treasurer of the P&F.

It was noted that the P&F accounts need to be audited prior to the next meeting in term 3, 2011. Cathy will look into this further.

7. Class Parent Report

Unfortunately Trish was unable to attend the meeting to provide a report. No class lists are currently available. Much concern was raised about this. Further contact will be made with Trish to ascertain the progress and what support is needed to ensure these are completed as soon as possible.

8. Mother's / Father's Day Co-Ordinator's Report

The committee thanked Anne-Louise for her hard work in preparing for the stall and to all the volunteers who helped with wrapping and sales. The gifts were of great quality this year – "it was a sell out".

After much discussion, it was decided that it would be much simpler for both the committee and the children if only one gift was accessed by each child. It was agreed that the following needs to be addressed when implementing the above changes:

1. The fact that one gift will be available to each child only must be communicated to both the children and their parents clearly a number of weeks prior to the stall.
 2. Additional Gift for step fathers (step parents) are to be catered for.
- Jennene offered to put some information about this in the next newsletter.

9. Social Co-ordinator's Report

The next social function will be the PJ Disco. Fr Peter has already been informed and is happy for the hall to be used (he also confirmed that the school will be responsible for opening and closing the hall). Pizza and a drink voucher will be available with each ticket. Glow sticks will be available for an extra price.

10. General Business

PRC Report to be added to the Agenda for the next meeting. Fran is currently our representative on this committee and will be asked to give a brief update at the next meeting.

11. Next Meeting

P&F Executive meeting Monday 8 August.
P&F AGM Monday 22 August.

Meeting closed at 9:05 pm