

P&F Report 2018:

2018 has been a year of consolidation for the James Sheahan P&F (Parents & Friends), as well as a rewarding year of hard work (Trivia night, garden bed planting days) and enthusiastic support for the school (teacher grants, various projects around the school, providing feedback to the school). If you're interested in being part of a dynamic organisation that supports our kids, please come along to any or all of our meetings. Remember that all parents and carers are automatically members of the P&F, there is no joining process.

The P&F has a very good relationship with the school Executive, who listen to our views and have implemented many of our suggestions. We very much appreciate that the school is so willing to take on board parent views, concerns and ideas. We represent the parent body to the best of our ability, and it would be great to have more parents participating so the school has an even broader sense of what parent concerns and interests are.

The P&F engages in a range of activities that endeavour to promote a sense of overall community within JSCHS. To that end, the P&F has reduced its focus on fundraising by introducing the Voluntary Contribution, and increased direct communication with the school and its teachers and students. The parent body has been very generous in supporting the P&F through the Voluntary Contribution, and thereby supporting all of our kids and their school. We thank all those who contribute so generously to the P&F. Without you, we wouldn't be able to run.

P&F meetings are held twice a term, generally in week 3 and week 7, meeting information is published in P&F Association (under Community & Faith) on the Sheahan website. Our AGM is held at our final meeting of the year, in week 7 of term 4, so there is no sense of pressure for new parents who wish to attend meetings from the beginning of the year that they will be forced into executive positions. Those positions are already filled in November, at the last meeting of each year!

The committee during 2018 consisted of Tom Capell (President), Kelly Carberry (Vice President), Mary Taylor (Secretary), Neal Livermore (Treasurer) and Stew Vidler (Publicity Officer).

Actions for 2018

Family BBQ in February

Hosted the Trivia night in May – raised approximately \$16,000

Dr Justin Coulson parent talk in June, provided wine and cheese – approx 70 parents & students attended

Andrew Lines (Rite Journey) parent talk in August, funded by P&F, also provided wine & cheese – approx 70 parents attended.

Planting of garden beds in September in the student car park & in front of Mercy Hall

Paul Dillon Drug & Alcohol parent, student and staff talks in October, all funded by the P&F

P&F Accounts audited for 2017

Staff thank you morning tea December

Ongoing discussions with RMS, Council and bus lines re a crossing on Anson Street

Additionally, we provided feedback to the school on various issues:

- draft School Strategic Plan 2019-2024
- wellbeing/pastoral care policy development
- mental health issues
- reporting to parents/communication channels
- parent priorities
- ICT provision (iPad/Chromebook discussion)
- Rite Journey programme

Major Projects funded 2018:

Teacher grants (x 4) total \$9,500

Paul Dillon Drug & Alcohol talks to parents, students and staff \$4,500

Duke of Ed equipment bank \$2,000

Bike shed stage I – concrete pad with racks for bikes \$4,300

We continued to update the P&F section of the school website including adding minutes of meetings, and worked closely with the school on wellbeing issues & funding for wellbeing programmes and speakers. In 2019 we have agreed to fund a very well regarded speaker to talk to students, staff and parents about positive self image and body issues.

We anticipate another busy year for 2019, and want to thank parents for being enthusiastic in their support of the Voluntary Contribution, which made an enormous positive difference in 2018, and will make a big difference around the school in 2019 and beyond. We aim to bring great speakers to the school for parents and/or students, and work on a 'project list' for improved amenities (such as additional seating for students around the school grounds) by liaising with teachers, students and parents.

If you have any ideas for P&F involvement around the school, email us at sheahanpandf@gmail.com We'd love to hear from you!