

Holy Family School Merewether Beach

Minutes of Parents and Friends Meeting

October 24th, 2018

Commenced: 1.58pm

Attendance - Sue Thatcher; Sidonie Coffey; Kristy Noonan; Lisa Gill; Rachel McCormack; Sian Munroe; Mark Vella (phone)

Apologies - Jade Courtney; Mel Renfrew; Cath O'Sullivan; Christine Spiteri; Kieran Hazell; Angela Henderson; Jackie Lind; Caitlyn Byrnes

Minutes from the previous meeting-

- Accepted by
- Seconded by

Minutes not accepted because of missing information about the possibility of a demountable building in the school grounds. Minutes to be amended. Deferred acceptance until next meeting.

Business arising from previous meeting-

Questions about the possibility of a demountable classroom - Kindergarten numbers for 2019 are 50 children, so we need more space for 2 classrooms. Sidonie has applied for and received a grant to demolish the old building, and replace with a new building for classrooms, canteen, uniform store, storage. Sidonie is awaiting more information from CSO Capital Works Department.

Lisa provided some information about concrete stencilling for the playground. She will arrange for a site inspection and get some quotes for passive play area.

Correspondence-

Email from Cath Garrett Jones - CSO Parent Newsletter

Principal's Report -

Students:

* New students commenced this week. Welcome Hannah (Year 5/6) and Noah Savage (Year 4) from Brisbane. We also have Sophia McPherson(Year 1/2) moving here from Canberra

* ASPIRE Director, Anna Kerrigan was here for a day working with a team of talented writers from Years 4, 5 and 6 on our HF Christmas production. I'm sure you're going to enjoy this one!

- * Kids attending Merewether High School in 2019 attended a Maths/Science enrichment day.
- * A huge contingent of kids participated in the Diocesan Netball Gala Day.
- * Public Speaking Competition is on today. One child from ES1, S1, S2 and S3 will be representing HF at the Regional Public Speaking Competition at St. Joseph's P.S on Tuesday 30th,
- * Four Year 6 students offered places at Merewether High School in 2019. One student offered a place at Hunter School of Performing Arts
- * All students in Years 5 and 6 completed the very challenging, Newcastle Permanent Mathematics Competition.
- * A large number of students (all girls!), auditioning for ASPIRE from Years 5 and 6. We've got to get those boys on board!
- * ICAS Mathematics and Spelling Competition results are back and HF featured strongly in both High Distinctions and Distinctions.
- * Blue Team won the token competition for PBL in Term 3, enjoying lots of great games played at a nearby oval.. Great art work, as a result, displayed in their classrooms.
- * Stage 1 kids thoroughly enjoyed a visit from Children's Book illustrator, Liz Anneli. Great art work, as a result, displayed in their classrooms.
- * ScopeIT completed 'made up' lessons during the last week of term. Kids enjoyed this ten week experience.

Staff:

- * Giulia Drinkwater on LSL, for Weeks 1, 2 and 3 of this term, replaced by Di Dan. Jane Dougherty on LSL in Week 3, replaced by Samantha Howard.
- * Carolyn Taylor will be on Carers Leave for the remainder of the year. Kerrie Wallace will be replacing Carolyn
- * Rebecca Searant and Caroline Whittaker nominated to join the Teaching and Learning Writing Team to undertake the writing of new Science and Technology Units of Work for all primary grades. Four days secondment to the CSO was required.
- * Abbie Corby and Bridie Stanger attended PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) professional development.
- * Sidonie, Sue, Bernadette and Joe attended the Naplan Data Analysis Workshop. DET online data analysis tool, SmartData has been replaced by SCOUT....a more 'user friendly' easy to navigate tool, that gives us a rich profile on our student results, patterns of growth, analysis of every question asked with follow-up teaching tasks to

address areas of weakness. Our results were very impressive, particularly in Year 3 with strong growth demonstrated from Year 3 to Year 5.

* New CSO Cluster Accountant, Michael Burg, had his first 'budget briefing' from me for our 2019 school year.

