



Sacred Heart Primary School, Dunedin

Parents & Friends Association

Annual Report 2014-15

This has been an active and busy year for the PFA, as we continue our pastoral and social role within the school, which is our primary function. We also support day to day school activities and events in partnership with the teaching staff and children.

This year has also been a busy one for the PFA meal and baking roster. We try to help out a little where we can for families who have significant life events and could benefit with some baking or a meal. Instances when this comes into play are when someone faces unexpected illness, loss of a loved one, or the celebration of new life within our community. We would like to thank all those outside the PFA who have been part of this roster. We are always grateful for this help, and if you feel you might be able to provide a meal or some baking occasionally, please let us know. This is done very discreetly and in some instances you may not know who the family is, and the family will just be aware that it has come from PFA support group rather than an individual. We do not call heavily on anyone, and it's easier when shared around, so we look forward to hearing from people who may be able to help.

We are only able to swing into action if we hear of a family in any of these circumstances, so please don't hesitate to let us know directly, or through the office, if you think someone could benefit from this help.

As usual, the PFA enjoyed welcoming new entrants to Sacred Heart with our welcome pack, and it never seems very long before we prepare to farewell the leavers in Year 6 at the Final Mass, as we did in Term 4, by presenting them with a gift with to remember the special character of Sacred Heart. It has been wonderful to see the children from so many years coming back to our socials and most recently to help out with the cheese roll making!

This year we also farewelled a member of our committee, Megan Millar-Coote, and we would like to thank her for her support of the PFA over the years that she was the Chair of Board of Trustees, and for her input as an ex officio member of the PFA. We welcome Steve Gallagher onto our committee, ex officio, as the new Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and look forward to working alongside him.

As usual, we have sizzled countless sausages this year, not only at our own socials, but also for the children's Winter Warmer and our Ice Skating night, and in a support role for Final Mass, Cross Country and the Open Day, to name but a few.

We are not a fundraising body, but are willing to assist, either together or individually, when the Board identifies a need. Due to the small population of our school this has become a necessity; however our primary focus is and always will be the pastoral and social support in our community. We have therefore been key players in fundraising events this year: the Monster Garage Sale, cheese roll making, Hot Cross Bun sale, foil and wrap fundraiser and Book Fair. It is clear to us that these events aren't just important for fundraising; they are an opportunity to bring our community together, and what a great community it is!

Thanks to all those who lend a hand, sometimes at the last minute! Our community is such that, though we are few in numbers on the PFA, everyone comes together at Sacred Heart to make it work!

This year we have recognized the need for a new focus on raising the profile of the school, and again we have responded as individuals to produce our new Sacred Heart teardrop banner which certainly attracts the attention of those passing the school, and also our new bumper stickers, which will be our mobile publicity around the city! We thank Diane Cooney and Brigid Quinn for their input in this promotion.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge and thank our dedicated Principal Paul Richardson, the teachers, our enthusiastic and patient School Secretary Kay Gallagher, Mrs Helm, Angela, the multi-talented Ken Pearson, Father Aidan, Moira Gallagher and the Board of trustees for their tireless help and support for our PFA.

We are always looking for more people to step up in the PFA- please come along to any of our meetings if you would like to join us.

Finally, the PFA would like to present the financial report for the year. This has been audited by John Vincent and copies of the accounts and audit report are available.

The PFA recorded a net surplus of \$57.21 for the 12 months ended 31 December 2014. Total funds on hand at 31 December 2014 were \$1,533.98.

Martina Kelly & Kate Wilson
Co-Chairs, Parents & Friends Association, Sacred Heart Primary School, Dunedin