Parent Forum Meeting
Monday 16th May 2016

Meeting opened
Claire Price opened meeting at 6.34pm.

Present
Maria McCabe, Will Nardi, Dannielle Cracknell, Claire Price, Kisa Baldwin, Penny Smith, Gretel Jones, Bronwyn Thomas, Jan Cronly

Apologies
Kelly Yates, Sarah Biersteker, Emma Butler, Karen Anderson, Carolyn Waugh, Greg Jones

In attendance
Brendan Ryan

Welcome & Prayer
Prayer – Leadership Group prayer

Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting
Moved by Claire Price, seconded by Will Nardi.

Treasurer’s Report – presented by Will Nardi

Treasurer’s Report
Treasurer’s Report and bank reconciliation was tabled by Will Nardi. Opening balance as at 24th December 2015 was $12,088.67 and closing balance as at 31st March 2016 at $12,958.59. Brendan thanked Will Nardi for his preparation of the accounts for auditing.
Action: Letter of thanks to Shayne Cracknell (Jan Cronly to complete).
Moved by Claire Price, seconded by Penny Smith.

School Resources
Brendan Ryan tabled a financial request for school resources to cover:
- Star Reading resources for Year 1  $725.50
- St Patrick’s Day TRAC Pool Entry
- Playground equipment
- Skoolbag app $367.00
- Spelling ‘Sounds Waves’ online access $3.00 per child
- Maths approx. $8,000.00 to $10,000.00
- Book Week visit from Matt Ottley (author) Yr 4-6 $4.50 per child, approx. $1,500.00
- John Burland concert for Kinder-Year 6 approx. $220.00
- Henny Penny for Kindergarten
- Sports subsidies
- Reading resources approx. $2,250

All in favour – all present

Auditors Report
Moved by Claire Price, seconded by Maria McCabe
Secretary’s Report
Incoming correspondence:
- None.

Outgoing correspondence:
- None.

Principal’s Report – presented by Brendan Ryan

School Administration Entrance Plan
- DA approval is required through Tweed Shire Council. Plans have been prepared by the architect ready to submit Council with the expectation for plans to be approved by September which would allow the renovations to be completed during September holidays.
- Plans include automatic doors to be situated in the middle of the entrance, rather than in the corner where the doors are currently located allowing for better access.

‘End of Term’ Treat Review
- Staff has reviewed the ‘End of Term’ treat which developed as part of the discipline policy. Children that have received a withdrawal miss the end of term treat, however there is a question about the fairness and efficacy of enforcing this some weeks later. There was also a question about the healthiness of the end of term movie treat. Whilst there is no solution, when a handful of students were asked, they responded saying that would rather participate in more interactive and social activities.
- Thoughts around extended playtime where school rules such as behaviour, playground respect, peer respect etc. Individual behaviour will still be addressed, however as a cohort the positive behaviours are reinforced.
- The term 4 pool treat will remain.
- There was support from those present at the meeting for this initiative.

Parent Gatherings
- Topics for Parent Gatherings held monthly include Reading, Mathletics, Maths, Anxiety in Children, Meditation, Cyber Safety.
- The next Parent Gathering events are on 21st and 22nd May.

Staffing
- Advertising the Year 4 teacher, commencing term 3, to replace Lean Dowling on maternity leave.
- Michael Young has been employed as Year 5 teacher to replace Sonya Pearson.

Parking
- Brendan as communicated with Mt St Patrick College regarding the number of P Plater cars parking in spaces close to the path and access to the building.

Kinder 2017 Enrolments
- Currently 49 enrolments, well above previous years. Ideally two classes of 25, meaning around 50 placements will be available.
Assistant Principal’s Report – presented by Brendan Ryan

Student Portfolios and Formative Assessment
- There has been a push over the last year across Catholic schools to review student assessment and portfolios as current research indicates these are not a true reflection of what happens in the classroom for individual children.
- The responsibility will now fall onto teachers to communicate to parents/carers how individual children are performing. Whilst this is a shift in approach, however the need to develop a new assessment framework was unanimous across staff. This will be an evolving task.

Sound Waves Trial
- Feedback from staff indicated that the Words Their Way program was not working as expected
- The Sound Waves program is being trialled for a month by a number of teachers, and if successfully trialled, it will be implemented across the school.

General Business

Playground Initiative presented by Kisa Baldwin
- Late in 2015 a quote was obtained for the shade cloth, and upon inspection it was revealed that the existing poles had started moving inwards so addressing the poles became a priority. This resulted in new poles and a new shade cloth be installed, and also the sand was refilled.
- A recommendation after a review by staff, Parish and parents is for rotating wheelbarrows with items such as bamboo tubes, builder’s pipes, plastic moulds, buckets etc. than can be used in the sand supporting interactive play. The wheelbarrows can be stored near the Kinder rooms.
- Acknowledgement by the Parent Forum of Kisa’s effort and time in reviewing and compiling options.

Mum’s Day Out
- Due to a car accident on Tweed Valley Way the expected number of 18 Mum’s was reduced to 15. The event was held at House of Gabriel in Tumbulgum and the feedback was that it was a fabulous day and the food was great.

Parent Assembly
- Cyber Safety presentation by Brett Lee, is being held at St Joseph’s South Murwillumbah on Tuesday 31st May. The next Parent Assembly will be held at Mt St Patrick.
- There is an opening for a parent representative to attend the Parent Assembly.

Music Stands Request
- A request for an additional six music stands costing approximately $400.00.
  All in favour – all present

Next Meeting
Monday 8th August

Meeting closed
Clare Price closed the meeting at 8.16pm