

Forrest P&C President's report for the AGM – 2 March 2016

2015 was a time of transition for the businesses run by the Forrest P&C, and a time of commitment for the P&C. Building on the work done in 2014 (a review of how we function as an organisation that does business within a school), during 2015 we have:

Employed an Educational Leader to assist our Out of School Hours Care to maintain our outstanding ranking for accreditation under the National Quality Framework, ensure professional training for FOOSHC staff, develop an induction process and handbook; and entrench the 'beyond the fence' approach throughout our service

Employed a uniform shop manager

Worked with the school on completion of licence agreements for:

- The outside school hours' care
- Vacation care
- After school activities

Commenced improving our governance and organisational structure to better manage the business (now it is regularly at capacity - 150 children per day - and employs 40 staff).

We have also committed to support extending and refurbishing the school library in collaboration with the Department of Education, and to refurbish the Children's Services office space (currently in design phase).

On the social side we have worked with the school to build and strengthen the class parent reps network and function, ran a successful trivia night and welcome bbq, held a teachers' morning tea to celebrate World Teachers' Day (and recognise our valued and amazing teachers) and supported school events such as the naming of the Paul Henryon Building.

The P&C makes significant contributions to the school and its families via many mechanisms including socially, the facilities, learning support etc and our sense of community is strong. We have had a particularly busy year supporting families at the school during times of need.

All of these contributions require active and engaged parents and volunteers, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of them. In addition to the many parents who have helped for specific events/occasions, I would like to thank the executive team of the P&C and the vice-president Ali Kobal without whom I could not have managed.

I cannot adequately convey the difference that involved parents make in their children's schooling (there is considerable research on the subject), nor acknowledge enough the thousands of small and large contributions that parents around the school make. I really appreciate the ways that parents contribute, from reading with a class, being on the school board, attending the P&C, being on a committee (library, sustainability, uniform, canteen etc), cooking or doing cultural dress for harmony day or dress ups for book week, to assisting with or attending the swimming or athletics carnival or trivia night and helping to raise funds, to donating sausages or looking after the bbq, or handing out information or being a parent rep and to supporting the wonderful staff of our businesses.

I would also like to note it is immensely rewarding to be involved in this wonderful community, and encourage anyone reading this if they aren't already involved, to talk to their class parent rep, see our website (<http://forrestpandc.com.au/>) or email us at community@forrestpandc.com.au and get involved – small or large, every bit counts.

Tui Davidson