

Neutral Bay Public School Parents and Citizens Association Annual Report 2017

NBPS P&C Association is pleased to report on its activities for 2017.

The NBPS P&C Association fulfils a number of functions in the School community:

- As a forum for parent/School executive interaction and consultation with regular contributions from both the Principal & Deputy Principals;
- Through the provision of funding for key educational and other resources, through fundraising activities;
- Through operating two businesses which provide key services to the Community (Canteen and Uniform Shop);
- organising the School Bands and the Orchestra;
- organising social and other events for School families and the Community;
- representing the views of, and providing information to the School community; and
- representing parents in interactions with our broader local community.

Funding Educational and other Resources

The primary objective of the P&C's fund raising activities is to direct funds raised towards enhancing the educational outcomes and experience for all students at the School. Accordingly, in the year to 30 September 2017, the P&C Association contributed \$210,000 to the ongoing support of the Science and Music programs at the School (\$120,000), increase the number of support learning officers to help students

(\$30,000) and technology (\$30,000). This year, the P & C also funded the purchase of several air conditioning units for classrooms with more installation of these units in 2018 (\$30,000).

Voluntary Contribution

Voluntary contributions are the backbone of the P&C's fundraising efforts and I would like to thank the very generous support of all Neutral bay families in 2017. I am pleased to report that we raised \$119,862 from voluntary contributions, with a participating rate of 85% compared to a participation rate of over 60% in 2016, and from around 50% in 2015.

Fundraising and Events

NBPS enjoyed another year of strong Fundraising and Events and thanks is extended to Vanessa Baumer-Rowley for her contribution as Fundraising and Events Coordinator. I would also like to thank Jenni Spillane, our treasurer for all her work relating to fundraising and Monica Gessner for her communications and involvement with the newsletter & the P&C committee. The highlights for 2017 included the Twilight Picnic, Welcome Drinks, Grandfriends Day, Mothers & Fathers Day Dance and stalls, Fathers Day breakfast, State By-Election and Local Government Election BBQ. These were all great community events, supported by our parent body and our wonderful group of volunteers.

Our highlight event for the year was Shrek the musical, where years 3 and 4 students participated in the very much entertaining comical musical. Followed by the Shrek Ball "A Medieval Banquet" where parents enjoyed a

night at Simmer on the Bay, Walsh Bay to celebrate the end of the musical bringing together a sense of community in our School.

We would like to thank our event sponsor, McGrath Neutral Bay for their generous support of the Shrek Ball.

The collective effort of the teachers and parent volunteers must also be recognized. It is the efforts of all those involved in the Shrek Musical that delivered beyond expectations, to always put the needs of the School before their own and ensured that the musical was a great success.

After the financial year cut off we still have the art auctions to be held in November and December which are set to be another major fundraiser for the school calendar year. To be concluded with the end of year school picnic.

Uniform Shop

Another busy and fruitful year for the Uniform Shop.

We employed Kate Jegat to run the shop as of Term 3 in 2016, and mid-way through 2017 Kate decided to leave to take on some other challenges. A parent, Ginita Taylor, took over running the shop on a volunteer basis. Eileen Young continues to run the second hand arm of the shop. Additionally, the shop has seen great support by regular volunteers: Leslie, Fumi, Yoshie, Andrea, Sarah and Laura – enabling us to deliver orders every day.

Total sales were \$160,000 with profit of \$50,000. Both of these figures are slightly down from the past year due to several factors; 1. Kate Jegat was a

paid employee; 2. second hand sales increased, slightly impacting new sales. Thanks to Jenni, P&C Treasurer for her support, as well as our book keeper Yuji.

We have increased the number of second hand sales to two or three per term, which is having a great impact on helping us turn over stock (given we have limited storage), support parents who wish to purchase second hand items and promotes recycling.

Whilst we continue to be challenged for storage space, we have been able to manage this by tidying up the storeroom with shelving, re-arranging the main shop and the second hand items as well as keeping inventory levels of new items at a manageable level.

Our stocktake was conducted on the first Saturday of the September holidays – thank you to all volunteers who came along to ensure a fast and smooth process.

A big thanks to Mr Michael for all of his help during the year in many regards.

Lastly, Leslie Wait, our Uniform Shop representative on the P&C will be leaving at the end of 2017 as her youngest child moves to high school. On behalf of us all, a huge thank you to Leslie for her dedication and continued support over many years.

