

Mimosa Public School P&C Association



P&C Meeting and AGM 12th February 2019

Principal's Report

Thank you to everyone for coming along to tonight's meeting and welcome to any new people who have come along to the P&C for the first time.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing 2018 P&C Executive members. Many thanks to Shawn, Noel, Emma, Stuart and Ellen. Thank you also to the people who lead our sub-committees - Jo (canteen), Deb (Uniform Shop), Amanda (Band) and Gretta (Social & Fundraising) and Janelle, Lauren, Jenny and the whole committee for Fireworks.

Thank you also to all our parents who have put up their hands to volunteer in so many ways last year and already again this year. Everyone's support, enthusiasm and dedication for our school is very much appreciated.

Our calendar is already quite full and we are very excited about the events we have planned for this year.

All children went into classes on Day 2 following our enrolment of 15 new students on the first day of school. We have 21 classes K-6 with 523 students enrolled overall. During the first week our 84 Kindy students all took part in the Best Start Assessments and began their first full day on Monday 4th February. Everyone is settling in well and getting used to school routines. The Year 6 students have done an exceptional job helping their Kindergarten buddies. Teachers are busily getting to know their students and meeting parents. Last night's 'Meet the Teacher' sessions were well attended and I have received positive feedback from many.

This year we welcomed some new teachers to our school. We have a number of teachers on temporary contracts working for the year covering staff who are on leave. New to Mimosa in 2019 are Jenny Gray on Year 6, Joshua Rowles on Year 5 and Kristen Coolentianos on Year 2.

Some areas that we are focussing on this year are:

Literacy and Numeracy – We are continuing our professional learning and implementation of Visible Learning and our Focus on Reading strategies. Last week we hosted a professional learning session with Lyn Sharrett, a Canadian educator, researcher and specialist in the use of data to inform planning. Mrs Sharratt also took time to see the work we are doing in collecting and using data to help increase student achievement and improve teachers' assessment and instruction practices. She gave us some very positive feedback on the work we are doing and also gave us some advice to assist us where to head next with our improvement plans.

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We also had some of the Directors, Educational Leadership looking at our work and have now been asked to host a meeting of Principals from the North Shore area to showcase and discuss our work in collecting data to inform our practices.

This year, we have focus teams in English - Writing, English – Reading, Maths, Science & Technology and Student Well-Being. Each of these teams is looking at priorities and directions for the year.

We have a new Wellbeing program which we are implementing called 'Strong Minds'. It is a whole school approach to wellbeing for all children from K-6, staff and parents. Staff will be trained in delivering the lessons and parents will be offered an evening information session on 6th March. The program focusses on identifying, developing and building on character strengths as well as the importance of mindfulness. The aim is for students to Identify and value their own unique strengths, Appreciate and value others, Regulate their emotions, Build resilience, Utilise strengths to manage challenges and Perform acts of kindness.

School Maintenance –

Extensive tree works were carried out in the holidays in all areas of the school. Dead wood was removed from the trees and unsafe trees were removed.

The DA for the electronic sign was finally approved and so should be installed very soon! It's been a long time coming but we are finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel with this project!

Year 6 students from last year donated money to the school through their fundraising to install a bubbler system on the top oval. We have two quotes in so far and just waiting on the third before proceeding.

Gutters and downpipes are currently being replaced on D and G blocks.

We have ordered new seating for the Year 6 lunch area and the area around the 'big rock' outside the admin building. New planter boxes will be placed outside A Block where the brick planter boxes were previously removed due to the damaged concrete from tree roots. New raised sandpits where the children will be able to stand and play in the sand (to reduce the amount of sand in shoes!!) will be installed at the end of the bottom oval.

We are looking forward to a great year ahead and continuing to work with our parent community throughout the year.

Matthew Fuller