



# PARENT'S ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – NOV 2020-2021

Melbourne had been in on-and-off city lockdown in the past 19 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation. With 262 days of lockdown in total, we hold the record of the longest lockdown in the world. PA had again a very quiet year running community events for the school. We cancelled most of the social events and ran all the meetings online in 2021. We continued the basic communication with parents via Rocket newsletter and Compass to keep us engaged with the school community.

Firstly, I would like to formally thank all parent volunteers and school team who gave the time and resources to participate in our events and projects in this year.

In particular I would like to thank our leaving parents and wish them and their children well and success as they start their new journey through High School.

I would like to thank our Office Bearers for all their hard work and dedication to the PA over the past year. Thanks to Kate Edwards-Davis for her work and support in the position of Treasurer, to Ruwani Kumarapperuma for her role as Secretary and to Kunal Monga as PA Vice President.

Special thanks to our committee members of 2021: Elaine Wong, Hye Jung Lee, Lisa Macdermott and Wendy Au, for helping with our operations and events, offering their thoughts at meetings, aiding the decision-making process.

We fully appreciate the fact that these positions are voluntary, and I believe that involvement in our child/ren's learning journey is a priceless gift. Please know that our child/ren, all students, families, staff, and community benefit from your dedication. I have enjoyed working with you all and hope you have enjoyed the experience as well.

Our first event of the year was providing icy poles on the School Sports Day. A huge thankyou to the organisers who helped made this event happen. All students and teachers really appreciated this icy pole tradition on the sports day. Thank you Kate for supplying the icy poles for this event for the past many many years, and thanks to our wonderful parent volunteers Wendy, Jessica, Julie and Ritu for joining us. We also offered hot tea and chocolate to parents this year, in the hope that we could enjoy a cup of tea while watching our kids running around the track. Thanks to Stanley for contributing the coffee cups for this event.

We had a beautiful collection this year for Easter Raffle. A big thank you to Jessica, Titaha, Julie, Lisa, Hye Jung and Eun Joo for packing 27 beautiful hampers. Thanks everyone for your donation of Easter eggs, chocolates and Easter giftware.

Footy Tipping competition raised \$468.07 for the PA fund this year. Thanks to Mr Kenez and Michelle Huppe for organizing this event. Congratulations to all the winners.

PA also supported our school to organize the Mother's Day Stall and thank you to the parents that helped at the stall – Judith, Hye Jung, Ritu, Shubi, Libby, Mon, Wendy and Elaine. A special thank you to The Foxy

Crafters who created so many beautiful handmade gifts over many months and as a result over \$2,300 was raised for the school. Due to city lockdown, the Father's Day Shopping Stall was cancelled this year and all the purchased gifts were carefully packed and stored by the school for next year.

A huge and special thankyou to those Parents who worked diligently through the year on our ongoing programs. This includes:

- The **Helping Hands Team** assisting families in need, and thanks to Sayanti Sarkar as the coordinator and our Assistant Principal Rebecca Stonehouse-Melke who leads this program.
- Thank you to our **Second-hand Uniform Shop Team**, and Karthigayeni Prabinath as the coordinator, who have diligently worked in the shop every first Thursday of the month and on the Welcome Picnic Friday as well. The COVID safe rules were applied and thus we only served one family per time. Thank you for the parents' patience and your uniform donation to the shop.
- Thank you to Kate for managing the **Entertainment Books** and **Community Benefit Program** which are always an excellent fundraiser for the school.

The activities we have planned this year but decided to cancel due to the pandemic situation including:

1. International Food Night
2. Grandparents/Special Persons Day
3. Father's Day Shopping Stall
4. Spoil the Staff Day
5. School Disco
6. End of the Year Dessert Night

We are going to review all the activities in our event calendar early next year. We look forward to partnering with TeamKids and I'm sure this synergy will benefit all students and families at our school. We are also looking forward to more social events as we could only manage to have one coffee meetup with Foundation parents in May this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge again the PA Committee 2021 and all the parent volunteers at Syndal - a small but strong group of dedicated and passionate parents, ready and willing to donate their time for the betterment of our school. It is always a rewarding experience to serve on a committee with like-minded parents, all with a common goal. I look forward to serving on the committee again in the future.

In conclusion, it is another challenging year for everyone, still I am positive 2022 will be a new era! The sense of community within Syndal South Primary School is wonderful and very unique. We have a very special school which we appreciate so much. I very much look forward to what we can achieve next year. Again, thank you for everyone who has worked so hard for our community and children. Go Syndal!

Deane Lam  
PA President 2021  
Syndal South Primary School

