

Convener's Report March 2020

Ormond P&F enjoyed a year of collaboration, enthusiasm and strengthening connections. We enjoyed the more evenly shared work load and the ongoing strengthening of our relationship with our Principal and school council.

Committee

The committee consisted of a strong membership, the largest we have experienced for several years with an even distribution across the years. I would like to take this formal opportunity to thank each of them for their commitment, energy, humor and reliability across 2020.

Key committee positions being held made communication and organization within and outside of the committee effective and efficient. The end of the year saw the departure of two long standing committee members and major contributors in Anouk Sherman and Deb Hammon, both conveners of several Twilight Markets and drivers across years of several committee roles, events and initiatives, they will be missed but their contribution not forgotten.

Fundraising

In 2019 we continued with the model of maximizing fundraising dollars whilst minimizing time demands on busy families. The Easter raffle and Walkathon were again solid performers from the perspective of the resources required to stage them and the gains made in fun and raised dollars. These two events alone raised over \$10,000. Collaboration was also privileged with the sub-committee of school council focusing on Healthy Eating. A balance of activities across the year which adhered to the Departments guidelines around healthy treats is held in mind in the annual planning and singular event planning at each meeting.

Community Contributions

Funds raised were used to purchase

- Library resources
- New outdoor furniture and chess boards
- Support towards the large-scale building project soon to commence

Volunteers

The buddy system of a returning Prep parent with new families to the school appears to be the most effective strategy in building a positive community culture of family fun and fundraising.

Communication

Communication appears to have simplified in the last 18 months. The support from Brodie Thompson in administration has been fabulous in the efficiency in creating in emailing whole classes, year levels or the school via Compass when required given its optimized accuracy. Class reps are then seeking Principal approval to start a Social Media page which is used for more informal questions or reminders.

Administrators of these pages and other experienced class members are proving invaluable in ensuring the correct tone is set and maintained on these pages where occasionally winge or frustration may be voiced.

Our non -English speaking families are distributing school messages via their own social media page which also appears helpful in supporting newcomers to the community and often country.

Key Learnings

- The community we represent values our efforts to build connections and raise funds
- Opportunities to bring teachers, students and parents together are valued and necessary in building a strong community culture
- Further functionality in Compass will continue to make the roles of event and fundraiser only easier
- The model of allocated events to year levels continues to be the most effective approach of sharing the workload and maximizing involvement

Looking forward

The New Year brings opportunities for fresh faces to lead the way on P&F. I will be stepping down as convener to allow someone else the opportunity to bring fresh ideas and momentum. I will remain involved at a P&F level to support this transition and have every faith in the evolving team as it will be determined tonight.