

Cranbourne South Primary School

We have been asked by the school to speak about what Cranbourne South Primary School means to our family.

We moved to the area in 1984 with 2 young children Cameron & Alisha so we wanted to find a school that offered a good family & learning environment.

We decided on Cranbourne South as it was a small school only 200 students with great reports from our new neighbours.

At the start of the school year there was a welcome BBQ for new parents hosted by the teachers & parents, we were made very welcome .

Tony Heath was the Principal with Terry Hope Vice principal some of the teachers were Heather Norman, Perc Turner & the late Pam Fisher.

We were encouraged to go on a Progressive dinner on the schools bus named Bessie, it was great night and the bus was driven by Terry Hope.

Terry Hope was the catalyst at the school for many programs supported by all the teachers, in which there was always parent involvement.

Bessie Bus was driven by teachers & parents.

Parents were encouraged to get their Bus licence if they wished.

Cranbourne South was the only school in the district that had it's own bus it was painted bright yellow so you couldn't miss it.

I decided to have a go & over many years drove Bessie to School Camps, Excursions & the swimming program.

Lyn was involved with the Schools Fete which was a massive fund raiser in those times.

Family connections at CSPA grew when Lyn's sisters 3 girls started in the 90's.

Then from 2015 onwards we had 5 Grandchildren enroll at the School Jackson, Jesse, Lara, Arizona & Sophie so we have become involved again.

Lyn is a volunteer in the classroom & at any sporting event she can get involved in.

Our Grandchildren have benefited from the school in both education & leadership. With the first 4 either having Vice School captain or School captain roles.

We also have 3 Great Nephews & 1 Great Niece at the school.

The school has maintained the values & spirit that Terry Hope & others instilled all those years ago - of family involvement & respect for others with strong educational values through their motto of the 5 "P's"

This is due to the Principal Monique Corcoran assistant principal Karen Halket and all the dedicated teachers at CSPA, to us they have mirrored what the school was in the 80's but have moved with the times. The spirit remains strong.

A few years ago the school was faced with closure & the students being relocated to other schools.

The School Council (in which Cam is now a member] along with teachers & parents lobbied the local state government members & others to keep the school - through their hard work the school has not only remained, but received a large upgrade which we can all see today - - through this the school has maintained the small school atmosphere while on the edge of the suburban fringe which is quite remarkable, I mean where could you find a school nearby that can fit the entire school population in one room plus parents.

In closing Cranbourne South Primary for the Dean's is not just a school where you send your kids, it's been a fabric of our lives where we have seen our children and grandchildren grow and be educated to step forward into the next stage of their education & beyond.

Thank you
Rob & Lyn Dean