

## **P & F PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2017**

As a parent of children who have attended St Columba's Catholic Primary school over the past 14 years it has been a privilege to be the P & F president this year. It has been rewarding to give back a little to the school that has seen my three children go from Kindy to Year 6.

My aim for this year was to keep building on the connections between parents, children and teachers. I believe that is an integral part of making the school a vibrant community where all parents feel welcome and able to assist in the education of their children.

It has been a busy year for the P&F, with the many school events that the P&F support. Thankyou to all those who helped with the events, your contribution ensures the smooth running and success of these events.

We began the year with the Night on the Green which was a great night for new parents to meet informally and for other parents to reconnect after the holidays. It was a lovely relaxed evening spent on the bottom oval with many children happily running around.

Every year the P&F hosts a Mother's Day morning tea and a Father's Day breakfast. Both events are just some of the fantastic ways for other mums and dads to meet and chat in a relaxed setting without having to prepare a meal.

The kids love the school disco and this year was no exception. The children loved the glow in the dark theme and it was fantastic to see so many kids grooving and parents too!

Our biggest event of the 2017 year was the Quiz Night held in August. Our theme this year was the 80's and it was great to see so many parents and teachers embracing it. The costumes were absolutely amazing. The success of this event relies both on the generosity of the school community and of the hard work put in by the committee. Both groups were amazing and it was much appreciated. We were able to raise a substantial amount and \$10,000 was donated to the school for the robotics course which benefitted both teachers and students.

This year the P&F has been able to donate funds back to the school to aid the class teacher wish lists and some specialist teacher support. We have also supported the buying of robots, the replenishment of old and tired class sport equipment, the year 6 movie night (in conjunction with other local catholic primary schools), and other school events such as the St Columba's Day sausage sizzle. The P&F are only able to do this with the money that families voluntarily donate and through fundraising throughout the school year. I would like to thank parents for their continued support of our P&F in this regard.

To our team of P&F office bearers: Caroline Delic- vice president, Louise Van Maanen- secretary, Andrew Mclean- treasurer and Ian Rundle- P&F board rep, my sincere thanks for your ongoing support and tireless hard work over the past year. My thanks also go to the class reps. Each year group class takes on a school event and organizes it. The class reps have all done this with a smile and with ease.

I would also like to thank Lorraine Jenaway – school secretary and Ondine Komnick- acting school principal for their support and many chats. My job was made easier knowing you were both so approachable and ready to assist behind the scenes.

Finally I would like to say thank you to the parents of St Columba's for their ongoing support of the P&F. Many of the events would not be able to be run without your support and I strongly encourage new parents to put their hand up. As I can attest, you gain so much more than you give, especially in terms of friendships made and the happiness of your children when they see you helping at school.

I wish the incoming P&F committee members, the staff, plus all in the school community the very best in the future.

**Anne Reutens**  
**President**