* The Groundsman's position at HF was advertised, short listed and Merit Selection interviews carried out. Eddie Lowe was the successful applicant.

* Sadly, Stephanie Whiterod's Mum, lost her battle with cancer. Stephanie will be returning to her home in Currumbin at the end of the year. She's been a wonderful asset to our school community. Blessed to have had her for this time. CSO, Early Learning Consultant, Kim Moroney, also lost her Mum. Sad time for both teachers.

* Joe attended PD in Mathematics.

* Our school applied for, and was successful in being one of ten schools selected for a pilot program, 'Successful Transition' with Kim Moroney and university academic, Professor Cathy Harrison.

Parents/Facilities/Resources:

* Grandparents Day was a great success. Liturgy run by Kindergarten kids...just delightful and such a heart melter! Vietnamese Food Truck? Delicious tucker! Open classrooms? Wonderful opportunity to check out 'learning in action'. Dance fever presentation and 'school community dance off'....fantastic! Topped off a fabulous day for our school community.

* Fire Safety Audit carried out by Guardian Services. All compliant and costs us \$460 for the job!

* KidsSafe NSW has conducted a 'Comprehensive Playground Inspection Report'. Cost? \$702. We have a number of compliance issues to attend to.

* CSO have appointed a staff member in Facilities who is in charge of Maintenance in all our schools. A cyclical 'Maintenance Plan' has been developed for every school. I received this yesterday.

* I applied for, and was successful in receiving approval for the demolition of the old Kindergarten building under the CSO Capital Works Internal Funding/Major Maintenance Funding program....watch this space.

* Still awaiting the 'go ahead' on the replacement of all windows and doors in the building housing Year 2,3,4 and 5

Coming Events:

Mother's Dinner: Friday, 26th October

Central Region Public Speaking @ St. Joseph's, (Tuesday, 30th October.)

Year 6 Retreat Day (Monday, 5th November)

Summer Soiree: (Friday, 16th November)

Kindergarten 2019 transition visits. (November 15th, 22nd, 29th November)

PUPIL free DAY (Monday December 3rd)...Staff Spirituality

Thank you for your ongoing support of this great school

Cheers, Sidonie. X

Treasurer's Report -

Current Funds at Hand	\$67,115.07	As of 24/10/18
Surfhouse Balance	\$ 3,400.00	Soiree
Band Balance	\$ 495.00	Soiree
Vietnamese Food Truck	\$ 1,000.00	Grandparent's Day
BALANCE	\$ 62,220.07	

Uniform Committee -

N/A

Canteen Report -

No report.

Discussion:

Rachel suggested that the Food Warmer needs a clean; and the freezer needs a clean out, discarding some old meat.

Chicken burgers receiving negative feedback from a number of children. Kristy said 7 children brought their burgers back to the canteen on Friday (19/10) - she has documented this in the Canteen Communication Book.

Feedback from Kristy about mega milky bites - if they are made again, they need to be put in sealed containers so they don't get frosty in freezer.

Screen door of canteen - Sidonie to get a builder to replace.

Few hiccups with missing stock last week, but should be better in future, with Lisa taking on this role on Friday's.

Decided that an email will be sent to Chrissy after the P&F meeting to update about any canteen discussions. Not possible to defer all discussions to the Canteen Committee Meeting.

Fundraising Report -

Current strategies:

Ball/Soiree - Fri 16th November, Surfhouse. 115 tickets purchased. Raffle tickets being sold, especially to include those who can't attend.

Santa photos on the beach won't be happening this year.

General Business -

Sian raised concerns about having large Kindergarten classes. Sidonie explained that the numbers for 2019 have been a directive from CSO, not a school based decision.

Congratulations to school community for winning \$1000 in the Moving Matters Competition run by Genesis. Kerrie Wallace and staff have a wish list of sporting items to purchase with these winnings. Sue motioned that the P&F contribute funds (up to \$500) if these items cost more than the \$1000. **All accepted.**

Working bee - dates and suggested tasks/areas for focus to be discussed with staff.

Next meeting: Tuesday
4th Dec 7pm

Meeting Closed: 2.55pm