



St John's Community Association

(formerly St John's Parents Association)

In mid-2019, every St John's family was asked to give feedback about the Parents Association via an anonymous survey which included an open invitation to be part of a working party whose function it was to review and act on the feedback.

One quarter of St John's families responded and, as well as positive feedback about the contribution of the PA to our community, there was also constructive feedback revealing four common themes: inclusivity and diversity, time and commitment, communication and financial transparency. A working party of 7 parents representing every class met three times in late 2019 and below are the survey themes and the outcomes.

At the first meeting of the year on Thursday 13th February, the following was endorsed ready to be shared with the community. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this process!

- Inclusivity and Diversity.** *The survey showed that the PA needs to strive to create a more inclusive, diverse & welcoming atmosphere. Many responded that a name change would assist to reflect the diversity of our school.*

 - The Parents Association will be now known as the **St John's Community Association** to encompass all members of our school; students, parents, carers, staff and the wider St John's family.
 - The CA will continue to prioritise **Outreach** (within and outside our community) and **Enrichment** (for students, staff and families).
- Time and Commitment.** *Many responded that while they were supportive of the PA, work and family commitments made it hard for them to commit the time that they perceived necessary for involvement.*

 - In 2020 **meetings** will alternate between Tuesdays and Thursdays, some in the evenings and some in the afternoons and only be 1 hour in length. Dates will be in the newsletter and school calendar.
 - **All roles** (including Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) will be a one-year role... no lock in contracts!
 - Where there is no-one to fill a particular role, that role (and activity) **will not take place**, there is no expectation that additional roles will be added to existing responsibilities.
- Communication.** *Respondents suggested that regular and clear communication from the PA would enable them to understand better what it is that the group does.*

 - A **noticeboard** has been purchased to display meeting minutes, event flyers and other information. It will be located near the lemon tree at the entrance to the passive play area.
 - The new-format **newsletter** will be used to publicise events and activities.
 - The **calendar of events** will be published early in the year and shared via the newsletter, SkoolBag App and the noticeboard.
- Financial Transparency.** *Responses expressed a desire for more transparency regarding PA finances (eg how much money does each fundraising activity generate? How are these funds spent?)*

 - At the 2019 Carols on the Green, a presentation was made to the Principal from the PA, the fundraising efforts of the community acknowledged and the destination of the funds (eg furniture) communicated. The aim is to continue this presentation into the future.
 - Fundraising totals will be publicised after each fundraising event and the outcome of the funds raised shared in the newsletter.