Canteen

The NBPS Canteen takes pride in creating healthy and tasty meals or snacks for the students and teachers at reasonable prices. The canteen team ensures a high standard of efficiency and professionalism, and

with the help of our incredible parent volunteers, this is possible. The canteen is consistently regarded highly by the North Sydney Council in their annual Food Premises Inspection.

NBPS enjoys a relatively unique canteen model of non-for-profit that the P&C run which ensures healthy and varied menu options at low prices. This model can only be sustained with the support of a large number of volunteers and with the class volunteer system this has been successful. This year we are proud to say that we are early implementers of the new Healthy Canteen Strategy and the canteen has seen changes to the menu to reflect that.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Naoko, Jocelyn and Katherine for their hard work in the daily running of the canteen this year and thank you to all the wonderful volunteers in NBPS community who volunteered.

Alex Middleton has taken over the canteen coordinator role from Bridget Douglas this year and has done a wonderful job in ensuring our school children enjoy the delicious and healthy canteen food. Thank you Alex.

Band & Strings

Since joining the P&C in 2014, the Strings program has developed into 2 groups, the Orchestra and Senior Chamber. Over 30 students participate in the Strings program and have represented the School in Sydney Eisteddfod and other School events.

2017 has been an exciting year for the Band Program at NBPS with all three bands playing to a very high standard.

Junior Band won silver and Senior Band won Gold at NSW School Band Festival. Concert Band competed at the Sydney Eisteddfod, where they won second prize, and also at the NSW School Band Festival, where they won a bronze award.

This year Concert Band has been invited to play at the Northern Youth Symphonic Wind end of year concert at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music. This concert will take place in late November 2017.

The annual Band Camp was held at the Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation at Narrabeen, which has spacious facilities for concerts, rehearsals and recreation. Band Camp 2017 was a big success made possible by the wonderful support of our band masters, tutors, band families, teachers and band co-ordinators and of course the children who all worked tirelessly to make the weekend run smoothly.

This year the Band Committee made the decision to reduce the band camp from two nights to only one night for Senior and Concert bands with Junior Band not staying overnight. The new model worked extremely well and as such 2018 will follow this model. Band does not receive any funding from the school or the P&C and is completely reliant on annual fees to cover costs. Band Fees for 2018 will be set at \$550 for junior band and \$610 for Senior and Concert band per band student. An adjustment has been made to reflect the new band camp model.

All bands are now getting ready for their end of year concert, which is always a special treat for the community and related families. 2018

is looking very promising with unprecedented interest in Junior Band. Over 100 children are forecasted to join the incoming Junior Band.

I would like to thank all the band co-ordinators and wish the Band Program at NBPS all the very best as it continues to go from strength to strength.

General

It has been a very busy year in 2017 and I have now served 1 year as your President. I have the privilege of working with an outstanding group of people and I am pleased to report the continued success of the P&C, which is entirely due to the dedicated volunteers who continue to place the School community as a high priority in their often busy lives. Our volunteers are critical to the ongoing events, fundraising, uniform shop, canteen and band & orchestra programs. The contribution of these volunteers is highly valued and greatly appreciated by the P&C and I ask that all members of the School community find the time to acknowledge and thank these volunteers for their contribution.

I wanted to thank the entire P&C Executive team for their tireless efforts during 2017. This meeting will also see our Canteen Coordinator Bridget Douglas, Communication officer Monica Gessner and Uniform Shop Coordinator Leslie Wait standing down from their roles and I personally want to thank both of them for their enormous contribution to the P&C and the School over the past year. To our outgoing team members Monica, Leslie and Bridget I would like to extend my gratitude for their dedication and commitment to the

children, families and community of NBPS. I wish the newly elected representatives of the P&C in 2018 all the best in their roles.

Finally, on behalf of the parents and the entire NBPS School Community, I wish to acknowledge the incredible contribution that Principal Mr David Shuster, Deputy Principals Ms Gai Javorsky and Ms Bryony Herborn, the teaching and administrative staff continue to deliver for our children, the students. Accordingly, the P&C extends its gratitude for their amazing professionalism, dedication and support in 2017.

On behalf of your elected P&C representatives,

Sharmila Soorian
President NBPS P&C Association

NBPS P&C Association 2017

President

Sharmila Soorian

Vice Presidents

Peter Carter

Tim Hawes

Secretary

Michelle Jackson

Treasurer

Jenni Spillane

Assistant Treasurer

Ariane Kiel

Canteen

Alex Middleton

Uniform Shop

Leslie Wait

Band

Stacey Hardy, Diana Saada, Linda Hardy, Melanie Lindsay

Functions/Fundraising

Vanessa Baumer-Rowley