

As we quickly come to a close of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary here at Whitford Catholic Primary School I look around and see so many faces that have made this year a fun-packed, rewarding, challenging and successful year. To the P&F Executive, staff and all the wonderful parents who gave up their time this year to help with many fundraising initiatives and events I take my hat off to you and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. A special note of thanks to Tamara, Andrew and Cath who have tirelessly supported us throughout the year, I know we have thrown some curve balls at you and we may have had some crazy plans but you always support us and work with us to find a path to success. I will hand over to Pina shortly who will touch base on our activities and financials for 2018.

With all the achievements over all these years, we as parents must see ourselves as being extremely fortunate to be a part of the WCPS family. Because of our generous and active parents, there is a strong P&F presence within our school. Many thanks to all of you, who graciously donate your time and financial support to help our P&F succeed. To the new parents, becoming an active member of the P&F will not only establish you within a network of information, but also give you a voice in making decisions for your child, for our school, and its numerous activities. As a P&F volunteer, you can assist us planning events and help create a close community of families making [Whitford Catholic Primary](#) a wonderful place to learn. We are always looking for new faces to join our current volunteer base.

In 2011 when Ella was in pre-kindy I went to my first P&F meeting, my motto was if I wanted a disco or party for my kids I may as well help organise one for the entire school. After 3 years as a volunteer Steve O'Hallaron and Kerryn Grey convinced me to join the executive and just by chance Kerryn was stepping down as president so I made the leap. Kerryn's shoes were big to fill but over the last 5 years the executive committee has become a fine oiled machine. I could not

have lasted so long without Pina and Lisa by my side, we have laughed, worked long hours, had successes and failures but I think I would have burnt out many moons ago without your support.

To Andrew Dunlop, your introduction of the Whitty Dads program a number of years ago has been a blessing to many in the school who may not have had a voice but wanted to participate but did not know how. I know that you will continue to grow and I wish you all the luck for the future.

The school has changed so much over the last 8 years, new buildings, new staff, families and learning programmes all of which have been supported by the P&F from getting in and getting our hands dirty with busy bees, organising discos and fetes to raising some \$ 300,000 to help with books, classroom resources and play equipment. I am extremely proud of how this school has grown and see WCPS as one of the most sort after primary schools in the area.

With every success, we challenged ourselves to do better – to do more. Every request I have made during the last five years has been met with enthusiasm and determination. Every member of the P&F Executive over the years has exhibited a great deal of loyalty and diligence in not only supporting me in my role but in supporting the mission of WCPS P&F. Five years ago I made a bold move, and now as Steve and I take on a new adventure I am pleased to hand the reigns over to someone else who is about to make the same bold move and take on this leadership role. I have absolute faith that the processes, resources, and policies established during the last five years of my term will help ensure the success and smooth transition of our new incoming leadership.